Friday, September 13
Depart Milwaukee by private motor coach to Chicago O’Hare
Flight from Chicago O’Hare to Athens International Airport

Saturday, September 14
Arrive in Athens, the classical capital of Greece. Meet your local Gate 1 representative and transfer to your hotel by private coach. The remainder of the day is at leisure to discover the ancient wonders of this city known as the cradle of Western Civilization and the birthplace of democracy.
Overnight: Athens, Royal Olympic Hotel

Sunday, September 15
Athens City Tour
Meet your Local Gate 1 guide and motor coach for your Half-Day tour. The exploration of Athens begins with a panoramic drive through the city center. View the Panathenian Stadium and the ruins of the Temple of Zeus and Hadrian’s Arch, built to celebrate the arrival of the Roman Emperor Hadrian. Continue on to visit the Acropolis, the ancient architectural masterpiece built during the Golden Age of Athens and the new Acropolis Museum, a striking modern building built at the base of the monument where many of the original statues from the Acropolis are now displayed. The rest of the day is at leisure. Be sure to walk to Constitution Square, where you might catch a glimpse of the colorfully costumed Evzone guards, outfitted in the traditional Greek style. Tonight, perhaps walk through the lively Plaka area, the oldest section of Athens, a neighborhood of charming restaurants, shops and sidewalk cafes.
Overnight: Athens, Royal Olympic Hotel
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Monday, September 16
Cruise Embarkation, Arrive in Mykonos
After breakfast, meet your Local Gate 1 representative and transfer to the port via private coach. Morning arrival at the pier for embarkation. Set sail at 11:30 a.m., and sit back as you take in the spectacular scenery of the beautiful turquoise waters of the Aegean. Arrive at 6:00 p.m. in the ultra-popular and chic jet-set island of Mykonos with its whitewashed houses, iconic windmills and sophisticated town with trendy cafes and boutiques. Find a table at a harbor side taverna and gaze at the bustle of Cycladic island life and the gorgeous views. Perhaps, visit one of the island’s popular nightclubs before returning to the ship departing at 11:00 p.m. for Kusadasi, Turkey
Overnight: Celestyal Cruises
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Tuesday, September 17
Arrive in Kusadasi (Ephesus), Evening in Patmos
Today, arrive at 7:30 a.m. in Kusadasi, Turkey. (Tour included in the package) This splendid city is renowned for its significant historical and religious sites, including ancient Ephesus, one of the most exquisite cities in antiquity. Tour the magnificent archaeological site of Ephesus, home to the Library of Celsus and Fountain of Trajan. Enjoy free time in Kusadasi before returning to the ship in time for lunch.

At 5:45 p.m., arrive in Patmos. (Optional shore excursion to be purchased on board) This small island is steeped with an intense spiritual character, which inspired St. John the Divine to write the Book of Apocalypse. A large monastery in his name dominates the landscape above Chora, the island's capital, surrounded by strong fortress-like walls. Follow the picturesque narrow lanes in the port of Skála and discover cafés, shops and bakeries selling traditional honey and nut pastries. Time to linger until sailing at 9:30 p.m. to Rhodes.

*Overnight: Celestyal Cruises*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Wednesday, September 18**

**Full Day in Rhodes**

View the magnificent panorama as the ship arrives at 7:00 a.m. in Rhodes, the largest of the Dodecanese Islands. (Tour included in the package) Drive along the coastline to the tiny town of Lindos, with its whitewashed houses nestled on the hillside overlooking the crystal sapphire waters of the bay. Tour the Acropolis of Lindos and Temple of Athena before proceeding to the city of Rhodes. See the ruins of ancient Rhodes before enjoying a walking tour of the medieval Old Town. View the Palace of the Knights, continuing down Chevaliers Road, before transferring back to the ship. Set sail this evening at 6:00 p.m.

*Overnight: Celestyal Cruises*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Thursday, September 19**

**Arrive in Crete, Evening in Santorini**

At 7:00 a.m., arrive in Crete, largest of the Greek Islands. (Optional shore excursion available to purchase on board). Crete's remarkable history is highlighted by the ruins of the great Palace of Knossos, ceremonial and political center of the ancient Minoan civilization and residence of the mythical King Minos. Here, the mountain caves are thought to be the legendary birthplace of Zeus, according to Greek mythology. Free time to explore on your own or join the locals sitting in a café drinking coffee. Return to the ship in time for a leisurely lunch on board.

At 4:30 p.m., cruise into Santorini's caldera. (Optional shore excursion available to purchase on board) Enjoy panoramic views of the Aegean Sea as you drive north to Oia village, built on the caldera rim, famous for its whitewashed houses with blue shutters. Free time to explore the marble-paved alleys and become acquainted with the characteristic buildings, or relax at a cliffside café before the ship sails towards Athens at 9:30 p.m.

*Overnight: Celestyal Cruises*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Friday, September 20**

**Disembark Cruise, Sightseeing en route to Olympia**
After disembarking, meet your GATE 1 tour manager and depart Athens via the scenic coastal road to the mighty Corinth Canal, dividing the Peloponnese from mainland Greece. Continue via Nauplion to Mycenae, the heartland of Greek mythology. Visit the Acropolis of Mycenae and the Tomb of Atreus, built around 1250 B.C. From here, drive through the Central Peloponnese Peninsula, whose major cities in classical times were Corinth and Sparta. Continue to Olympia, birthplace of the first Olympic Games.

**Overnight: Olympia, Arty Grand Hotel**  
**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Saturday, September 21**  
**Tour the Olympia Archaeological Site**
Morning visit to the archaeological site of Olympia, including the Sanctuary of Olympian Zeus, and the ancient stadium where the Olympic Games were first held in 776 B.C. Then, drive north through the plains of Elia and Achaia, crossing the Corinth Strait via a cabled bridge from Rion to Antirion. Pass the town of Nafpaktos en route to Delphi, home of the ruins of the Tholos Temple.

**Overnight: Delphi, Amalia Hotel**  
**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Sunday, September 22**  
**Archaeological Tour of Delphi, Travel to Kalambaka**
Tour the excavated site of Delphi and the archaeological Museum, perched on the slopes of Mount Parnassos, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Considered one of the most important places in Greek history, its stunning setting and ancient ruins are truly inspirational. Walk the Sacred Way to the imposing fourth century Temple of Apollo, site of the most important oracle in the classical world. Then travel over the Pourmaraki Pass towards the small town of Kalambaka, situated amidst smooth sandstone cliffs in the foothills of Meteora.

**Overnight: Kalambaka, Amalia Hotel**  
**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Monday, September 23**  
**Meteora Sightseeing, Return to Athens**
Visit Meteora, meaning "suspended in the air", with its mystical Eastern Orthodox monasteries incredibly nestled perilously close to the edge of bizarre rock formations. Admire the exquisite specimens of Byzantine art and the panoramic vistas over the Peneios Valley. Afterward, a scenic drive takes you along the coast, past Thermopylae and arriving to Athens to in the early evening. Services of GATE 1 tour manager will terminate today.

**Overnight: Athens, Royal Olympic Hotel**  
**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Tuesday, September 24**  
**Depart Greece**
Transfer to the airport for your departure flight with a local Gate 1 representative and private motor coach. Flight from Athens to Chicago O’Hare

**Meals:** Breakfast