

**NORTHSTAR CRUISES**  
**PRIVATE**  
**GLORIES OF EPHESUS TOUR**

**KUSADASI**

Arrive in Kusadasi, at 8:30am; you will meet your professional tour guide at the pier for a full day Ephesus Tour.



First, you will visit the **House of Virgin Mary**, where the Virgin is said to have lived the last years of her life. The building was rediscovered in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century by Lazartis from Smyrna based on the vision of a German nun. The site is officially declared a shrine of the Roman Catholic Church and visited by Pope Paul VI in 1967.

Then, you will drive to **Ephesus** and visit the **Hadrian Temple**. It was dedicated in 118 AD to Hadrian, Artemis, and the people of Ephesus but greatly reconstructed in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. This impressive Corinthian style temple has beautiful reliefs on the porch. According to the belief of Ephesians, the Medusa head on the porch, would protect the city from its enemies.



Next visit will be the spectacular **Terrace Houses** (Villas) located on top of the hill within the City of Ephesus. They were inhabited by wealthy Ephesians, and are finely decorated with mosaics and frescos. The Terrace Houses were brought to light in excavations carried out since the 1980s. Along with those in Pompeii, they constitute some of the most vivid examples of Roman domestic architecture to survive to the present.



Then, you will proceed to the **Celsus Library**, The library is the best preserved structure of its kind. The inscription on the side of the building's front staircase says that the library was built by Julius, in his father's honour, after his death. His father, Celsus was the Roman governor of Asia Minor early in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. His tomb is in the library as well.

You will visit the **Great Theatre**, dating back to the Hellenistic period. In the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD it was successfully reconstructed and expanded by the Romans until it reached the seating capacity of 25,000. This is also the place where St.Paul preached. It is still used for performances. The Marble Road which runs between the Theater and the Celsus Library is part of this sacred walkway.

**Lunch** will be served at the Artemis Restaurant which is an old school, located in a Greek village called Sirince. You will taste local food and wine.

After your lunch, you will visit the **Ephesus Museum**. Many of the artifacts displayed here were found in Ephesus and other ancient sites in the region. Highlights include the fresco of Socrates, statues and heads of Eros, crosses, coins and the works of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. Such as glass trays and theatrical masks, and much more.

At the end of your experience, you will return to Kusadasi to embark your ship, Crystal Serenity, departing at 11:00pm.

