

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

The Awakened Way Mediterranean Odyssey

with Suzanne Giesemann

September 19-29, 2024

What documents will I need to Travel?

It is necessary for all passengers to provide proof of citizenship in the form of a **passport that is valid for at least six months beyond the completion of their trip. Please note that both the airline and/or the cruise line may deny you boarding if your passport is not valid for at least 6 months after your return date.** It is your responsibility to check on **any visas or entry requirements needed for any of the countries visited on this itinerary.** One online resource to quickly find out about visa requirements is www.visahq.com or you may contact the individual embassy for more info. **No visas are needed for US or Canadian passport holders.**

Minors under the age of 18 traveling to foreign countries with only one parent must have a Parental Consent Letter signed by the parent not traveling. If the minor is travelling with someone who is not a parent or legal guardian, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) require that the Parental Consent Letter is signed by the parent(s) and notarized.

Failure to present the necessary documents at the pier could result in being denied boarding.

How much time do I need to allow for embarking and disembarking?

For air arrivals into Barcelona, Spain Airport (BCN) it is recommended that guests allow adequate time for transfer between the airport and pier, customs inspections, and airport security checks. On the day of departure (September 19, 2024) flights should arrive at Barcelona Airport (BCN) no later than **12:00 noon**. On the day the ship returns (September 29, 2024) flights should depart Athens, Greece Airport (ATH) after **12:00 noon**.

Can I purchase transfers to the ship in Barcelona / from the ship in Athens?

1) September 19th Transfer Barcelona (BCN) Airport to Ship

If you are arriving on the day of sailing, we can arrange for a Holland America Cruise Line transfer from the airport directly to the pier for \$34.00 USD per person. **You must arrive no later than 12:00 PM noon on September 19th at Barcelona Airport (BCN) if you choose this option.** It is mandatory that you provide the flight details when you make your transfer reservation.

The address of the port in Barcelona is Moll D'Adossat Terminal, Barcelona, Spain. Distance from the pier in Barcelona to the Barcelona International Airport (BCN) is approximately 16 km/10 miles and takes about 25 minutes. Taxi rates are about \$40 USD.

2) September 29th Transfer from the Ship to Athens (ATH) Airport

Holland America is offering group transfers to the airport on September 29th for \$34.00 USD per person. **It is mandatory that you provide your flight information. Please be sure to schedule your departing flight out of Athens Airport (ATH) after 12:00 PM noon on September 29th.** Transfer information back to the airport will be given to you onboard the ship.

The cruise port in Athens is Piraeus Port, Greece. The distance from the pier in Piraeus to Athens Airport (ATH) is approximately 51km/30 miles and takes about 50 minutes. Taxi rates are about \$48 USD.

Airfare to Barcelona and return from Athens & Pre and Post Hotel Options

When you make your air arrangements to Barcelona (BCN), Spain, and return from Athens (ATH), Greece you may want to consider the **"FlightEase by Holland America Line" Air Program** as an option. You can now book your flights online with FlightEase by Holland America Line, or by phone. You get 24/7 travel service and Air Specialists are available to help you with any flight delays or cancellations, working quickly with the airline to get you on the next available flight to our ship. And there's no booking fee. All flights are subject to cancellation fees; our cruise cancellation penalties do not apply to any flights purchased. Click the link: hollandamerica.com/flights or contact one of their professional specialists at 800-628-4771.

Inquiries and bookings must be made directly with Holland America and not through Life Journeys. FlightEase by Holland America Line is not affiliated with Life Journeys. FlightEase by Holland America Line is your airline booking travel agent and is your contact for changes/issues.

You can also contact Lynn at Today's Travel Team for a free quote for the best fare and schedule. Contact Lynn at 714-658-9173 or email her at lynn@todaystravelteam.com. Please include requested dates and times with all email requests.

There are many good discount internet sites available, such as www.hotels.com or www.kayak.com, both offering a variety of different-priced hotel options.

When may I embark on the ship?

Holland America's *Oosterdam* departs from the Barcelona Pier, Moll D'Adossat Terminal, Barcelona, Spain at 4:00 pm on September 19th, 2024. **Embarkation begins at approximately 11:00 am.** Guests are required to be onboard no later than 90 minutes prior to sailing time.

Dining room arrangements

Our group will dine at Late Dining (8:00 PM) each evening in the Main Dining Room. This dining time fits our workshop schedule and also allows you to dine with other participants from our group. A casual alternative is the Lido Restaurant where you can choose from the buffet or a made-to-order meal. Room service is also available and is complimentary.

Reservations-Only Specialty Restaurants

As a delicious alternative to the main dining room, you might consider the Pinnacle Grill or Canaletto Restaurants. The Pinnacle Grill offers a level of elegant sophistication unmatched anywhere. The Canaletto Restaurant offers an authentic Italian experience. There is a \$39 per person charge for the Pinnacle Grill and \$19 for Canaletto. Reservations can be made onboard or online. If you would like to speak to someone regarding these dining reservations in advance, you can call Ship Services at 800-541-1576.

Can the Dining Room accommodate special diets?

Watching your salt, fat or sugar intake? Going Vegan? Advise us at the time of booking and we'll be happy to accommodate any special diets. Holland America offers vegetarian options at each meal and also has a separate vegetarian and vegan menu in the Dining Room. Special medical diets must be pre-ordered a minimum of 60 days prior to sailing. These require submission to Holland America directly. Please use this link to communicate your medical dietary request once your booking has been confirmed: book.hollandamerica.com/specialServices.

May I bring my own liquor On-Board?

Only wine and champagne are allowed. A corkage fee will be charged for wine or champagne brought to the restaurants or bars for consumption.

Stateroom Details

All staterooms include: Double closets, full length mirrors, extra-deep chest of drawers, safe, hairdryer, and a remote-controlled Flat Screen TV. Staterooms are equipped with both North American standard 110 volt and European Standard 220-volt outlets.

What's included in the Cruise Price?

- All meals, including room service, except in the specialty "reservations only" restaurants.
- Most entertainment & activities onboard.
- The full workshop program and special events for the group.
- **FREE ONBOARD CREDIT* INCLUDED WITH YOUR BOOKING** – applicable to the 1st and 2nd guests only
 - **\$50 Onboard Credit per person – Interior Staterooms and Ocean-view Staterooms**
 - **\$100 Onboard Credit per person – Verandah Staterooms**
 - **\$150 Onboard Credit per person – Signature Suites and Neptune Suites**

* Onboard credit can be applied toward excursions, the spa, specialty restaurants, and more onboard the ship.

What's not included in the price?

- Air Transportation cost or transfers to the ship
- Shore excursions in the various ports
- On board: sodas, alcoholic beverages and bottled water, telephone calls or internet access service, spa treatments, laundry or dry cleaning, photographs, casino gambling, and gratuities (Fee is per person/per day, \$17.50 for suites, \$16.00 for non-suites for the duration of the cruise). This will be charged to your onboard account at the end of the cruise by Holland America.

Cruise Attire

Casual wear will be appropriate for days onboard. For evening wear, count on two basic types of attire:

- Casual - dresses, or slacks & blouse for women; sport shirts & trousers for men
- Gala - cocktail dresses for women; suits & ties, or sport coat, ties, and slacks for men

There are two Gala nights for this cruise. No self-service laundry or ironing facilities are available. Full laundry services, including pressing, are available for a fee. It is always wise to dress conservatively when visiting the cathedrals of Europe.

Are there any special activities for kids?

Absolutely! Holland America's Club HAL®, a special, fully supervised program for children 3 (must be potty trained) to 17, has lots of cool stuff for kids. For tweens 8 to 12 and teens 13 to 17 there's miniature golf, pool and pizza parties, video games, disco, movies and more. The chefs have designed a special menu that has their favorites including pizza, hamburgers, hot dogs, and fish 'n' chips.

When can I reserve my shore excursions?

Booking shore trips are usually available between 120-60 days before sailing. **Pre-booking excursions is highly recommended.** You can pre-book your excursions with your booking number up to 4 days prior to sailing at www.hollandamerica.com/ShoreExcursions or by calling Holland America at 888-425-9376. You may also make arrangements when you board your ship at the Excursions Desk.

Holland America Line Navigator App Information

You can download Holland America's NAVIGATOR app at no charge from the App Store or Google Play. Launch it and sign in using your Holland America guest account credentials. If you don't have an account, you can create one in the app. This app is loaded with information about your cruise. You can use the app to access your boarding pass, answer the health questionnaire before sailing, book shore excursions when available, and even chat with other guests while onboard. You will also receive updates from Holland America cruise line closer to sailing time.



Ship Contact Information

Your E-Documentation packet will contain detailed information including the phone number for your ship. The Internet Café has workstations available for sending and receiving emails and is open 24 hours a day. Wireless internet is available throughout the ship and guests may use their laptop computer or other wireless internet enabled device to purchase and connect to the wireless internet service onboard. Different priced plans are available to accommodate individual needs. Charges for internet access will be posted to your shipboard account.

Weather

Expected temperatures range from a low of 60° F (night) to a high of 80° F (day). It is advisable to check the internet for up-to-date weather conditions prior to sailing.



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***If necessary, the enclosed information is subject to change and will be updated.**