

International Sailing Guide



GREECE 20 – 27 April 2024



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Yacht Location

Your sailing adventure begins about the yacht located at:

Alimos Marina (Kalamaki) – Alimos, Athens, Greece

This location has electricity, Water, Toilets, Showers, Restaurant, Bar and an ATM
Facilities accept Visa, Mastercard.

Embarkation time is 5:00 pm on Saturday, April 20, 2024

*this time may change based on marina crew availability
so please be ready as soon as 2:00 pm

Cast off time is 9:00 am on Sunday, April 21, 2024

*this day/time can change as this is Eastern Orthodox Easter –
the marina may cast us off Saturday afternoon or evening.

Docking Time is a minimum of 2 hours prior to sunset on Friday, April 26, 2024

Disembarkation is 8:00 am, Saturday, April 27, 2024

Baggage

Please only bring soft bags and not hard suitcases as they are hard to stow.

Your Crew

Your crew will consist of 2 individuals; both are USCG licensed captains but one will serve as the charter captain and one as First Mate and Chef. If space is available, a 3rd Crew Member may be added to split the Chef and First Mate duties.

Charter Captain: Richard “Bud” Brasier

Captain Bud is our Chief Captain. He is a US Coast Guard licensed 100-ton captain with certifications from the American Sailing Association (ASA) in ASA101 - Basic Keelboat Sailing, ASA-103 Basic Coastal Cruising, ASA-104 Bareboat Cruising, ASA-105 Coastal Navigation, and ASA-114 Cruising Catamaran. Bud was the chief dive boat captain and Master Instructor for the scuba diving company that he and his wife owned in Hawaii where he would often captain 2 to 3 dive charters each day. Bud is a PADI Master SCUBA Instructor (if you want to learn how to dive or refresh your skills; ask him!), he holds a 5th degree black belt in Combat Hapkido, and is a proud Vietnam era US Air Force Veteran.



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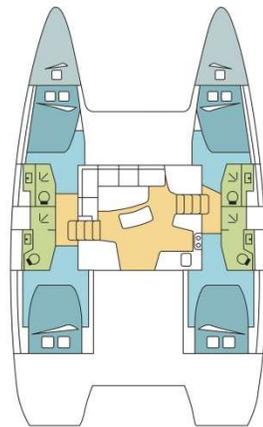
First Mate/Chef: Miriam “Mir” Zoole

Captain Mir (short for Miriam) is a US Coast Guard licensed 25-ton Captain with several ASA certifications. She is also a PADI Master Scuba Diving Instructor, and 5th degree black belt. Mir has worked for the Federal government on and off since 1984 and is currently counting down the final months until her retirement. Passionate about the ocean and the creatures that thrive on it, Mir enjoys being First Mate more than Captain as this gives her time to interact with the guests and discuss local history and the impact we have on our water environment. Her goal is to ensure you walk away with positive memories of your experience on Follow That Dream.



Your Yacht

We will set sail on a luxury catamaran, a Lagoon 42, with 4 cabins and 4 heads. This yacht has a full galley (kitchen) and spacious room to relax and enjoy the sights of Greece.



How To Get There

Plane

Athens International Airport Eleftherios Venizelos (AIA) is 30km from the marina which is a one-hour journey by car/shuttle. The airport services most of the known air carriers from many international destinations.

Transfers From the Airport to the Marina

Taxis are regularly available in front of the airport terminal and many major car rental companies operate from the airport.

An express public bus (X96) departs every 20-30 minutes from the airport. The bus stop is located at the marina entrance. As of late 2022, the cost was about 6 Euro per person

*pricing and times of bus may change

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Expenses

The cost for the cruise is \$1,995.00 per person based on double occupancy. If you would like your own cabin, that can be arranged; please note there is a premium for a private room.

What is included with the cruise

- The cost to charter the boat
- Your crew – Captain is licensed to operate in the European Union
- Marina Fee on First and Last nights
- Shared accommodations aboard the boat 5:00 pm, Saturday April 20 – 8:00 am, Saturday April 27, 2024
 - 2 persons per bed unless otherwise arranged
 - Unless otherwise noted, each cabin will have its own bathroom
 - No more than 8 people total including the crew
- Common Living Areas (cockpit, saloon, galley and deck space)

Expenses that will be shared equally by all members on board; including the crew

- Docking Fees
- Water/Electric fees if not included in docking fees
- Fueling fees (both for the catamaran and the dinghy)
- Internet fees for the Catamaran
- Provisioning fees for shared meals on board
 - This includes food, drinks, delivery fee, service fee and gratuity
 - See section on provisioning for more detail

Expenses not included with the cruise

- Transportation to/from Athens
- Ground Transportation (taxis, buses)
- Hotel prior to or after the cruise
 - we recommend planning on arriving in Athens a minimum of 24 hrs prior to the start of the cruise – your crew will be there approximately 2 days ahead of time
- Sightseeing tours, activities, or rentals
- Rentals from the Marina of items to be used on the boat such as kayak, paddleboards, snorkeling gear
- Gratuities for your crew, dock hands, and other service individuals
- Scuba gear/tanks, lessons
- Trip insurance
- Medical expenses
- Items purchased for your own use/comfort (souvenirs, toiletries, etc)
- Restaurant/Bar charges

Provisioning

Provisioning consists of food, beverages and shared supplies on board the boat; such as paper towels, toilet paper, saran wrap, trash bags, etc.

Your First Mate/Chef will provision the boat for you based on your input of what food you like, dislike, have allergies to, enjoy, and the availability. The chef will normally prepare the welcome dinner on board as well as all breakfasts. Typically, people enjoy eating out during their excursions but the chef will ensure there is food for lunches and dinners based on your input. The chef typically also will have dinner for the final night aboard and if the sail plan takes us to a location where dining out is not an option.

Your chef will contact you to make sure your preferences are on file but please note that not all items are available in foreign countries and substitutions will be made. Chef will also have plenty of snacks and drinks on board; alcoholic and non, and this will also come with your input.

Galley (kitchen) space is very limited on a boat; most boats do not come with a freezer or ice maker so be aware of some of these limitations. Meals will be shared by everyone on board; passengers and crew and these costs will be shared equally by everyone.

Toiletries should be brought by each individual; soap, shampoo, toothpaste, brush, hair products, etc. Please make sure you bring only plastic containers and small enough to fit into limited space. If you have a special snack you want; it might be best to bring that as well – but please check to make sure you can bring it with you into the country.

Provisioning fees will be charged ahead of time based on previous experience and the Chef will keep a running total of expenses not only for provisioning but for other charges, such as docking and fueling. You may ask at any time for an accounting.

Area Guide

Local Area Introduction - Athens

The marina in Alimos, just south of Athens, is situated perfectly for sailing the serene Saronic Gulf. Sailing in the gulf is ideal for those seeking smooth, calm waters and a relaxed vacation. The Saronic is suited for those who have sailed all their lives or are just getting started.

An Athens sailing cruise offers something for everyone. Experience impressive historical ancient ruins, open-air markets, secluded Greek islands, vibrant nightlife, and delicious food. You'll also enjoy warm hospitality and the famed Greek cuisine.

It goes without saying that the beaches, swimming and snorkeling in the crystal blue-green waters can't be missed on an Athens sailing charter. *Love Bay* on Poros and *Marathon Beach* on Aegina are just two of many spectacular spots. Your charter captain has consulted with locals who know the area and have recommended the best route to take and sights to see based on sea conditions, weather, and timing.

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Top Things to Do in Athens

We suggest you plan on spending more time in Greece than just for the charter. This could be before or after your cruise; or both. Do plan on being in Athens at least 1 day prior to boarding the boat; especially if you are flying in just before the cruise. Your crew will plan to be there Thursday morning to get over jet lag, relax a bit and contact the marina for any last minute items that need attention.

While in Athens; here are a few things to see and do:

1. Acropolis – The most famous site in all of Athens, this large hill lies in the center of the city and rises 490 ft above the city. The site sits on over 7 acres and dates back to 10,000 BCE. The site contains a cluster of ancient ruins such as:
 - a. The Parthenon
 - b. Old Temple of Athena
 - c. Erechtheum
 - d. Temple of Hephaestus
 - e. Temple of Athena Nike, and
 - f. Theatre of Dionysus Eleuthereus
2. National Archaeological Museum – one of the top museums in Athens with an extensive collection of pottery, statues, and artifacts from prehistoric times to the Roman era.
3. Herod Atticus Odeon (Amphitheatre) – still used today for concerts, this engineering masterpiece is built into the hillside and provides impressive views.
4. Philopappos Hill – This hill is a favorite for weekendening Athenians who come here to picnic and admire the breathtaking view of nearby Acropolis and the sea.

Don't forget local restaurants, bars, and numerous cafes in open squares where people-watching and sipping drinks is a time honored tradition. There are numerous day trips to take and spectacular sights nearby if you plan to stay in Greece a bit longer.

While on your sailing experience, here are a few stops and things you might see and do:

1. See the view from the Temple of Poseidon: head to Sounion and walk among the giant gleaming white columns that date to 444 BCE and enjoy expansive views over the distant Greek islands. As one of the top things to do in Athens, it can get busy so a visit there is best first thing in the morning or at sunset.
2. Lunch and sunbathing at Love Bay: This scenic little bay on Poros offers a day of relaxation with sun loungers, divine views and refreshments on tap. Stop for a snack and stay for a delightful swim.
3. Horseback riding in Hydra: With no cars permitted on the island, it's the perfect activity for touring the best of the island's scenery. There are a few different outfitters offering this activity.
4. After admiring the incredible view of pulling into Poros and seeing the red-tiled roofs, Café hop in Poros: Spend a day in Poros, meander along the quaint streets, enjoy a few cafes while you people-watch and take in the stunning scenery in every direction.
5. Ancient Greek Theatre of Epidavros: One of the top things to do is spending some time touring this ancient amphitheater, famed for its classic Greek construction and

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astounding acoustics. This UNESCO-listed monument is even still used for concerts today; now that is a feat of sound engineering!

Basics about Greece

Currency: Euro (EUR)

Voltage: 220V

Dialing Code: (+30) 210, 211, 212, and 213

Internet

You will find free Wi-Fi in many town squares, shopping malls, restaurants and cafes; speeds will vary. Cell phones with sim cards from EU countries, except Switzerland, operate without roaming fees. For other countries, contact your provider. Local sim cards are available for sale at telecommunication shops

Regulations

Scuba diving is allowed only with an instructor and after seeking permission from the port authorities; both your Captain and First Mate are certified scuba instructors. If you wish to scuba dive, please make arrangements with the crew a minimum of 2 weeks prior to your cruise. If you are NOT a certified diver but would like to get your certification; please contact your crew 2 – 3 months ahead of your charter to ensure you have time to take the online instruction, do the pool instruction then go on your open water checkout dives prior to your cruise.

Fishing requires a special license. If you would like to fish during your cruise, please contact your crew at least 2 weeks ahead of time. You will be responsible for the cost of the rental equipment and license as well as any special cleaning fee required by the charter company.

Weather

The best time to visit Athens and the Saronic Islands is summer with great temperatures averaging 86F in July and August and plenty of sunshine hours.

The Saronic Gulf and its islands have great weather conditions year-round with mild winters and dry summers. In spring, between March and May, and in fall, between September and October, the weather is sunny and warm with very little rain. The area has a long sailing season.

In July the high is around 91F and in January the low is around 45F