



# JOURNEYS: CLASSICAL GREECE AND HER ISLAND JEWELS

16 days, Athens to Santorini

Trip code EGING

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Ancient Athens Tour with an Archaeologist, Athens
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Truffle Hunting Experience with Dogs, Kalampáka
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Wine tasting with cheese and mezze plates, Neméa
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Delos Guided Tour with Museum, Delos
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Explore and Connect: Village to Village Hike, Kourounochori
- Your G for Good Moment: Tour of Shedia Home and Lunch, Athens
- Your G for Good Moment: Naxos Wildlife and Conservation Awareness Experience, Naxos
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group
- Your Discover Moment: Athens
- Thermopylae visit at the Leonidas Statue
- Meteora tour
- Delphi guided tour
- Olympia orientation walk
- Olympia guided tour
- Nafplio guided tour
- Mycenae guided tour
- Epidaurus visit
- Corinth Canal visit
- Lunch at a Myconian seaside restaurant
- Orientation walk of Mykonos
- Expedition Leader-led walk through Little Venice to see windmills
- Free time to explore Mykonos
- Naxos Wildlife Conservation project visit
- Expedition Leader-led walking exploration of Naxos including the famous Portara
- Visit to the Akrotiri Museum
- Expedition Leader-led of a portion of the Caldera Trail
- Free time in Santorini
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

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**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing August 11th, 2025 and onwards

## ITINERARY

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### Itinerary Notes

There are new Health & Safety Protocols for National Geographic Journeys tours. Please see [here](#) for full details and up-to-date requirements as they may change.

**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## ATHENS

Arrive at any time. Please make your own way to the joining hotel.

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### ACCOMMODATION

International Atene Hotel (or similar) Hotel

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your National Geographic Expedition Leader and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Day 2

## ATHENS

Considered the cradle of Western civilization, Athens is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. Take the morning to discover its history on your own. Then, be enriched and refreshed with lunch and a tour of the G Adventures-supported non-profit cafe, Shedia Home. Afterwards, explore the iconic Acropolis with an archaeologist guide and wander among the columns of the Parthenon. This Greek temple, dedicated to the goddess Athena, was built from white marble in 447 BC and takes centre stage in the Acropolis Museum. Continue to the ancient Agora—where Athenians gathered to discuss the affairs of the day—and listen to your expert guide bring these timeless ruins to life.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

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### ACCOMMODATION

International Atene Hotel (or similar) Hotel



## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Free Time

Athens

Enjoy a free evening in Athens.

### ACTIVITY

Take time to relax at Shedia Home, a non-profit cafe providing purpose and employment to over 150 individuals experiencing homelessness in Athens. You'll enjoy your lunch while one of Shedia's guides recounts the recent history of Greece's financial crisis which has made initiatives like Shedia even more important for those who have found themselves without work and shelter. Your stop here supports their programs - including the cafe, art program, and magazine - all dedicated to supporting the community.

### ACTIVITY

Embark on a guided tour of the Acropolis – one of the world's most important and impressive ancient sites. A local archaeologist serves as your guide to discover the architectural wonders of ancient Athens. Stop at the Parthenon, a Greek temple built for the Goddess Athena in 447 BC. After, continue to the former marketplace of old Athens, the Ancient Agora, which was built in the first century BC.



## Optional Activities - Day 2

National Garden Visit

Athens

Take a stroll through the National Garden, located in the heart of Athens. Commissioned by Queen Amalia in 1838, these former Royal Gardens are home to thousands of trees and plant species. Discover partial ruins and busts of notable Greek figures as you wind through beautiful shaded pathways and relive the splendour of ancient Greece.

Day 3

## ATHENS/KALAMPÁKA

Depart Athens this morning to Kalambaka—home of the famous monasteries of Meteora. Make a short stop to see the bronze statue of King Leonidas, erected in Thermopylae and site of the famous battle with the same name. This afternoon, embark on an unforgettable experience led by a skilled truffle hunter and his loyal dogs. Head into the woods and watch this fascinating process and learn all there is to know about truffles—delicious mushrooms that grow underground. Sample some mushrooms under the shade of centuries-old trees, washing them down with wine then finish up with an early dinner - pasta fittingly prepared with truffles.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Amalia Meteora (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Athens - Thermopylae 2h30m 200km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Private Vehicle Thermopylae - Kalampáka 1h45m 145km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY 2km

Take part in a truffle hunt with a local guide and their trained dogs. You'll follow the dogs as they use their sense of smell to locate truffles buried in the forest; a rewarding experience that connects you with nature and the joy of the hunt. Then, enjoy a snack featuring the famous truffles.

Day 4

## KALAMPÁKA/DELPHI

Spend the morning exploring the extraordinary monasteries of Meteora. Built atop sandstone megaliths that rise 1,200 feet (366 meters) from the valley floor, these monasteries offered refuge from hostile attacks during the waning days of the Byzantine Empire. Venture into chapels and courtyards adorned with beautiful frescoes. Take in the panoramic vistas of the surrounding countryside, which—on a clear day, includes views of Mount Olympus. In the afternoon, continue to Delphi, home to the Temple of Apollo—seat of the fabled oracle of Delphi and considered the center of the world by the ancient Greeks.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Amalia Delphi (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Kalampáka - Delphi

3h

222km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Guided Meteora Monasteries Tour

Meteora

4h

Set out on a guided journey through the breathtaking landscape of Meteora, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Travel comfortably by bus with a local guide and follow the routes once taken by the first monks. Along the way, stop at carefully selected viewpoints to admire Meteora's awe-inspiring rock formations and enjoy panoramic views of the valley. See all six monasteries from the outside, and step inside two to discover their rich history, art, and spiritual heritage. Experience the timeless beauty of Meteora and uncover the stories behind its world-famous mountaintop monasteries.

Day 5

## DELPHI/OLYMPIA

Explore mystical Delphi—a UNESCO World Heritage Site on a guided tour, then visit the Archaeological Museum of Delphi with free time to admire the many artifacts unearthed at the site. Later, travel along the breathtaking Gulf of Corinth, crossing into the Peloponnese via the Rio-Antirrio Bridge, an impressively long multi-span cable-stay bridge. After arrival in Olympia, head out on an orientation walk then enjoy free time for dinner at your leisure.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Amalia Olympia (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Guided Tour of Delphi Ruins Delphi 1h30m-2h 1km

Located on the slopes of Mount Parnassus, this site was considered the centre of the ancient world and was home to the Oracle of Apollo. Explore the remains of the Temple of Apollo, the ancient Theatre, and the Stadium, all of which are set against a breathtaking landscape.

Private Vehicle Delphi - Nafpaktos 1h30m 98km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Private Vehicle Nafpaktos - Olympia 2h 125km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Orientation Walk Olympia Olympia 30m 2km

Enjoy a brief walk with your Expedition Leader. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Day 6

## OLYMPIA/NÁFPLIO

Step back into ancient history on a visit to the archaeological site of Olympia, including the Temples of Zeus and Hera, and the ancient stadium where the Olympic Games were first held in 776 B.C. After an optional lunch, travel onward to Nafplio for a guided walk with your CEO. Enjoy the highlights of the old town, including the Bourtzi Castle and Palamidi Fortress while sampling local culinary specialties along the waterfront. Complete the day with a gelato from the most famous shop in Greece.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Amalia Nafplio (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Walking Tour of Nafplio Náfplio 30m 2km

Explore the highlights of Nafplio's Old Town, from its charming alleys to its impressive landmarks. The walking tour offers perfect views of Bourtzi Castle and Palamidi Fortress, giving you a great overview of the city's unique history.

Private Vehicle Olympia - Náfplio 3h 214km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Guided Visit to Olympia Archaeological Site and Museum Olympia 2h-4h

Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games, lies in a lush valley filled with symbolic ruins and captivating landscapes. Wander through the ancient olive groves to see remains of the Temple of Hera (today the starting point of the Olympic torch relay), the Temple of Zeus (a model for the development of Doric architecture) and the great Stadium of Olympia. Visit the nearby Archaeological Museum, whose collection spans over 3,500 years of Greek history. Here, find sculptures depicting Hermes and the Infant Dionysus, Zeus and Ganymede, and Nike of Paionios.

Day 7

## NÁFPLIO

Enjoy a morning at leisure to explore on your own before an excursion to the Bronze Age city of Mycenae, where the legendary King Agamemnon ruled. Take a guided tour of this UNESCO World Heritage Site, enclosed within Cyclopean walls, and enter the citadel through the famed Lion Gate—one of Europe's oldest monumental sculptures. After, head to a regional winery for a wine tasting paired with cheese and mezze plates for dinner.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

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### ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Amalia Nafplio (or similar) Hotel



## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Free Time **Náfplio**

Get out and explore Nafplio with free time this morning.

Private Vehicle **Náfplio - Mycenae** 30m 25km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Guided Tour of Mycenae **Mycenae** 3h

Visit the famous Mycenae, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and archaeological site with spectacular ruins and a treasury. Once a major settlement of Greek civilization, Mycenae was occupied during the Neolithic period around 4000 BC, and is linked to the mythology in Homer's epics the Iliad and the Odyssey.

Private Vehicle **Mycenae - Neméa** 30m 25km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

### ACTIVITY

The Nemea wine region is known for its Agiorgitiko grape, a key component in its red wines. Enjoy a tasting along with a mezze plate—a traditional Greek spread of local cheeses, cured meats, and other small dishes. This experience offers a direct taste of the region's culinary and winemaking traditions.



## Optional Activities - Day 7

Acronafplia Fortress Visit **Náfplio** **Free** 2h-3h

Climb to the top of the Akronofplia fortress tower to enjoy the phenomenal view from the top that looks back over the bay to Argos and out into the Saronic Gulf.

Day 8

## NÁFPLIO/ATHENS

This morning, make a stop at Epidaurus. Visit the first recorded hospital, the Aesklipion, and the still functioning ancient theatre built in the complex with a focus on mental healing. Next, drive north over the Isthmus of Corinth, crossing the famed Corinth Canal as you return to Athens. Set out for an optional farewell dinner and one final evening in Athens.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### ACCOMMODATION

International Atene Hotel (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Náfplio - Epidaurus 3h 190km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Epidaurus Athens

Explore the ancient sanctuary of Asklepios, a UNESCO site and the birthplace of organized medicine. See the ruins of the world's first recorded hospital where ancient Greeks sought cures through a combination of physical and spiritual healing, and then the famous, well-preserved ancient theater, still in use today.

Private Vehicle Epidaurus - Corinth Canal 1h30m 60km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Corinth Canal Visit Corinth Canal 30m

Take a quick break at the Corinth Canal, a marvel of engineering, connecting the Gulf of Corinth to the Saronic Gulf in Greece.

Private Vehicle Corinth Canal - Athens 1h15m 93km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 9

## ATHENS

Enjoy a free day to explore at your leisure. Choose to discover the well-preserved medieval architecture of the Panathenaic Stadium, Hadrian's Library, or the National Gardens should you wish.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### ACCOMMODATION

International Atene Hotel (or similar) Hotel

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### Optional Activities - Day 9

National Archaeological Museum Visit Athens 12EUR

Take a tour of the National Archaeological Museum, home to some of the most important artifacts from ancient Greece. In the collection are various sculptures, vases, as well as metal works and is considered one of the most impressive museums in the world.

Syntagma (Constitution) Square Visit Athens Free 30m-1h

Most of Athens important sights and interesting neighbourhoods border this central square. The square was built in the early 19th century in front of the Old Royal Palace of King Otto of Greece. Walk around to admire the architecture, stop at a café and people watch, or watch the ceremonial changing of the guards called Evzones.

Day 10

## ATHENS/MYKONOS

Travel by ferry to the island of Mykonos with its iconic windmills and seaside cafes. Here you'll relax and unwind with an afternoon at the pool, then join your tour leader for a walk through town, revealing those famous windmills, the Church of Panagia Paraportiani, and the lovely Little Venice.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

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### ACCOMMODATION

Mykonos Beach Hotel (or similar) Hotel

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Ferry Athens - Mykonos 2h15m-2h30m 105km

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Orientation Walk Mykonos Mykonos

Enjoy an orientation walk with your Expedition Leader. Walk through Little Venice to see what makes the city so interesting.

Day 11

## MYKONOS

After a free morning on Mykonos, head out on an excursion with an archeologist guide to Delos, an island with recorded history dating back to the early Ionian civilization. Once the religious centre of the Aegean Cyclades, the island now exists as an open-air museum, uninhabited and with no vehicles. According to legend, Latonna gave birth here to Apollo the Greek sun god, and to Artemis, the huntress and goddess of marriage and fertility. On our walk, see the Sacred Harbor and the regal Sacred Way, with imposing stone lions leading to the temples dedicated to Apollo and Artemis. Then visit the museum where artifacts found on the island are housed.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### ACCOMMODATION

Mykonos Beach Hotel (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Free Time Mykonos

There's lots to see and do. Get out and explore!

Ferry Mykonos - Delos 30m 8km

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a ferry boat.

ACTIVITY 2km

A guided walking tour of Delos, a UNESCO World Heritage site, will take you through one of Greece's most significant archaeological locations. This island was once a sacred sanctuary and a thriving trade center. Look into the remarkable ruins of a city that was once the center of the Hellenic world. The Delos Museum on-site holds an impressive collection of artifacts recovered from the island.

Ferry Delos - Mykonos 30m 8km

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a ferry boat.

Day 12

## MYKONOS/NAXOS

This morning, travel by ferry to the island of Naxos, the largest of the Cycladic islands. Here you'll head out on a walking tour starting at the "Portara", a marble gateway—remnants of the temple of Apollo dating from the 6th century BC. From ancient Greek ruins to medieval fortresses and modern island life—explore the old town. Stroll through winding alleys, view the 11th-century Cathedral, and see prehistoric Cycladic figurines in the historic Ursuline School. Then, prepare for an immersive educational experience led by the experts at the Naxos Wildlife Protection Association and gain a deeper understanding of the responsible actions needed to safeguard sea turtles in their natural habitats.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Sphinx Naxos (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Ferry Mykonos - Naxos 1h 2km

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Naxos Walking Tour Naxos 1h30m 4km

Join your Expedition Leader on a walking tour of Naxos. Take in the iconic Portara, a marble gate of the Temple of Apollo and an enduring symbol of Naxos. Navigate the labyrinthine streets of Old Town, where every corner and coat of arms has a story to tell. Your walk culminates with a visit to the Catholic Cathedral and the art collection at the former Ursuline School, showcasing a fascinating mix of ancient artifacts and Venetian, Byzantine, and contemporary history.

#### ACTIVITY

Prepare for an immersive educational experience led by the experts at the Naxos Wildlife Protection Association—an established Wildlife Rescue, First Aid Station & G Adventures-supported initiative – providing valuable insights into sea turtle conservation. During this community tourism visit, travellers will gain a deeper understanding of sea turtle biology, the threats they face, and the essential rescue protocols for assisting injured or sick turtles. Enjoy an informative discussion around the program and

leave with a heightened awareness of the responsible actions needed to safeguard these beautiful marine creatures and their natural habitats.

Day 13

## NAXOS

Spend a full day in the countryside and appreciate the true spirit of Naxos, a rich, agricultural hub. Accompanied by a local guide, explore the island's unique culture walking from village to village, meeting the locals, and tasting traditional flavours along the way. Walk in ancient footsteps through Kouroi, an archeological landmark, witness the watermills of Myloi, sample Kytro liquor at Chalki village, and enjoy the iconic olives and olive oil in Kaloxylos village. On your way back, make a stop at the non-profit Naxos Wildlife Protection organization to learn about their conservation efforts on the island before enjoying a free afternoon.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### ACCOMMODATION

Hotel Sphinx Naxos (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Kourounochori - Chálki

30m

4km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

5km

Set out on a village-to-village hiking tour to discover the heart of Naxos with a local expert. The walk connects you to the island's culture and nature, from the ancient Kouroi of Naxos to the historic watermills of Myloi. You'll pass through villages like Chalki and Kaloxylos, tasting local products such as Kitron liqueur and olive oil, all while learning about the island's traditions and the evolution of its communities.

Private Vehicle

Chálki - Naxos

30m

2km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Naxos

There's plenty to see and do in Naxos and now is your time to explore. Perhaps choose to relax after a big morning with a beach visit.



## Optional Activities - Day 13

Beach Time in Naxos

Naxos

Explore the beautiful beaches of Naxos - there's no shortage of them across the island! Sparkling blue waters, pristine sandy beaches, and unforgettable sun-kissed weather make "beach hopping" an activity you can't miss, whether you opt to relax on the beach or spend an active day by the sea.

Day 14

## NAXOS/SANTORINI

Catch a ferry to the postcard-perfect Santorini this morning. Here, you'll join a local guide for a visit to the Akrotiri Museum and ruins—a Bronze Age settlement destroyed in the Thera eruption sometime in the 16th century BC. The site was buried in volcanic ash, preserving the remains of fine frescos and artifacts, similar to the famed Pompeii. Later, choose some free time to relax or join your tour leader for a walk along a segment of the caldera trail. Along the way view the famous Three Bells of Santorini as well as a top down view of the stone path leading to a panoramic view of the volcano and caldera.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### ACCOMMODATION

De Sol Hotel & Spa Santorini (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Ferry Naxos - Santorini 3h

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Guided Tour of Akrotiri Archeological Site Santorini

Rumoured to be the inspiration for Plato's Atlantis, the ancient ruins of Akrotiri are one of the most-visited attractions in Santorini for a reason. Buried under lava for centuries, many of the site's buildings, roads and structures present visitors an intimate look into Minoan culture from 1,650 B.C.

Caldera Hiking Excursion Fira - Oia 3h-4h 11km

Hike along the caldera cliff from Fira to Oia with your Expedition Leader as your guide. You'll pass through the villages of Firostefani and Imerovigli between Fira and Oia. At just under 11km the hike will take between 3 and 4 hours. Part of the path is similar to a sidewalk and some parts are cobblestone and others a simple dirt path. Enjoy the exercise and some of the best views in Santorini.

Day 15

## SANTORINI

Today is free to enjoy the stunning landscapes, beaches and culture of Santorini. Opt to join a sailing excursion which visits local beaches, one of the oldest active volcanoes, and the volcanically formed islands of Palea and Nea Kameni. This evening, join the group for an optional farewell dinner in Oia, famous for its stunning sunset views, and toast the end of your Greek adventure.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### ACCOMMODATION

De Sol Hotel & Spa Santorini (or similar) Hotel

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Free Time Santorini

There's lots to see and do. Get out and explore!

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### Optional Activities - Day 15

Sailing Santorini Santorini

Explore Santorini's hidden coastal treasures on this relaxing shared catamaran. Swim and snorkel, while admiring dramatic lava formations and enjoy a delicious BBQ on board.

Depart at any time.

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## Meals included

Breakfast

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## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your Expedition Leader can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## What's included

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## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Wander through the ruins of Olympia and the seaside charm of Nafplio, Marvel at the engineering wonder of the Corinth Canal, Hunt for truffles in the forest alongside a local expert, Discover the iconic windmills and coastal beauty of Mykonos, Explore the sacred island of Delos alongside an archaeologist

## Itinerary Notes

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## **Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?**

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**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## **Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## **Are there Itinerary notes?**

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# What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

## 1. LOCAL GUIDES

It is important to note that in Europe, all guiding is based around local guides all of whom are licensed to work only in a particular city. As such, our leaders are able to provide orientation walks which will show you the layout of each town and city as well as the location of local services such as post offices and laundromats, but are unable to legally share historical facts and figures in public places.

## 2. LUGGAGE

In Europe it is very rare to find elevators in train stations, hotels, or other public places. We use a number of ferries on this trip; you will need to be able to carry your luggage comfortably when embarking and disembarking, and also possibly up several flights of stairs. You will need to be able to stow your luggage safely on trains and buses. We also have an internal flight with a checked-luggage restriction of 15kg. It is therefore essential that you pack light and bring luggage which is compact and lightweight, and which you can easily transport. The carrying of your luggage remains your responsibility at all times.

## 3. INTERNAL FLIGHT REGULATION

Due to strict weight restrictions, plan on packing light for flights. Because of current weight limits and the inability to add on more weight, checked baggage should be no heavier than 15kg, and hand luggage should weigh no more than 6kg.

## 4. ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

## 5. OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES NOTE:

During high season in Europe (May-October) we highly recommend booking reservations for any popular optional activities/museum tickets etc. in advance to avoid encountering sold-out activities on the ground while on tour.

# What is the role of the group leader during this trip?

All National Geographic Journeys with G Adventures group trips are accompanied by a National Geographic Expedition Leader. The aim of the Expedition Leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

# How large will the group be?

Max 16, avg 12

# What meals are included in this trip?

15 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners

## **What are the meals like on this trip?**

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your Expedition Leader will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## **What are the modes of transportation on my trip?**

Private Vehicle, Taxi, Ferry, Walking.

## **Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?**

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Where will we stay during the trip?**

Hotels (15 nts).

## **Will I get my own room?**

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops.

Please be aware that single room accommodations in European hotels are often smaller, and may not be to the same service level as double-occupancy rooms.

## What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?

On this trip you can expect to stay in small family-run hotels or pensions (with the exception of the start and finish hotels, which are often larger city hotels), which will vary a little in standard and facilities: some may not have elevators, air-conditioning or English-speaking staff, but most importantly all are locally-run, with some traditional character, and in excellent central locations to give you maximum time for exploring the sights. You can expect to find clean, safe, simple accommodation in convenient locations.

Note that most accommodation in Europe does not have air conditioning units in rooms. Air conditioning is not routinely installed in European homes and workplaces. However, nearly all hotels will provide a standing or desk fan for your room on hot nights. If you do not already have one in your room, please ask your Expedition Leader to organize one for you with reception.

## What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

From Athens airport (ATH), you can reach the city centre in a few ways. You can take the metro (M3 line) directly to the centre. Alternatively, you can take a local bus (X95).

To arrange an arrival or departure transfer, we recommend you book through our preferred transfer provider - [Welcome Pickups](#)

We advise that you book both your arrival and departure transfers in advance. Please make sure you have the following details before booking:

- Flight number
- Flight Arrival Time and Date
- Flight Departure Time and Date
- Passenger's Name
- Number of Passengers
- Email
- Valid Mobile Telephone Number
- Drop off and/or Pick Up Address

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your Expedition Leader. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your Expedition Leader and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your Expedition Leader will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your Expedition Leader. If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER

G Adventures Berlin office: +441858378000

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, from calls within North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from within UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from within Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from within Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from within New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. Space is limited on transportation, so there is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. You will be responsible for carrying your own luggage. You must be prepared to carry your luggage up and down stairs, on and off transportation, and to hotels (max 15-20 mins.) It should also be noted that baggage should adhere to strict airline weight limits - 15kg for checked luggage and 6kg for hand luggage.

# What should be on my packing list?

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

## Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

### **Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

## **When can I do my laundry on this trip?**

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge or ask your Expedition Leader where the closest laundromat is. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## **What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?**

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

For other nationalities, travelling in Europe has been simplified with the introduction of the Schengen visa. As a visitor to the Schengen area (Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Greece, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Sweden, Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Switzerland) you will enjoy the many advantages of this unified visa system. Generally speaking with a Schengen visa, you may enter one Schengen country and travel freely throughout the Schengen region during the validity of your visa. There are limited border controls at Schengen borders, if any at all.

Please note that the UK and Ireland are NOT part of the Schengen agreement.

A Schengen visa is applied for at the Embassy or Consulate of the Schengen country in which you will be spending the most nights on your trip to the Schengen space. If you are only visiting one country on your trip then you apply for your visa at the Consulate of this Schengen country.

As of 2025, various European countries are introducing ETIAS travel authorisation as an entry requirement for visa-exempt nationals.

We highly recommend you checking in advance how your nationality and country/s you are visiting may be affected. Further details can be found [here](#)

Last updated: January 27th 2025

## **What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?**

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## **What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?**

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Visa cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work - Check with your bank. You should be aware when purchasing products or services on a credit card, that a fee usually applies.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of Euros and cards is best.

Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates:  
[www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

## **How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?**

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## **Do I need to pay a departure tax?**

Usually included in international air ticket

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

While conventions can vary from country to country, tipping is customary in Europe. A general rule is 10% of the bill for wait staff or €4 to €5 depending on the popularity of the restaurant location, and a smaller amount (€2 or €3) for other service providers like transfers.

Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program, and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides. You may do this individually, or your Expedition Leader will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping local guides would be €5 per day, depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your Expedition Leader for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

At the end of each trip, if you felt your Expedition Leader did an outstanding job, tipping is expected and appreciated. The precise amount is a personal preference, however €30-€40 per person, per week can be used as a guideline.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

### Athens

- National Garden Visit
- National Archaeological Museum Visit (12EUR per person)
- Syntagma (Constitution) Square Visit (Free)

### Náfplio

- Acronafplia Fortress Visit (Free)

### Naxos

- Beach Time in Naxos

### Santorini

- Sailing Santorini

## **Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?**

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that quite often we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our Expedition Leader they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

## **What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?**

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Expedition Leader will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your Expedition Leader will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions. Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our Expedition Leaders to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s). Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

## **What are the trip specific safety considerations?**

Always keep an eye on your belongings especially in major cities, bus and train terminals.

## What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our Expedition Leaders have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your Expedition Leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)\*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.