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Culinary Program in Greece

Explore Tasting from Athens to Crete...



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Explore Tasting from Athens to Crete…

10 days/ 9 overnights

- **Athens**

Day 1: Athens: (**D)** upon arrival meet with your assistant, transfer **for Dinner at Athens Riviera** restaurant. Afterwards, transfer to a hotel overnight **in Athens**.

- **Athens**

Day 2. Athens (B, L, D)

Breakfast at the hotel and depart for **a walking Food tour in the city of Athens.**
Duration: Morning walking tour **4hrs max.**
Return at the hotel to rest.

join ***the Food tour "Experience Greek Tasting." That includes lunch***

Service description: Explore different neighborhoods, ranging from working-class havens to boutique boulevards. Hear how Athens was transformed from a town into a modern city, all in the shadow of its own ancient glory. Immerse yourself in the world of Greek food. The smells and the range of products in specialty food shops and the bustle of open-air markets will all make your taste buds sing!

join ***the Food tour "Experience Greek Tasting." That includes lunch.***



Inclusions: Food specialist guide (multilingual), food, and beverages sampling. (**Lunch included**). Then return to your hotel. Time to relax. In the evening have: **Athens by Night with dinner & folklore show**
Service description: Your evening begins with a short panoramic drive through the city. Arrival at venue to experience the "Greek way" of entertainment.
(Cuisine, folklore dancing and music)!

Duration: Dep. **18.30 - Ret.22.00**
Inclusions: Transport by luxury air-conditioned bus, professional and assistant, hotel pick up / drop off service**, dinner** at a traditional restaurant.
Afterwards, transfer back to your hotel. Overnight **in Athens.**

Athens – Heraklion

Day 3. (B, L, D)

Breakfast

Check out from your hotel**.** And transfer to Athen's airport to catch your flight to **Heraklion, Crete.**

Upon arrival meet with your assistant & transfer In from Heraklion Apt/Port-to Heraklion Town. Check in at your hotel. Transfer to a local restaurant **for Lunch**. Time at your leisure. **Dinner** and overnight in **Heraklion.**

Heraklion

Day 4: (B, L, D)

Breakfast

Pick Up from Heraklion hotel: Private bus tour duration approx. 6hrs

By Private official guide **Knossos Palace -Cretan Boutique winery & Archanes Village. Lunch** at **Archanes village**. Get the best of Crete's history and their superb wineries in this experience. Walk the streets of an important lost city, Knossos, whose remains still highlight the importance of the Minoan civilization. During this tour you will be taken back 4,000 years to the time of the oldest civilization in Europe. **The Minoan Palace of Knossos**, center of the Minoan Civilization, will leave you breathless as you wonder over the technology and facilities of that period. Continue through villages to **Archanes**, the municipality in the area. On the way a photo stop is made in **Vathypetro**, one of the oldest farmhouses of Crete, belonging to the Minoan period 16th century BC, with a ceramic feet wine press. The tour continues through the island's hilly countryside, filled in the last 4000 years, with the olive orchards and most famous vineyards, before arriving at the village of Archanes with its beautiful streets and old houses. A market town nestled in the broad upland east of Mount Juchtas, the God Zeus has been immortalized in the profile you see etched against the clear blue Cretan skies. Archanes is one of the few places visited by the current King of England Charles. The village is named as the 2nd best-restored village in Europe. Come and pay homage to Dionysus, the Greek god of winemaking and revelry! Where there is culture, there is wine.

Let us take you to the heart of Central Crete and specifically to the enchanting valley of Peza, a rich Minoan land with olive groves and red soils. Here you will discover a winery to taste Cretan indigenous varieties with divine aromas and flavors. The town of Peza will have you feeling like you're lost in the Tuscany countryside, a bucolic landscape that serves as the perfect backdrop for wine tastings, as you sip wines and snack on cheese and cured meats, and other gastronomic delicacies in the winery of your choice.

Return to hotel. Time to rest. In the evening transfer **for dinner.** Overnight in **Heraklion.**

Heraklion -Chania

Day 5:(B, L, D)

Breakfast

Pick Up from **Heraklion** hotel/ check out: Private tour duration approx. 6hrs By Private Assistant. **Lunch.**

Cooking lesson with lunch & drop off at Chania

Today we start our exploration with a visit to the very interesting and traditional settlement of a Cretan Village. In this village you will have the opportunity to see how people used to live in the past. There is a museum in the village, which displays the equipment people used in their numerous tasks during the day. If you are interested in Cretan cuisine, Greek food, or you just love cooking, we invite you to join our traditional cooking lessons. You will cook, taste, and enjoy local recipes and prepare delicious dishes with the guidance and assistance of our professional cook.

Cooking Lesson
Welcome drink
Guided Tour
A tour of the village and the museum from the village's escort for a brief overview.
Cooking Lesson
Five dishes, **2hrs & 30min duration.**
Visitors prepare the dishes Ntolmadakia (stuffed vine leaves), Ntakos (local snack with rusk), Tzatziki (Greek dip sauce), Keftedakia (Greek meatballs) and Sarikopites(local pastry).
Tasting
Wine, cheese, olives, rusks, and olive oil.
Exhibition
Olive oil, herbs, honey, and wine.
Meal
Visitors will have a meal with the dishes they prepared.
Greek coffee
After the meals visitors will make Greek coffee for their selves.

Recipe booklet and certificate
All visitors will receive a booklet and certificate as a souvenir.
Walking through the narrow, colorful alleys of the village you reach the main square of the village, where under the shade of a plane tree you will taste various Greek snacks and the local spirit Raki. After the refreshments you may stroll around the narrow streets of the village and get acquainted with the typical life of a Cretan village. Transfer to hotel. In the afternoon pick up from the hotel and transfer to **dinner** at a local restaurant. Overnight in **Chania.**

Chania

Day 6: B, L, D)

Breakfast

Pick Up from Chania: Private tour duration approx. 6hrs

By Private official guide

Chania Old Town walking city tour -The world's oldest olive tree at Vouves , the Olive museum & Olive tour at the Cretan Mill

Lunch. Today our exploration starts with a visit to the oldest olive tree ever, the Vouves olive tree and the Olive Tree Museum. The tree is one of the oldest olive trees in the world, which still produces olives today. The exact age of the tree cannot be determined precisely, but the scientists from the University of Crete have estimated it to be over 3,000 years old. The trunk has a perimeter of 12.5 m (41 ft) and a diameter of 4.6 m (15 ft).

We continue our visit to a local Cretan Mill, one of the best olive extractions. The Mill specializes in estate produced stone-milled and cold-pressed organic olive oil. The Mill's stone was built specifically to welcome tourists and to hold presentations and olive oil tasting, introducing, and educating visitors to eco sensitive ways of producing quality olive oil. Then relax in, having a coffee and learning about the Cretan olive oil and enjoying the magnificent view of Rokka rock. A huge rock on top of a slope facing the North coast, with remnants of a Byzantine castle built on ruins dating back to Roman and Minoan times.

Stroll through Chania's irresistible Old Town, immersing yourself in Crete's history and browsing the shops around the harbor. After a brief drive, you'll arrive at Crete's former capital of Chania, and enter its Old Town, which thrived around a Venetian port. You will admire the incredible flower-decorated neighborhoods, learn about Cretan history, mythology, and traditions. Join us on a unique tour through the ages and explore the other side of the city.

The most important thing that you will learn from this experience is that in two hours you will tour and learn about five old civilizations, see their architecture, know about their culture, and hear the ancient spirits' history and tales!

Return to hotel. Time at leisure. In the evening pick up from the hotel and transfer **for dinner** and overnight **in Chania.**

Chania – Agios Nikolaos

Day 7:(B, L, D)
Breakfast
Pick Up from Chania/ check out: Private tour duration approx. 6hrs
By Private official guide **Culinary tour at Heraklion & drop off Agios Nikolaos.**
Lunch.
What better way to experience Heraklion city than eating your way through it? Whether you are a passionate foodie or a traveler going after unique experiences, this gastronomy tour will excite your senses! Taste unique dishes and savor Cretan flavors in places that locals prefer to go, far away from the tourist traps.

Time for a visit to the open fish market where you will stop for a mini break to get some street food, a **grilled Shrimp stick & an iced ouzo** and by the next corner you will watch how the **Greek coffee** is made while you take one on the way out to refresh your taste after the seafood appetizer!

Explore the thousands of different **Cretan herbs** in a typical herb shop and learn about the many different kinds of herbs from the Cretan mountains and let yourself a bigger break to have a light lunch in the market portico to eat different **local meze specialties 'dakos', 'dolmadakia' ,"meat ribs"** accompanied by **raki liquor & glyko koutaliou (home-made sweet).** Ending the tour on a high note, experience with traditional **loukoumades**, a dessert consisting of fried doughnut holes drenched in honey.
This is where your journey to the Cretan culinary scene of Heraklion comes to an end. Transfer to hotel, check in. Time to settle and rest. In the evening transfer to a restaurant for **dinner.** Overnight in **Agios Nikolaos.**

Agios Nikolaos

Day 8: (B, L, D)
Breakfast
Pick Up from Agios Nikolaos: Private tour duration approx. 4-5hrs
By Private Assistant
Cretan Farm Panorama Demo / lunch at local restaurant
The schedule (activity -duration approx. 3hr): DEMO ONLY
We divide the group into 2 groups and each group participates in the following 3 activities (demo) each lasting 30 minutes.
At the end, all together will do the tasting of our products
In total the visit will last approx. 3-3,5hrs
- cooking demo (stuffed vine leaves & tzatziki)
Highlights
● An extraordinary journey through the original Cretan flavors and recipes.
● Prepare and taste some of the most typical dishes of Cretan cuisine, with the guidance of our local chef, you will have the chance to learn how to make authentic Cretan dishes, using a wide range of fresh, organic ingredients from our garden.

- Milking & cheese tasting
Highlights

● An extraordinary journey through the Cretan flavors and traditions.
● Prepare and taste some of the most typical types of Cretan cheese, with the help of a local shepherd, the guidance of our local shepherd, you will have the chance to milk and feed the goats, help in the production of two types of cheese ("malaka" & "mizithra") and learn the secrets of cheese-making in Crete.

- Traditional Olive oil making demo

Highlights

● An extraordinary experience of interactive olive oil production, the old-fashioned way.
● Actively participate in our olive oil production within our original 140-year-old olive mill and press.
● Learn everything about Cretan olive oil and taste different types of olive oil.

This is a hands-on olive oil making experience, suitable for guests who want to get to know our ancestors' olive oil production process. Within our 140-year-old factory, we revive the experience and share it with you. We use fresh olives during the very early harvesting period in the end of October. This way, we can offer you the opportunity to taste the original olive oil as it was naturally extracted, before the arrival of the modern factories and machines, which changed its consistency and flavor. Transfer to hotel, check in. Time to settle and rest. In the evening transfer to a restaurant for **dinner**. Overnight in **Agios Nikolaos.**

Agios Nikolaos – Athens

Day 9: (B, D)
Breakfast
Check out from hotel and transfer from Agios Nikolaos to Heraklion Apt/Port Arrival in Athens airport**, dinner** and overnight at the hotel.

Athens

Day 10: (B)
Breakfast
Check out from hotel, meet with your assistant and transfer to Athen's airport to catch your flight back home.

END OF SERVICES

Package include:

- Domestic flights from Athens -Heraklion – Athens at economy class
- 3 nights accommodation at Athens selected hotel category (3*,4*,5*)
- 2 nights accommodation in Heraklion selected hotel category (3*,4*,5*)
- 2 nights accommodation in Chania selected hotel category (3*,4*,5*)
- 2 nights accommodation in Agios Nikolaos selected hotel category (3*,4*,5*)
- Daily breakfast at the hotels
- Transfers and tours as per itinerary
- Assistant and guide during tours (English or Spanish or other)
- Meals as per program
- Entrance fees to all mentioned in the itinerary visits

Not included:

- *International flights*
- *Ferry tickets*
- *Resilience environmental taxes payable on the spot from the guest directly at the hotel*
- *Beverages during meals*
- *Tips*
- *Porterages*
- *Personal expenses*
- *Whatever it is not mentioned into the inclusions*