



First Class 9 Day Tour/Cruise Package

Best of Greece & Greek Isles

Day 1: Depart for Athens

We depart the US for our overnight flight to Athens. Sit back, rest, and enjoy the service of our overnight flight.

Day 2: Arrive in Athens

Upon our arrival in Athens we will be greeted by our tour guide who will welcome us to Greece and escort us to our awaiting coach. We enjoy an orientation tour of Athens as we travel to our hotel. After checking into our hotel the remainder of the day is free to rest and relax or explore Athens on your own. We enjoy a welcome dinner together at our hotel.

Day 3: Athens & Corinth Canal

After breakfast this morning we set out on a morning tour of Athens. Our guide will offer insightful commentary as we pass the top Athens attractions including the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Greek Parliament building and the Presidential Palace. We'll make a stop at the Panathenaic Stadium, the home of the first modern Olympic Games held in 1896. Our tour continues to the Acropolis which is Athens most famous showpiece and UNESCO listed site. We'll also view the magnificent Parthenon and the stunning Temple of Athena Nike. After some free time for lunch and some shopping in the Plaka district we head west with a rest stop and photos of the Corinth Canal. We'll enjoy a boat ride through the canal and marvel at this manmade feat.

Day 4: The Oracle of Delphi

After breakfast we depart Athens early and head north to Delphi. We will enjoy a fascinating guided tour of Delphi's ancient sanctuary of the god of Apollo in the dramatic setting on the slopes of

Mount Parnassus. We will take time to hear about the Oracle and tour the excavations before visiting the Archeological Museum which houses the Charioteer, an extraordinary 5th century BC bronze statue. We return to Athens this evening.

Day 5: Mykonos- The Isle of Windmills

We sail this morning from Athens to the quaint isle of Mykonos, called the island of windmills. Experience the waterfront lined with shops and cafes and then stroll the charming walkways through a maze of whitewashed buildings before returning to the ship for dinner and evening entertainment.

Day 6: Historical Ephesus and Patmos

Docking in Turkey, enjoy a tour of Ephesus, the city of the Bible and one of the largest restorations still in progress with miles of ancient treasures. Ephesus was once a thriving port town of 250,000 people. Today you can still see the spectacular excavations of the major streets in this ancient city. We'll view the Library, Agora, Temple of Artemis and visit the Basilica of St. John. The basilica is believed to be the site of the grave of John. From here we'll also enjoy a panoramic view of the area. This afternoon we visit the Isle of Patmos, under statutory protection as a historic monument. Our tour will take us to the fortified monastery of St. John and John's cave. Back on the ship, enjoy the Captain's dinner tonight.

Day 7: Gorgeous Crete & Santorini

Crete is the largest and the most rugged of the Greek islands. Take an optional tour to Heraklion and the fantastic ruins of the Palace of Knossos. Discovered in 1899 and partially reconstructed, the

elaborate Palace is believed to be the mythical Labyrinth of King Minos and the seat of ancient Minoan culture. This afternoon we visit the island of Santorini which is perhaps the most breathtaking of all the Greek Islands. The town of Thira where white-washed houses, narrow streets, open-air cafes and glittering boutiques cling to steep cliffs, is accessible by foot path, cable-car or mule. You may choose to take an optional tour of sailing around an active volcano crater and swimming in the water heated by hot springs or enjoy this lovely island on foot. Again we return to the ship for dinner and evening entertainment.

Day 8: Free day in Athens

This morning we disembark our cruise and enjoy a full day free in Athens. A host of opportunities await such as shopping in the Plaka, enjoying a beach day, visiting the Archeological Museum, taking an optional tour to Cape Sounion or exploring Athens by Segway.

Day 9: Return Home

We depart Athens this morning for our flight back to the US.

PRICE PER PERSON:

BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

Please contact us at

800.322.0788

or

mail@pilgrimtours.com

Price Includes: All motor coach and land transportation, sightseeing, admissions, services of tour director and driver, lodging, meals as specified in tour itinerary, taxes, gratuities to bellhops and waiters at included meals.

Not Included: Cost of obtaining passports or visas, laundry, meals, beverages or sightseeing not included in the itinerary, travel insurance, gratuity to guide, driver, communication charges, & excess baggage fees. Port charges and gratuities to crew are not included on cruises.



Mykonos



Acropolis



Athens



Ephesus



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