

Tour Code: UAA10



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# 10-Day The Greek Islands of the Aegean Sea

Athens, Delphi, Kalambaka, Mykonos, Santorini

Departure Dates: (2023) 3/9, 4/6, 5/11, 6/8, 7/6, 8/10, 9/7, 10/12

#### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Experience the ancient Greek mythology while exploring the ancient capital Athens and enjoying a dream vacation on the fantastic islands in the Aegean Sea.
- Explore dwellings of the ancient gods in depth: Sanctuary of Apollo, Temple of Zeus, Parthenon, the "Castle in the Sky" Meteora, etc.
- As the blueprint of famous Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki's fantasy adventure film "Castle
  in the Sky", the spectacular landscape of Meteora and the holy monasteries built on the
  extraordinary rock formation will bring you an exceptional experience like in a magical world.
- Outstanding experience to travel from Athens to Mykonos and Santorini on high-speed Sea Jets while admire the fascinating Aegean coastal views.
- Journey at ease with inland flight from Santorini back to Athens while cost no extra to you. (Avoid 8-hour return boat ride!)
- Accommodate at convenient 4-star hotels including upscale sea view hotels for 3 nights, allowing you to truly indulge in Aegean romance.
- Enjoy authentic Greek cuisine, local grilled fish, traditional Greek folklore dance show with dinner, etc.
- Experienced and professional bilingual tour leader offering attentive services and comprehensive knowledge on local attractions, ancient Greek history and culture.

### **ADMISSIONS INCLUDED:**

- Acropolis of Athens
- Temple of Zeus
- Parthenon
- Olympic Stadium
- Sanctuary of Apollo
- Treasury of Athenians
- Meteora Monasteries

#### **ITINERARIES:**

- 1 Hometown > Athens, Greece
- 2 Athens Plaka Shopping Area

Hotel: Athens Zafolia Hotel or similar

\*\*\* No tour or compensation will be given if arrive after 6:00pm, please self check in at hotel. \*\*\*

Athens: The capital and largest city of Greece, with tropical Mediterranean climate. It's also one of the world's oldest cities with its recorded history spanning over 3400 years. Currently it's the eighth largest city in Europe.

3 Athens - The Acropolis (admission incl.) - Temple of Zeus (admission incl.) - Parthenon (admission incl.) - Olympic Stadium (admission incl.) - Syntagma Square - Old Parliament House - Tomb of Unknown Soldier (B/D: Traditional Greek Cuisine)

Hotel: Athens Zafolia Hotel or similar

**The Acropolis:** An ancient citadel located on a flattop rock and consists of the remains of several ancient buildings of architectural and historical significance. Being the most outstanding ancient building complex in Greece, it serves as the centre of religion and politics, depicting consistent balance of faith and justice.

**Temple of Zeus:** An ancient Greek temple dedicated to Zeus, the head of Olympian gods. Its construction began in the 6th century BC but was not completed until the reign of the Roman Emperor Hadrian in the 2nd century AD. At its peak during the Roman period, it included totally 104 colossal columns. Currently, it houses the renowned statue of Zeus, which was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

**Parthenon:** A classical Greek temple dedicated to the goddess Athena and one of the most important ancient Greek heritage sites. Construction began in 447 BC when the Athenian Empire was at the peak of its power and completed in 432 BC.

**Olympic Stadium:** Constructed in 1982, it is the main stadium during the 2004 Summer Olympics. With capacity of 72,000, it also hosted the opening ceremony and the closing ceremony. Its construction was revolutionary and involved the use of a prefabrication method for the 34 sets of pillars supporting the stands (each weighed 600 tons).

4 Athens - Arachova - Delphi - Sanctuary of Apollo (admission incl.) - Theater - Treasury of Athenians (admission incl.) - Kalambaka (B/D: Local Western)

Hotel: Divani Meteora Hotel or similar

**Sanctuary of Apollo:** Dating back to as early as 1500 BC, the Sanctuary of Apollo in Delphi has been the most important historical and religious site in Greece and was home to the Oracle where all Greeks including kings, war generals and leaders came to consult with the god Apollo for prophecy about their future, major decisions, wars, resources and guidance in all aspects of their life.

**Treasury of Athenians:** This relatively small Doric styled temple is one of the most impressive buildings in the Sanctuary of Apollo. It was constructed in the early 5th century BC to hold and display the votive

offerings to the god Apollo. It is entirely built of Parian marble with 30 metopes depicting the Athenian mythology of Theseus and Herakles.

### 5 Kalambaka - Meteora – Monasteries (admission incl.) – Athens (B/D: Authentic grill fish)

Hotel: Athens Zafolia Hotel or similar

**Meteora:** Greece's city in the sky. Literally meaning "suspending in the air" in Greek language, the Meteora is an unusual rock formation in central Greece. It hosts one of the largest complexes of Eastern Orthodox monasteries and is listed one of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Its isolation makes it a perfect place for the monks' religious retreats. 24 monasteries were built on the top of some giant rock columns and only 6 are still functioning. The Great Meteoron Monastery is the oldest and largest one.

## 6 Athens (Hi Speed Sea Jets approx. 3hrs) Wykonos - Free at Leisure (B)

Hotel: Petinos Beach Hotel or similar

**Mykonos:** Renowned for its bright sunshine, soft sandy beaches, picturesque landscape and relaxed holiday atmosphere, Mykonos has always been one of the most popular travel destinations in Greece. The town features many little whitewashed sugar-cubed houses on the hillside with colorful doors and window frames. There are also some little churches and local museums for you to explore.

## 7 Mykonos (Hi Speed Sea Jets approx. 3hrs) Santorini - Free at Leisure (B)

Hotel: Kalisti Hotel & Suites or similar

**Santorini**: 200km southeast from the Greek mainland, Santorini is best known as the legendary Lost City of Atlantics and also the most fascinating volcanic island ring in the Aegean. Couples especially love Santorini for honeymoon vacations and pre-wedding photo shooting against the backdrop of its amazing landscape and the Cycladic architectures in pure white color. Visitors are also highly recommended to take either a modern cable car ride or traditional donkey ride up to the volcano to admire the amazing panoramic views of the stunning caldera, the volcano and the old port from a 220m altitude.

### 8 Santorini - Island Tour (optional) (B)

Hotel: Kalisti Hotel & Suites or similar

### 9 Santorini Athens - Greek Folklore Dace Dinner Show (B/D)

Hotel: Athens Zafolia Hotel or similar

### 10 Athens Hometown (B)

After breakfast, transfer to airport for return flight to hometown.

< Itineraries may be subject to change. >