Archaeological Panorama of Greece - Discover the beauty of Greece

13 days and 12 nights

APRIL-MAY – JUNIO – SEPTEMBER –- OCTOBER

DAY 1 – Athens



Upon arrival at Athens International Airport, you will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel. Balance of the day at rest. If time permits, depending on your arrival time in Athens, you can enjoy one of our optional tours. (Cape Sounion or Athens Evening Tour with Traditional Greek Show). Overnight stay in Athens.

Day 2 – Athens

After breakfast at the hotel, pick you up for our Athens sightseeing tour. Our half-day Athens tour starts with a panoramic drive around Syntagma Square, passing by many tourist spots such as the National Garden, Hadrian's Arch, St. Paul's Church, Parliament, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Catholic Cathedral, and Schliemann's House. We will then pass by the Athens Trilogy, which includes the University of Athens, the Academy of Athens, and the National Library. Our licensed guide will make you feel like you are experiencing first-hand the old and new history of Athens as you look at these majestic buildings.

We continue for a photo stop at the Panathenaic Stadium, also known as Kallimarmaro Stadium, where the first Olympic Games were held in 1896. As we go, we pass by Zappeion and the Temple of Olympian Zeus. Finally, we head to the archaeological site of the Acropolis, a UNESCO world heritage monument and visit the Propylae as well as the small Temple of Athena Nike. Of course, our visit will not be complete without the Parthenon and the Erechtheion.

The expert-guided tour of Athens and the museum continues with a pleasant short walk passing by Herodion and Dionysos Theatre, to visit the New Acropolis Museum. With this half-day tour of Athens, you will enjoy one of the main UNESCO world heritage monuments. At the end of our tour, return to your hotel. Balance of the day at rest. Overnight in Athens.

DAY 3 – Athens - Nauplia



After breakfast we will depart towards the Peloponnese, passing the Isthmus of Corinth, the narrow strip of land that connects the Peloponnese to the mainland and separates the Corinthian and Saronic Gulfs. Upon arrival in Nafplio we check into our hotel and after lunch in a traditional tavern we visit the most important sites of the city, looking for traces of the Franks, Venetians and Ottomans in its architecture, while enjoying the aromas of basil and jasmine so characteristic of the city and its castles.

DAY 4 – Nauplia - Argolis – Epidaurus



After breakfast we visit Mycenae, the kingdom of the mythical Agamemnon, first sung by Homer in his epics, which is the most important and richest palatial centre of the Late Bronze Age in Greece. After lunch in a picturesque village in the area, our next stop is the Sanctuary of Asclepius at Epidaurus, which is considered one of the purest masterpieces of Greek architecture, dating back to the 4th century. Finally, we return to Nafplio and explore Palamidi Castle and its breathtaking views.

DAY 5 – Mystras – Monemvasía

In the morning we head to Mystras, one of the most important Byzantine sites, comprising a castle, walls, churches and monasteries. We have lunch before setting off for the medieval walled town/castle of Monemvasia, where we explore the history and architecture of the castle, starting with the picturesque Venetian lower town before ascending the heavily fortified plateau above. Overnight in Monemvasia.





DAY 6 – Mani – Kalamata

After breakfast we set off towards Mani and its traditional villages, including the coastal Gytheio, the largest and most important village in Mani, the picturesque Areopoli, the beautiful seaside village of Limeni and Kardamyli. Following the coast of Mani we finally reach our hotel in Kalamata and our evening is free to enjoy some shopping or stroll around the charming old town.



DAY 7 – Ancient Mesenia – Ancient Olimpia



We leave Kalamata for ancient Messene, the impressive capital built for the Messenians in the 4th century BC. We explore the exceptionally well-preserved remains of the city and one of the finest ancient stadiums in Greece. Later, we drive through the lush countryside of northern Messenia to enter the territory of ancient Elis. After lunch at a traditional farmhouse, we explore Ancient Olympia and the remains of all the sporting structures erected for the Olympic Games, which were held in Olympia every four years starting in 776 BC. Overnight in Olympia.

DAY 8 – Nafpaktos

We cross the famous suspension bridge from Rion to Antirion. We head to the picturesque village of Nafpaktos, also known as Lepanto, which is a municipality and a town in the peripheral unit of Aetolia – Acarnania, on the northern coast separating the Gulf of Patras from the Gulf of Corinth in Greece.



During our stay in Nafpaktos, we will have the opportunity to visit some great monuments, such as the Statue of Miguel de Cervantes in the port of Nafpaktos, a Venetian port, with the stone lighthouse and the ancient city walls stretching from the port to the castle. Transfer to the hotel in Nafpaktos and overnight.

DAY 9 – Ioannina

Today we travel to the Epirus region. The first stop is Dodoni, the oracle of Zeus and one of the oldest oracles in Greece. Finally we arrive in Ioannina. The capital of Epirus, spread around the beautiful lake Pamvotida. After lunch at one of the restaurants on the lake, it is time to discover this picturesque and historic city. Marvelous buildings such as the Matei Hussein House, the Ottoman mosque of Veli Pasha and the entire historic city center are unique attractions. We also visit the imposing castle of Ioannina where Ali Pasha, that enigmatic symbol of Ottoman rule, lived.





Día 10 – Zagoria – Metsovo – Kalambaka (Meteora)



Today we visit the natural surroundings of Vikos-Aoos National Park where 46 stone villages of great architectural value have been catalogued as traditional settlements. We will visit the most notable places in the area, such as Kalpaki, Papago, Vikos and Monodentri.

After lunch we follow the mountain road to Metsovo, a small village on the slopes of the Pindos mountain, famous for its wineries and also for its local dairy products. We enjoy a short walking tour of the central square and the nearby cobbled paths of the village and finally we travel to Kalambaka for an overnight stay.





DAY 11 – Kalambaka – Meteora – Delphi

After breakfast, discover Meteora, the miracle of Greece. The Meteora area and the Meteora Monasteries are among the most important monuments in the world, protected by UNESCO, and definitely one of the most significant sites in Greece.

Many centuries ago, on these gigantic rocks with a breathtaking landscape reaching heights of over 600 meters, one of the most important monastic communities in Greece was formed. In the afternoon we leave for Delphi for the night.

DAY 12 – Delphi – Athens



Today we cross the Gulf of Corinth and head first to the Monastery of Osios Loukas, a stunning Byzantine monastery in a picturesque valley full of olive and almond trees near the town of Distomo. After lunch we head to the Panhellenic sanctuary of Delphi, where we enjoy a guided tour at the site where in the 6th century BC it was in fact the religious centre and symbol of unity of the ancient Greek world, blending harmoniously with the superb landscape and loaded with sacred meaning. After our visit we depart for Athens, early in the evening we arrive in Athens, check in to our hotel and free time to enjoy your last night in Athens and Greece.

DAY 13 – Athens – departure day

Breakfast at the hotel and depending on your departure flight, transfer to Athens International Airport.

INCLUDED:

- 3 nights accommodation in an Athens hotel (3*,4*,5*)
- 2 nights accommodation in a Nafplio hotel (4*)
- 1 night accommodation in a Monemvasia hotel (4*)
- 1 night accommodation in a Kalamata hotel (4*)
- 1 night accommodation in an Olympia hotel (4*)
- 1 night accommodation in a Nafpaktos hotel (4*)
- 1 night accommodation in an Ioannina hotel (4*)
- 1 night accommodation in a Kalambaka hotel (4*)
- 1 night accommodation in a Delphi hotel (4*)
- Daily Breakfast / Daily Lunch
- All visits as per the above itinerary
- Entrance fees to museums and archaeological sites as mentioned above
- Professional licensed tour guide
- Transfers from/to airport and ports with professional driver
- all taxes

NOT INCLUDED:

- International and domestic flights
- Other optional tours
- Lodging tax guests must pay directly to the hotel, per night, per room
- Other meals or drinks
- Tips (optional)
- Any personal expenses

IMPORTANT NOTES: In case of an increase in VAT or other taxes, including entrance fees, rates are subject to change without notice. Rates may change during special periods such as Christmas, New Year, Easter, International Congresses, Conventions and Fairs. We would like to inform you that, according to the Government law, as of 01/01/2018, guests will be required to pay directly to the hotel an "accommodation tax", per night, per room. This tax goes directly to the state and the Hotel and/or travel agencies have no influence. In case such regulation comes into force in 2018, hotel guests will be required to pay the accommodation tax directly to the hotel and it is not included in any of our offers.

The above rates are not valid during events and congresses taking place in Athens.