

ANCIENT GREECE – MYTHS & LEGENDS AND OPEN TO US RESIDENTS



A SPECIAL ITINERARY FOR THE WOMEN'S TRAVEL GROUP ROOM SHARES GUARANTEED ON MAIN TRIP

7 Days: Athens, Corinth Canal, Epidaurus, Nafplion, Mycenae, Olympia, Delphi, Aegina, Poros & Hydra + Santorini

Tour Overview Nov 7-14 or stay on for Santorini

November is mild in Greece. So enjoy this ancient country without the crowds. Our trip starts in Athens with a panoramic tour of the historic landmarks. Next, a guided visit to the Acropolis to see the temple of Athena Nike, the Parthenon, and more. Stops will be made in Peloponneseto see the Corinth canal, Nafplion, and Mycenae. Experience the wonders of the Ancient Olympia Complex, where the original Olympic Games were held. Delphi is next for a day of admiring the amazing sights and learn the history. For the last full day, the tour will transfer to the port of Trokadero for a day cruise to the islands of the Saronic gulf – a day full of adventures that are one of a kind!

Day 1 - MON 08 NOV 21: Arrival / Athens (Dinner)

Arrive at Athens airport, welcome assistance, and transfer to the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. In the evening we gather again and after a briefing about our tour, we head at a local restaurant for our welcome dinner. Return transfer to the hotel for overnight.

Accommodation: Hotel St. George Lycabettus 5* - 2 Nights

Day 2 - TUE 09 NOV 21: Athens city tour / Athens (B,L)

The day is dedicated to exploring Athens. Our day begins with a transfer for our guided visit to the Acropolis, including the Propylae, the temple of Athena Nike, the Parthenon, the Erechtheion. From here, we continue on foot along Diorysiou Aeropagitou Street, to the Acropolis museum, voted on of the best museums in Europe, where findings from the area, including the Caryatides are lodged. We then board our coach and continue with a panoramic tour to the most important monuments and landmarks of the city including the Panathinaikon stadium, the Zappeion, temple of Olympian Zeus, Hadrian's Arch, Syntagma square, Parliament, the tomb of the unknown soldier,

Schliemann's house, the Academy, the University, the National Library, and the old Parliament. Our panoramic tour ends in Kerameikos area. The day continues on foot to the local Farmer's market for a slice-of-life experience, mingling with the locals who buy fresh food products from local producers. Further on will bring us to Thisio. Taking Adrianou street and walking next to the ancient Greek and Roman agora, we cross to Monastiraki with the famous flea market, and conclude in Plaka to experience a typical Greek lunch with "souvlaki with pita", Greek salad and appetizers. Balance of the afternoon at leisure to explore Plaka, the picturesque old part of the city, and why not, some shopping at Ermou street. Transfer included back to the hotel.

Day 3 - WED 10 NOV 21: Corinth Canal, Epidaurus, Nafplion, Mycenae / Olympia (B,D)



After breakfast, we depart towards the Peloponnese. The first stop is at the impressive Corinth canal then Epidaurus with its theater, famous for its acoustics. Our day continues in Nafplion for a short stop. Our next visit will be to Mycenae «rich in gold» as Homer mentions, with the Cyclopean walls, and the tomb of Agamemnon with the famous Lion's Gate. In the afternoon, we cross the mountains of the Peloponnese to arrive

in Olympia for dinner and overnight.

Accommodation: Hotel Europa 4/ 4/12 * - 1 Night

Day 4 - THU 11 NOV 21: Olympia / Delphi (B,L,D)

Built on the banks of the River Alfios, Olympia is beautiful, green, and placid. We will enjoy a tour through the remains of the Ancient Olympia Complex (home of the original Olympic Games), including the Temple of Zeus, the Palaestra, and Phidias's Workshop. We continue to the local museum, one of the richest in Greece, with the impressive statue of Hermes of Praxitelis. Lunch on the way. In the afternoon, we head north, driving around Patras, over the impressive Rio-Antirio bridge, through Nafpaktos and Itea, to Delphi for dinner and overnight.

Accommodation: Hotel Amalia 4* - 1 Night



Day 5 - FRI 12 NOV 21: Delphi / Athens (B,L,D)

Delphi used to be the most sacred spot in the world and a pilgrimage center for centuries in antiquity. We admire the Sanctuary of Apollo, walk the Sacred way, and visit the temple of Apollo, home of the oracle. We continue to the local museum with the famous bronze statue of the Charioteer. After our visits, we take the road back towards Athens. On the way, we stop for lunch at a countryside local restaurant. Arrival in Athens in the afternoon and check in at our hotel. In the evening, we gather and head to a local restaurant with live Greek music to experience a dinner with the locals.

Accommodation: Hotel St. George Lycabettus 5* - 2 Nights

Day 6 - SAT 13 NOV 21: Day cruise to Aegina, Poros & Hydra / Athens (B,L,D)

Early breakfast and we transfer to the port for a day cruise to the islands of the Saronic Gulf. Our first port of call will be Hydra. A picturesque little "vehicle-free" island, well-known to the international jet-set. Take an optional donkey ride, explore the little cobble-stoned streets, and visit the Mitropolis at your own pace. Next, we visit the island of Poros with its clock tower facing the Peloponnese. Last will be a visit to Aegina, a weekend retreat island for many Athenians. Enjoy optional horse-drawn carriage ride. Before leaving make sure to buy some pistachios, as Aegina is world-famous for its production. During cruising, we enjoy a buffet lunch on board, and on the way back we have to opportunity to participate in some traditional Greek dances! Return transfer to our hotel, for a farewell dinner with wine with great views over the Acropolis.

Day 7 - SUN 14 NOV 21: Departure (B)

Breakfast, and at the appropriate time, transfer to the airport for our departure flight.

OPTIONAL SANTORINI POST TRIP

Day 07 Athens – Santorini / Santorini (B)

In the morning we will be transferred to the airport to fly to Santorini and transfer to our hotel. Off season Santorini gives one a better idea of local life. Weather is milder than in most of Europe. The town will be ours again without most of the crowds.

Day 08 – Santorini (BL)

1/2-day tour w/lunch Even in early winter, Santorini has its charm. Explore the quiet streets of Fira, walk along Nomikou street, and visit the picturesque village of Oia with stunning views of the Caldera and the volcano. Santorini is known for its wines, unique due to the volcanic soil. We visit a winery for a wine tasting with appetizers before going to lunch, where we have a sea view while dining.

Day 09 At leisure 'Santorini (B)

Day 10 – Departure (B)

Early AM flights connecting with flights home.

LAND ARRANGEMENTS

10 – 14 travelers

\$2399 PER PERSON

15 - 19 travelers

\$2299 PER PERSON

SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT

\$550

AIRFARE UPON REQUEST

SANTORINI \$490 SHARE PER PERSON \$250 SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT

Accommodation: Theoxenia Boutique Hotel with Breakfast – 3 Nights, Shared Transfers, Shared Sightseeing, 1 lunch, Wine tasting, **Not included:** Personal expenses Flights Gratuities Any Meals not in the itinerary. The flight from Athens/Santorini,w/1 piece of luggage estimated \$350 round trip is **not** included.

MAIN TOUR Inclusions:

- ✓ Accommodation on BB, 4 nights in Athens, 1 night in Olympia and 1 night in Delphi
- ✓ Welcome & Farewell Dinner with wine in Athens
- ✓ Other Meals – 4 Lunches & 4 Dinners
- ✓ Deluxe a/c coach throughout the tour for all transfers and visits according to the above itinerary
- ✓ Whisper Headsets throughout your trip
- ✓ Porterage in & out at the hotels listed above
- ✓ Professional qualified English-speaking escort from Day 1 – Day 7
- ✓ Accommodation for Tour Escort in Olympia & Delphi
- ✓ The day cruise to Aegina, Poros and Hydra (including lunch and dances on board)
- ✓ Entrance fees to the various sites and museums
- ✓ All taxes and our services (except for the “overnight stay” tax - please refer below)

Not included:

- Personal expenses
- Gratuities for driver or escort: please estimate \$7 per person per day for the driver, \$10 per person for tour guide, based on level of satisfaction
- Meals other than those mentioned above
- Beverages during included meals. (wine is included for welcome and farewell dinners)

- Hotel City taxes need to be paid directly – An average of € 3.5 per person per night
- Anything else not specifically mentioned in the program or our quotation, or anything mentioned as optional