

Best of Greece (Group Tour)

ATHENS - DELPHI - SANTORINI & MORE

September 28th – October 7th 2021 (tentative) 10 Days

Cost: \$2595 total (based on double occupancy)

Includes: all international flights, nightly 3-star accommodations, shuttle service from West Michigan to Chicago airport, all ground transportation in Greece, full time travel director, & all listed admissions & tours. Other expenses not included are: most meals, checked baggage, optional excursions, and travel insurance.

Travel Insurance available through our affiliate program at World Nomads. More information at https://percussive.org/greece

<u>Signup Deadline: June 28, 2021</u> - checks made payable to Percussive, LLC – *Cash, Venmo (@percussive), & Credit Card also accepted. 3.5% processing fee added to all credit card transactions*



DAY 1, Tuesday, Sep 28 - Depart for Greece

Transfer from Greenville or Grand Rapids area to Chicago via private coach for your transatlantic flight this evening to Greece's historical capital city. Your flight will include all meals, beverages, and entertainment.

DAY 2, Wednesday, Sep 29 - Arrive in Athens

Arrive in Athens later this evening and transfer to your centrally located hotel to relax and unwind.

Overnight: Athens

DAY 3, Thursday, Sep 30 – Touring Athens

This morning, join your local Greek tour guide as they take you on an in-depth walking tour of Ancient Athens. Visit sights such as:

- The Greek Parliament
- Monument of the Unknown Soldier (watch changing of the guards)
- National Gardens
- Zappeion Hall
- Temple of Zeus
- Theater of Dionysus
- Hadrian's Arch
- The Areopagus (Mars Hill)
- Much more!

After the walking tour, enjoy a traditional Mediterranean-style Greek lunch nearby.

Later, visit the famous Acropolis and admire the nearly 2500year-old Parthenon; a temple dedicated to the goddess Athena. Your skip-the-line ticket will grant you expedited access. For some more historical insight, enjoy a visit to the Acropolis Museum, holding amazing artifacts found on the acropolis from the Bronze Age to Roman and Byzantine Greece!

Free time afterwards.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:

• Traditional Greek Evening

Enjoy a festive night out and indulge in some of the best Greek cuisine in Athens with a marvelous 4-course dinner while listening to traditional live music (w/ optional dancing!)

Overnight: Athens

DAY 4, Friday, Oct 1 - Delphi Day Tour

Follow in the footsteps of ancient heroes and legends with a day tour to mystical Delphi, one of Greece's most iconic places. Travel past the plain of Boeotia and the birthplace of King Oedipus; then explore the scenic ruins of the Temple of Apollo and the spectacular friezes in the Delphi museum. Later, visit a picturesque mountain village to browse woven handicrafts and carpets before returning to Athens.

Overnight: Athens

DAY 5, Saturday, Oct 2 – Athens Free Day

Today, enjoy a free day in Athens to explore at your own pace, or opt for one of our fabulous optional excursions!

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:

• Mycenae & Epidaurus Day Trip

Travel along the beautiful Saronic Gulf and into the Peloponnese to the atmospheric hilltop ruins of Mycenae; a

fortified city from the second millennium BC. See the famous Lion's Gate, "Tomb of Agamemnon" and Palace, and after a stop in pretty Nauplia, continue to another archaeological treasure: Epidaurus. Pick your way around the Sanctuary of Asclepius and ogle the age-old theater, a wonder of ancient architecture.

Meteora Day Tour by Train

Travel by train through the beautiful Peloponnesian countryside on a full-day tour to the Meteora monasteries. Your guide will meet you in the town of Kalambaka and take you to the medieval monastery complex, which sits perched high atop sandstone cliffs and is honored by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. It's a wonderful way to experience one of Greece's most breathtaking and off-the-beaten-path cultural treasures.

• Greek Cooking Class w/ Market Visit

Immerse yourself in the culinary history and practices of Greece during this half-day traditional cooking class in Athens. Tour Athens' Central Food Market to purchase produce, then head back to the kitchen with your guide to prepare dishes using the local, fresh ingredients.

Overnight: Athens

DAY 6, Sunday, Oct 3 – Santorini Island

Early this morning, fly non-stop to the gem of the Aegean Sea: Santorini! Upon arriving, meet your local guide who will take you on a full-day highlights tour of the island! Explore the Minoan archaeological site at Akrotiri, swim at the black-sand Perissa Beach, take in panoramic views from Prophet Elias Monastery, and sip volcanic varietals at a local winery. Finish the day with an unforgettable sunset from Oia village.

Overnight: Santorini

DAY 7, Monday, Oct 4 – Santorini Free Day

Today, enjoy a free day relaxing in Santorini, or opt for one of our fabulous optional excursions!

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:

• Catamaran Cruise w/ Greek Buffet & Drinks

Experience the coastline of Santorini from the water during this 5-hour catamaran cruise including a full buffet meal and all drinks, as well as access to snorkeling equipment!

• Santorini Wine Tasting & Vineyard Tour

Sip on Santorini wine during this 4.5-hour, small-group tour of the island and two or three of its wine estates. As you explore, learn about wine production in the area and hear about the local varietals such as assyrtiko. Explore a vineyard with a guide and walk around wine cellars. If you want to make the tour extra-special, upgrade to enjoy an evening excursion. The option includes a visit to a hilltop winery, local tapas, and sunset views to complement your wine. Numbers are limited to eight people.

• Scenic Kayaking Tour

Admire Santorini's beaches and beauty spots from the water on a scenic sea kayaking tour. Settle into a comfortable kayak, get instructions, and paddle behind an experienced guide along the rugged south coast. Waft by steep cliffs and pretty beaches, and visit a cliff-backed cove for chance to swim and snorkel. Take in epic views of the caldera and its islands, and gaze up at the clifftop Faros lighthouse on Santorini's southern tip before your return.

• Santorini Wanderlust Walking Tour

Experience the absolute splendor of Santorini, while strolling through some of the most scenic and quiet villages of the island. Walk alongside beautiful mansions, explore quaint rural houses and discover the charm of Santorini's abandoned neighborhoods. Visit a traditional winery to taste the local volcanic wines and stop by a unique microbrewery for a fresh beer tasting experience. Your local guide will take you to the countryside where you will get to meet locals still living there, and learn about professions and crafts that no longer exist. Discover amazing cave houses and capture the essence of Santorini as it used to be, before being wrecked by a massive earthquake. Enjoy a trip back in time, and let the aura of Santorini's villages enhance your senses.

Overnight: Santorini

DAY 8, Tuesday, Oct 5 – Santorini Free Day

Today, enjoy another free day relaxing in Santorini, or opt for one of our fabulous optional excursions mentioned on Day 7!

Overnight: Santorini

DAY 9, Wednesday, Oct 6 – Athens

This morning, fly non-stop back to Athens for one last day in Greece. Enjoy free time or join one of our optional excursions!

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:

• Gourmet Food Tour of Athens

Indulge your inner foodie on this 4-hour gourmet tasting tour and sample the edible delights of Athens. Take to the streets for a walking tour of Athens' cafés, markets, delicatessens, and street food haunts. Enjoy the undivided attention of your private food-expert guide as you uncover the secrets of Greek cuisine and learn more about the city's culinary heritage. Stop along the way to sample local treats like sweet donuts, Greek bread and regional cheeses, washed down with Greek wine and freshly brewed coffee.

• Ancient Corinth & Daphni Monastery Half-day Tour Visit two of southern Greece's historical highlights on this 6-hour ancient Corinth and Daphni Monastery trip. Admire the interior mosaics of the 11th-century Byzantine monastery of Daphni, and enjoy a photo stop at the Corinth Canal before exploring ancient Corinth. See the crumbled shops, temples, and fountains of this age-old city-state before returning to Athens.

• Eclectic Athens Walking Tour

Experience the delights of eclectic Athens on a tour that includes bustling markets, ancient marvels, and traditional coffeehouses. Explore the vibrant neighborhoods of Psiri and Kolonaki; browse the stalls at Monastiraki flea market and Athens Public Market; and admire ancient sites like Kerameikos Cemetery and the Temple of Hephaestus. Along the way, discover bold street art, foodie hotspots, handicrafts workshops and secret local hangouts.

Overnight: Athens

DAY 10, Thursday, Oct 7 – Travel Home

Transfer back to the airport for your flight back to the USA, including meals, beverages, and entertainment. Later, transfer to Greenville or Grand Rapids via private coach.

*Percussive Tours reserves the right to modify this itinerary if certain activities become unavailable