



## PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP TO GREECE

*Here is some information that will assist in preparation for your upcoming sailing trip!  
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.*

### **Before you leave:**

#### **Hotel:**

It's time to book your Hotel in Athens for the night before you depart on your charter. We recommend the Piraeus Dream City Hotel as it is close to all the ferries. Just contact us by email and we can make this reservation for you to ensure you get the best possible rate.

#### **PIRAEUS DREAM HOTEL**

##### **78-80 Notara Street, Piraeus, Greece 3 Stars**

Great location to spend the night before catching a ferry to meet your Charter. Excellent staff, Good quality rooms, very good breakfast and great location near the bus/train stop from the Airport and to the ferries. Close to the City Centre with the shops, bars and marina. Nice roof top bar,

#### **Packing:**

Unfortunately, most first time sailing vacationers pack too much! With plenty of sun and sea, life on the Islands is very casual, and you really need very little. The following nine tips should help avoid over packing and ensure you have a great sailing vacation.

The first thing to keep in mind is that storage space on a sailing vessel is usually limited and not conducive to hard-sided suitcases.

Thus, strong duffel bags work best because they can be folded up when not in use. In addition, their size limits what you can bring. Most importantly, a duffel bag fits in the overhead bin of an airplane...

Before thinking of what to wear, there is something more important than how you will look – your travel documents. **Make sure you have your passport and a copy of your travel insurance policy.**

The second tip is to put everything together you will need for your sailing vacation. These documents include your passport, **as well as a copy of your passport to keep in a separate place in case your original is lost**, and your charter package paperwork.



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As a secondary precaution take a picture of your credit card (front/back) and the documents above and upload it to I-Cloud or drop box so you can access from any computer.

Everyone taking a sailing vacation to the Greece or Caribbean is now required to have a passport. **Check your passport expiration date!** Make sure you have at least 3 months left on your passport before it expires.

Although ATM machines and credit cards are used widely in Greece, check to see if you can withdraw cash overseas with your ATM or credit card. This is usually the best option for retrieving quick cash! It is recommended that you bring some cash with you. Traveler's checks are a thing of the past and often can be problematic if needed to convert into cash. Best places for converting cash at your bank before you go or a bank once you get there not at the airport!

**Gratuities:** Although not required, it is customary for guest to provide a gratuity (10-15%) of your charter cost to the Captain. He will provide a percentage of this to his Mate (if one is onboard). It is best to hold back US dollars for this at the end of your charter.

Lastly, review and use the packing list on the last page of this document.

### **Important Contact Information:**

#### **CaribeSail**

Captain Mark

Email: [mjohnson@caribesail.com](mailto:mjohnson@caribesail.com)

Local Phone: +1-512-497-6037

#### **RAM-Om Charters**

Captain Ram

Email: [captainram1@aol.com](mailto:captainram1@aol.com)

Local Phone: +30-6907185740

#### **Athens Limo Service**

Manos – Athens chauffeur

Email: [manolo58k@yahoo.gr](mailto:manolo58k@yahoo.gr)

Phone: +30-6972999999

About 2-3 weeks before you leave contact Manos above via email directly, he will meet you both at the airport and take you to your hotel. He will also meet you and take you to the many sight of Athens.



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We highly recommend Manos! It may cost you a little more, but you will see so much more and most importantly you will be with someone you can trust.

About 1-2 weeks before you leave, contact Captain Ram by email to identify the approximate pick-up/drop off locations for your charter. The exact location won't be determined by RAM until a week before you arrive as it will depend on the direction of the wind. Be rest assured that regardless of location it will be easily accessible by ferry from the Port of Piraeus. For this reason we don't recommend purchasing your ferry tickets before you arrive in Athens.

### **Special dietary requests:**

If you have any special dietary needs or requests please let Captain RAM know via email several weeks before you arrive. He will do his best to provision the boat accordingly. He is a great cook and will serve up some awesome food while onboard!

### **When you arrive in Athens:**

**Do not take the train!!** It may be tempting because a taxi will cost you approximately \$65 or more but the train is full of pick pockets and you don't want to start your trip out by having your purse or wallet snatched. We hope you use Manos as he will meet you at the Airport arrivals gate.

Exchange some dollars at a money exchange once in Athens. The airport is the worse place to exchange Dollars for Euros. If you use Manos, he can take you to the best place on the way to the hotel.

### **Hotel:**

Check in to your hotel, review and make sure it is satisfactory. If you like the hotel, book it for your return night before you leave for your sailing trip!

### **Ferry**

We recommend purchasing your tickets after you have checked into your hotel. From the hotel above, it is a short walk to dock where you will find all of the ferry booths. If you wait to the next day it is possible the ferry will be full. We recommend taking the superfast ferry as early as possible the morning of your charter. The regular ferries are less expensive can take 6 hours or longer to get to your destination, especially if the wind requires you to depart from Santorini instead of Mykonos. Please review the schedules for [SEAJET](#)



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### **Meeting Captain Ram**

Once you have purchased your tickets email or text your Ferry name and arrival information to Captain Ram, he will text you or relay information so he can meet you as you arrive at the port and escort you to the boat. Let him know what you will be wearing so he can find you quicker!

### **What to expect on your Charter**

Sailing is meant to be enjoyable and relaxing! Captain RAM will cater to your requests and make sure that every day meets your needs.

There will be some alcohol on board but RAM is not a heavy drinker so if you want more than soft drinks and an occasional glass of wine or cold beer, we suggest that you purchase extra libations before you depart.

Captain Ram will prepare all breakfast and lunches while on board; however, you should expect to eat ashore every evening. It is customary to extend an invitation to the captain to join you for dinner ashore.

Snorkel Gear – Captain RAM has all equipment on board but we recommend bringing your own mask and snorkel.

### **Departing your Charter**

The logistics of your return to Athens will depending on the winds and your location. You will have time to take a ferry and arrive in the port of Piraeus at least one day before you departure flight. Ideally the evening before your last day you will arrive at your departure destination. You will have the opportunity to stay aboard one night and leave early on the first ferry in the morning. Captain RAM will assist you in making arrangements with a local taxi driver to meet and transport you to the ferry dock where you can purchase your return tickets back to Athens at least one day before you departure flight.

Once in of Piraeus, contact Manos and arrange your ride back to the airport if you have not done so already.

We hope it will be a trip full of great memories and remember please take picture wearing your CaribeSail T-shirts for us!

On the next page is a check list that can be used to help pack for the trip!



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## CHECK LIST

<i>Check off</i>	<i>Sailing Gear for 7 nights</i>	<i>Check off</i>	<i>Clothes for 7 nights</i>	
	Travel insurance policy card			
	Passport		2 long pants	
	Driver license		2 long sleeve shirt	
	Camera		3 pair socks	
	Book to read		3 underwear/or commando	
	Cell charger (110V)		2 pair shorts	
	Mask, & snorkel (provided but personal gear is recommended)		1 dress shirt /dress	
	Advil, Tylenol or Other Meds		4 T-shirts	
	\$500 cash money		1 Pillow case	
	Credit card		1 Beach towel	
	Sun glasses, reading glasses		2 Swim suits	
	Suntan lotion/sun block		Cover-up	
	Beer cozy		Sandals	
	Tooth brush & paste		Water shoes	
	Soap, shampoo		Tennis shoes	
	Comb or brush		Clothes for return trip	
	Talcum powder		Sun hat	
	<b>Optional Items</b>		<b>Personal Items</b>	
	playing cards		Snack bars	
	240 to 110 v converter plug			
	cabin fan 12 volt/battery			
	fishing rod, tackle & bait		<b>Things to buy</b>	
	fanny pack		Wine/beer for onshore	
	Small collapsible cooler		Souvenirs	
	Sea sick pills		Caps/T-shirts	
	Pen and small notebook			
	Cell phone			