



Knit the Greek Isles Fantastic

WITH BROOKLYN BOY KNITS AND GGMADEIT

June 24 - July 3, 2022

Join Rowan Tree Travel and our OH SO talented and wonderful guest hosts, Louis Boria and Gaye Glasspie (GG), on a tour of the Greek Isles. We'll travel through the Aegean sea on board the 100+ foot motorsailers, Aegeotissa I and II, knitting on deck together with Louis and GG, swimming in the crystal blue waters and exploring ashore the six majestic islands on our itinerary. When we return to Athens after a week on the sea, we'll spend two days/nights taking in the historic Plaka district.

Tour Price (not including airfare)

- Triple share \$2995 (one twin and one full)
- Double share \$3380 (one full)
- Double share \$3650 (one twin one full)
- Single/Private \$4695

Included in Tour Price

- 7 nights on the Aegeotissa I or II (port fees and crew tips included)
- 2 nights accommodation in Athens historic Plaka District
- An average of two meals per day (breakfast is provided each morning; prepare to purchase either dinner or lunch based on the day's scheduled activities.)
- All workshops, tours, entrance fees
- Airport transfers, coach transportation
- Knit along Kit

Not Included in Tour Price

Airfare · Soda and alcoholic drinks · Personal items · Gratuities · Souvenirs!

To Register

A Registration Form and \$50 deposit are required to join the trip. An invoice for the deposit will be emailed to you, payable online with a credit or debit card, which you will need to pay within 24hrs. Once we have enough participants to fill each boat we will be in touch to discuss cabin options. **Balance Payment Schedule:** The remaining balance will be divided into thirds and will be due: 9 months before trip, 6 months before trip, and the final payment will be due 3 months before departure.

Registration will open on **June 20th** at 12pm EST. Click **HERE** to go to registration form.

Our Guest Hosts



Knits), is a fiber artist and designer who, for the past 12 years has been designing both custom pieces and knitting patterns ranging in style from streetwear design to runway couture.

Louis went viral in 2017 and with his newfound fame, decided to use his social media platform for good. So began his philanthropic career!

Since then, he has been found teaching knitting in local schools, promoting knitting as a therapeutic outlet for LGBQTA+ young adults, and working closely with campaigns such as Hat Not Hate and Cancer Awareness programs.

More recently, Louis gave a Tedx Talk "Making The Most of Your Moment", became one of the founding members of Soho Publishing's Diversity Advisory Council, and organized the Kaleidoscope Fashion Show at Vogue Knitting Live in New York, which showcased the works of up and coming knitwear designers. Louis believes in building up this community one stitch at a time.

You can follow Louis on <u>Instagram</u> and on his <u>Youtube channel</u>.



Gaye Glasspie | a.k.a GGmadeit b.k.a GG is a 50 something year-old who fell in love with knitting late in life - in just the last 9 or 10 years. She is self-taught via YouTube, some wonderfully friendly yarn stores and she is obsessed with all things orange. GG discovered knitting during a very challenging time in her life -knitting is her ride or die, her BFF, her kind of therapy. Knitting has also become a beautiful bridge into a world of wonderful people and a way to universally connect with others through knitting.

She knits every day and if not knitting, is fondling her favorite indie dyed yarn. She has a major crush on FAT fibers – the chunkier the better. She has even overcome her fear of fingering weight yarn AND has made a sweater or two!

You can follow GG's knitting journey on her blog, <u>GGmadeit</u>, on her <u>youtube channel</u>, and on <u>Instagram</u>.



Where the adventure takes us ...

Our home on the Sea during our magical Greek adventure will be the Aegeotissa* I and II, The ladies of the Aegean Sea. A 111 ft. yacht and sister 130 ft. yacht, the Aegeotissa I and II cut effortlessly through the glimmering surface of the cobalt Aegean waters. Our motorsailer abodes offer the splendor of multiple sun decks, a bar and superb cuisine. Chauffeured by our Ladies of the Aegean Sea, we will visit the coasts, towns and villages of the Greek Isles. When we are not swimming or walking in our picturesque surroundings, we will be knitting together and learning with our guest hosts, GG and Louis Boria. As cruises on small ships can be subject to changes in itineraries, we will provide a description of the highlights of this trip rather than a day by day itinerary. Most days will have a swim stop at a secluded beach where you can dive off the boat, or slip into the water with a floatie, whatever satisfies the soul! Oh, and a small boat and kayak are available to transport you to the beach, if you prefer not to get your feet wet!

Kea | The Island of Kea has so much to offer, that we will visit it twice! The first visit we will go up into the mountain villages for a stroll to the Lion Of Kea, an amazing ancient sculpture carved from an outcrop of granite in the 6th century BC. This Lion has a mystifying smile ... we can discuss what it might be thinking over drinks in one of the taverna's in the picturesque town of Loulida. Our second visit will be a coastal one – swimming to an isolated beach with ancient ruins to explore. Our day and our trip will wrap up with a dinner party on the boat! Often skipped over on the way to the more popular islands, Kea maintains an authentic atmosphere, coupled with wonderful walking trails and interesting ruins.

^{*} Cabins are compact and streamlined (like efficiencies), but we will spend most of our time out of our cabins as we will have the boats *entirely to ourselves*.



Milos | The Island of Milos is most remarkable for its coastline. Strange and beautiful white limestone formations create a coastline of cliffs and caves, as well as inlets of turquoise water ideal for swimming spots! Milos has a lot to offer, including being the original home of the Venus de Milo. The Sarakiniko Coast was formed from lava, which as it met the sea cooled into white limestone, creating a multifaceted coastline with lots of places to swim and hike along it. This will be our first stop on the island where we can swim and explore before lunch. In the afternoon, we will have a guided walk through the mysterious Catacombs on the other side of Milos and up to the town of Plaka where we can find something to eat and watch the sun go down before being transported back to the boat.

Santorini Ah, Santorini – famed for its whitewashed cycladic architecture perched on the edge of an ancient caldera, it is definitely worth all of the fuss. This volcanic caldera is all that is left of a larger island volcano which exploded 3600 years ago, burying the ancient town of Akrotiri. Now the cliff edges of the caldera are bejeweled with iconic cycladic white houses, appearing like snow on a mountain top from afar. Getting up to the cliff top from the port is an adventure itself, and can be done by tram, or, if you're really adventurous, by donkey! We will have time to visit Ancient Akrotiri, which has been excavated from the volcanic ash like Pompeii, as well as the beautiful town of Oia – where spectacular sunsets can be counted on as a backdrop for your evening meal.

Naxos | One of the more verdant islands in the Cyclades, Naxos has a thriving agricultural economy, which produces olive oil, citron, cheese, and... wool! Not the sort of wool we would want to knit with, mind, but suitable for weaving blankets. The mountain weaving villages predominantly produce cotton and silk fabrics for table runners and other homegoods, and many homes in these villages have a loom. At Rowan Tree Travel, we like to have farm visits be a part of each itinerary to connect you with the local wool - In Greece, we are opting for a farm tour to connect you with the local cheese! Mmmm, Feta!



Mykonos & Delos | Delos, the island birthplace of Apollo, is an archaeological preserve with a fantastic museum and lots of ruins to explore. There we will have a tour of the ruins and some time in the museum before we end our day in Mykonos - home to oodles of galleries and boutiques. The streets and alleys here are a virtual maze - to make it harder for pirates to raid! Never fear, there's plenty of treasure to be found, you just have to pay for it!

Athens Once it is time to bid a fond farewell to our vessels and their crew, still more adventure awaits! The historic Plaka district will be our home for the next two nights with a mix of amazing food to eat and ruins and churches around every corner, you may forget that you are in the shadow of the most iconic ruin of them all - The Parthenon! We will begin with a walking tour of the Plaka, so that everyone can feel comfortable exploring on their own. Of course, we will bring you to The Acropolis so that you can admire the Parthenon up close. We'll have a spectacular dinner with Athens at our feet.



Important Details to keep in mind

This trip needs at least **18** participants in order to proceed. Deposits will be refunded in the event that the tour does not operate due to lack of participants.

Travel Insurance

Rowan Tree Travel has purchased a Group Protection Plan on behalf of tour participants, providing medical insurance and limited "Trip Interruption" coverage once you have departed and are on the trip. Additional trip insurance to cover "Trip Cancellation" is available from our provider at a group rate. We will provide you with a website link at which you can review your additional trip insurance options. Note: The Group Protection Plan only applies to US citizens traveling from the US. If this stipulation does not apply to you, we can assist you in finding alternative options. Please enquire for details.

Arranging Your Flights

Once our tour is guaranteed with the minimum number of travelers we will notify all registrants so you can begin making travel arrrangements. You may purchase your flight reservations on your own or work with our booking agent, Vivienne at Crystal Travel. She can assist in identifying the best itinerary for your needs, coordinating with other participants, and with ticket purchase, seat selection and upgrades. Contact her at (617) 327-2700 or vivienne@crystal-travel.com.

Our tours include transportation to and from the airport for group arrivals/departures. In order to meet us for those airport transfers, we will give everyone an arrival and departure window to facilitate all of our travelers arriving and departing in close proximity. Flight itineraries outside the provided arrival and departure windows will likely result in extra transportation costs and possibly missing scheduled tour activities. For this reason we greatly appreciate your cooperation in booking reservations that accommodate our arrival and departure specifications. These time windows will be provided to travelers once the trip is guaranteed.

Please note the following:

Rowan Tree Travel reserves the right to alter any part of this itinerary in order to address weather conditions, unforeseen circumstance or to improve the participant experience.

Our trips are categorized as touring, walking and retreating. We would describe this trip as **retreating**. Participants should be capable of walking distances as great as one mile. Most excursions off the boat will be optional.

Have questions? Please contact us at info@rowantreetravel.com