# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION CRUISING GREECE, TURKEY & SAUDI ARABIA

# PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends and should have a minimum of eight (8) blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps.

Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into **Greece** and **Cyprus**. U.S. and Canadian passport holders typically need a visa for **Turkey** and **Egypt**; however, special arrangements to come ashore without a visa for day visits featured on this journey are made by the ship.

Tourist visas are required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

#### Jordan

An Electronic Visa (eVisa) is required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for entry into Jordan.

Electronic Visa (eVisa): To apply for an eVisa, visit the Ministry of Interior website, selecting the Electronic Visa option: <a href="https://eservices.moi.gov.jo">https://eservices.moi.gov.jo</a>. EVisas are valid for entry to Jordan by air and all land border crossings including entering Jordan from Israel via the Allenby Bridge. The current fee for a single-entry visa is 40 Jordanian dinars (approximately USD \$56); subject to change without notice. If required a double-entry visa may be obtained for a 60 Jordanian dinars (approximately USD \$85). Please be aware that eVisas are valid for 90 days after issuance. Therefore, do not apply for your eVisa too far in advance. You will need a valid email address and credit or debit card to apply. Read and follow all instructions carefully to ensure a smooth arrival in Jordan. There is also a 2 Jordanian dinar service fee for standard processing which may take one to two weeks. Once approved, you will receive an email with a QR code, which you will need to present to Jordanian immigration authorities.

#### Saudi Arabia

An Electronic Visa (eVisa) is required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for entry into **Saudi Arabia**.

To apply for Electronic Visa (eVisa), visit <u>Saudi Arabia Visa Requirements - Visit Saudi Official Website</u>. The current fee for a multiple-entry visa, which is valid for one year, is 535 SAR (approximately USD \$142; subject to change without notice). Read and follow all instructions carefully to ensure a smooth arrival in Saudi Arabia.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at <u>visacentral.com/abercrombiekent</u> or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

#### COVID-19 COUNTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL ADVISORIES

There are no COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for the countries visited on this journey for U.S. and Canadian residents. Visit the U.S. Department of State at <u>travel.state.gov</u> or the Government of Canada at <u>travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories</u> for up-to-date information.

Prior to boarding, all guests must complete Ponant's **Mandatory Health Declaration** form, provided to you in Athens.

# YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION

A yellow fever vaccination is only required to enter Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia <u>if</u> you are arriving from, or have transited through, a yellow fever-endemic area in South America or Africa. In general, if you are travelling from the United States or Canada to join the cruise in Athens you are not required to have a yellow fever vaccination. However, if your travel plans include travelling from a South American or African country that is infected with yellow fever or is located in areas where yellow fever transmission has occurred (endemic areas), then the easiest and safest thing to do is to get a yellow fever vaccination. The CDC and WHO each provide a current list of all affected countries. If vaccination for yellow fever is necessary, you must carry an International Certificate of Vaccination provided by your physician; you may be denied entry without it. If your physician advises against receiving the vaccination because of your personal medical history, he or she can provide you with the necessary documentation.

# LOCAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Visits to ancient sites in Turkey, Egypt and Jordan are active excursions that may involve long walks over sand and uneven terrain, steep climbs and exposure to high temperatures and may be challenging for travellers with mobility issues. A robust level of fitness is necessary.

# SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR EXPEDITION CRUISES

Please ensure that we are aware of any physical, medical or other condition that might affect your ability to participate in this journey. You may be required to produce a doctor's certificate prior to travel. Due to ship restrictions, women who will be at least twelve (12) weeks pregnant at the start of the cruise, or any time during the sailing will not be permitted to travel on Expedition Cruises. The ship owner's medical staff and Captain reserve the right to refuse passage to anyone who is deemed unfit for travel either before or during the journey.

# **CASH & CREDIT CARDS**

Throughout your cruise, credit cards are widely accepted, although carrying moderate amounts of local currency is advisable, as smaller establishments may only accept cash. Access to ATM machines is widespread in cities and towns, but may be limited in rural areas.

The euro is the official currency on board. Personal expenses incurred on board can be charged to your shipboard account and paid at the end of the expedition by major credit card or cash, including U.S. dollars. There is no currency exchange facility on board.

All onboard transactions made by bank or credit card are processed via the ship owner's home office in Marseille, France, and charges from your onboard account may not be processed until one month after your cruise. Call your bank or credit card company to advise about your travel plans.

#### OF SPECIAL NOTE

# Drone Photography

Please be aware that, due to security restrictions, drones and/or drone cameras are not permitted in Egypt. Other destinations on this journey require you to register and/or obtain a permit for drone cameras in advance of your arrival.

# Saudi Arabia

The importation, possession and/or consumption of alcohol in Saudi Arabia is prohibited and punishable by law. All beverages offered on board while cruising through Saudi Arabian waters and on shore excursions in Saudi Arabia are non-alcoholic.

Plan on travelling with one suitcase and one carry-on bag. Soft-sided luggage will be easier to store once you have unpacked. Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

#### Clothing

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

Temples, mosques, cathedrals, monasteries and other religious sites require conservative dress. Both sexes should cover their arms, legs and shoulders (women should pack a scarf for this purpose.) Wear or carry a pair of socks when sightseeing, since shoes must be removed when visiting certain religious sites.

# Dress Code in Saudi Arabia

As a traditional Islamic nation, Saudi Arabia observes a strict dress code that must be adhered to at all times. Loose-fitting clothing that covers arms to the elbow and legs below the ankle is recommended for both men and women in public. Shorts are not considered appropriate attire. Though it is not legally required, women may occasionally be asked to wear an *abaya* (long robe) or *hijab* (headscarf).

□ Casual slacks	□ Walking shorts
□ Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses	□ <i>Hijab</i> (scarf large enough to cover neck and shoulders for women)
□ Long comfortable skirts for women	□ Long sleeved shirts or blouses
□ Sweater or lightweight jacket	□ Comfortable, closed-toe walking shoes with low or no heels (non-skid); sandals may not be appropriate for some sightseeing activities
□ Lightweight raincoat	
□ Brimmed hat or visor for sun protection	□ Foldable umbrella to use as sun shade
□ Sleepwear	□ Personal garments
□ Socks	□ Swimwear/cover-up (swimwear that provides UV protection is ideal)
Other Recommended Items	
□ Face masks and hand sanitizer	□ Sun block / Insect repellent
□ Sunglasses	<ul> <li>□ Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)</li> <li>□ Smartphone</li> <li>□ Global travel adapter</li> </ul>
□ Simple first-aid kit	
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□ Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses	
□ Charging cables for electronics	
Optional Items	
□ Small LED flashlight	□ Foldable walking stick
□ Small daypack or fanny pack	□ River sandals such as Tevas®
□ Lightweight binoculars	

Laundry service is available at your optional pre- and post-cruise extension hotels for a fee. Check costs and return times before using this service.

Traveller's Valet: A&K's complimentary laundry service for 8 articles of clothing per person will be provided twice during your journey on board. Additional laundry can be done for a charge. Dry cleaning is not available.

# TIPPING GUIDELINES

On A&K Luxury Expedition Cruises, all gratuities, including for the ship's crew, A&K Expedition Team and guides, are included in the cost of the program and group extensions.

For extra nights or Tailor Made services pre- or post-cruise, we suggest the following gratuities for these days only (noted in U.S. dollars):

	Extra Nights/Tailor Made Services
Local Guides	Per person, per day (full day): Greece: \$25 Saudi Arabia: \$40
Drivers	Per person, per day (full day): Greece: \$15 Saudi Arabia: \$25
Airport Transfer Drivers	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added

# LIFE ON BOARD: 'LE DUMONT D'URVILLE'

#### SHIP AMENITIES

Your exclusively chartered ship is 430 feet long and accommodates up to 184 passengers; however, A&K limits occupancy to a maximum of 148 guests. The ship has three elevators with ramps accessing all passenger decks.

Each stateroom features individual climate control, 110V American/220V European plugs, Wi-Fi, stocked minibar, Nespresso coffee maker and tea kettle, small electronic safe, direct line telephone, Bose Bluetooth speaker, flat-screen TV with video on demand, wardrobe, vanity with mirror, robe, slippers, hairdryer and luxury bath products. Nightly turndown is provided.

All suites feature butler service — an A&K-exclusive feature — which includes a personalized welcome, unpacking and packing upon request, nightly canapes, room service, shoe polishing and expedited laundry, as well as priority spa and salon booking.

Deck 3 features a variety of guest services and public spaces. The reception area includes a 24-hour front desk and a boutique with a selection of clothing and jewelry. The spacious main lounge offers a bar with live music on most evenings. The ship's pool deck features a heated outdoor pool with a counter-current swimming system and exterior bar with armchairs and sofas. Lectures are held in the Theater with comfortable seating for all guests, as well as audio/visual equipment

and an LED wall for projecting high-resolution images and videos. Finally, medical facilities with a doctor and nurse are available 24 hours a day.

On Deck 6, the Panoramic lounge offers a small library with a selection of books and board games and direct access to the panoramic terrace.

The Wellness area on Deck 7 features a fitness center offering guests complimentary use of equipment including stationary bikes, treadmills, Kinesis wall and other exercise equipment. Due to safety reasons, there are no free weights on board the ship. Sea conditions may affect the fitness center's opening hours. There is a hair salon as well as a full-service spa equipped with a sauna and steam room, and which offers a range of beauty treatments and massage services. All spa and salon services are charged to your shipboard account.

A daily program detailing the following day's events, excursions, and hours for the restaurants, boutique and spa is delivered to your stateroom each evening.

# ONBOARD CULINARY AND BEVERAGE PROGRAM

Dining is a special treat on board. International cuisine is available in two restaurants. The main dining room, at the rear of Deck 4, accommodates all guests in one sitting and offers panoramic views. This unique dining area, which opens onto the outside, offers a selection of salads, hot meals, cheeses and desserts. The al fresco restaurant on Deck 3 has seating for 70 guests and features a casual menu of grilled meats, salads and desserts.

Complimentary 24-hour room service is also available. Early riser coffee and breakfast pastries, afternoon tea and late-night snacks are offered daily. Meals on board are scheduled around the day's sightseeing and shipboard activities. Please consult your daily program for mealtimes and opening hours.

Complimentary bar drinks, beer, house wine, soft drinks, coffee drinks, juices and water (excluding premium wines, Champagne and spirits) are provided while on board.

If you have special dietary requirements (vegetarian or vegan menus, food allergies, etc.) please advise Abercrombie & Kent at least six weeks prior to the beginning of your journey. In addition, please take the opportunity early in the cruise to meet with the Maître D' and Cruise Director to discuss your special requests and inform your server prior to dining. Chefs on board will make every effort to accommodate your needs. Kosher meals are not available on board.

# LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS

English is the language used by staff on board A&K charters.

Complimentary Wi-Fi Internet is featured on A&K charters. Internet access at sea is made possible by satellite, and speed and connectivity are dependent on latitude, weather and atmospheric conditions as well as the number of guests using their computers or mobile devices. Ship's internet services may not always be available and could be very slow at times. Your patience and understanding are appreciated when this situation occurs.

To make an international call onboard, please visit the reception desk. Charges for maritime satellite connections are significantly higher than those for land services and the cost of the call will be added your shipboard account. Guests may be able to use the ship's Wi-Fi to make international phone calls on their own personal devices using messaging apps such as WhatsApp, Viber, Messenger, etc., which can be downloaded from the iOS App Store or Google Play Store.

#### OF SPECIAL NOTE

The ship is nonsmoking except in a designated area outside on Deck 3.

Maritime law does not permit unrestricted access to the bridge. At the Captain's discretion, guests may be offered the opportunity to visit the bridge during scheduled times in accordance with security protocols.

Access to outdoor areas may be restricted during inclement weather and ship maneuvers. The ship's daily scheduled sightseeing events and timings may be altered, and flexibility is required.