



# Greece & the Greek Islands

## Detailed Itinerary

### **DAY 1, Monday 14 May - Depart for Greece**

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### **DAY 2, Tuesday – 15 May Full Day in Athens**

Arrive in Athens in the morning. Today is at leisure to explore Athens independently, widely seen as the cradle of Western Civilization and the birthplace of democracy. At Constitution Square, perhaps you'll catch a glimpse of the colorfully-costumed Evzone guards, outfitted in the traditional Greek style. Alternatively, join the *optional* Athens city tour\* that begins with a panoramic drive through the city center. View the Panathenian Stadium, the President's residence, the ruins of the Temple of Zeus and Hadrian's Arch. Continue on to visit the Acropolis, the ancient architectural masterpiece built during the Golden Age of Athens and the new Acropolis Museum. Tonight, perhaps walk through the lively Plaka area, the oldest section of Athens. This neighborhood of charming restaurants, shops and sidewalk cafes is surely the best place to spend your last night in Greece

**Optional:** Half Day Athens Sightseeing (PM)

**Overnight:** Athens Stanley Hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 3, Wednesday – 16 May Ferry to Mykonos**

Today, transfer to the port for your ferry (tourist class) to Mykonos. After approximately 4.5 hours, arrive to the chic island with its bright whitewashed houses, picturesque windmills and sophisticated world-class restaurants and trendy boutiques. Time on your own to enjoy the energetic ambiance. Find a table at a harborside taverna and just savor the bustle of Cycladic island life and the gorgeous views

**Overnight:** Mykonos Alkystis Hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 4, Thursday – 17 May Full Day in Mykonos**

Today is free to relax at one of the many golden sandy beaches, or wander along the narrow streets of the Old Town and Little Venice where houses and cafes have been built directly at water level. From there, admire the views of the famous windmills, where the grain used to be milled for bread flour. Leave time to shop at one of the many unique boutiques, or relax at a terrace bar

**Overnight:** Mykonos Alkystis Hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 5, Friday – 18 May Full Day in Mykonos**

On your leisure day, perhaps set out to explore the island with its history dating back to early Ionian civilization or join the *optional* tour to the splendid archaeological site of the nearby island of Delos, once the religious center of the Aegean and Cyclades. According to myth, Latona gave birth here to Apollo, the Greek sun god, and to Artemis, the huntress and goddess of marriage and fertility. In Delos, view the Sacred Harbor and the regal Sacred Way, flanked by stone lions leading to the temples dedicated to Apollo and Artemis and visit the museum housing some of the impressive archaeological artifacts found on the island

**Optional:** Mykonos Delos Tour (PM)

**Overnight:** Mykonos Alkystis Hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 6, Saturday 19 May - Hydrofoil from Mykonos to Santorini**

After breakfast, transfer to the port for your high speed hydrofoil to Santorini. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. Santorini Island, with its sapphire blue water, snow-white architecture and multicolored cliffs, is considered one of the world's most enchanting getaways. Tonight is yours to independently discover some of Santorini's delightful restaurants and nightlife

**Overnight:** Santorini Le Mer 5\* Hotel

#### **DAY 7, Sunday 20 May - Full Day in Santorini**

Today is free to explore this Grecian paradise. Be sure to walk the streets of bustling Fira, the island's iconic capital city, a vision of pristine whitewashed buildings. Take time to visit the Archaeological Museum containing Minoan artifacts that offer a glimpse into the historical and religious make up of this beautiful village. Explore the shops and cafes along the narrow footpaths, and be sure to grab a seat at an outdoor cafe as you wait for the colorful sunset. Perhaps join the *optional* Santorini Island & Akrotiri tour and enjoy the archaeological excavation of ancient Akrotiri, stop at Perivolos known as 'the black sandy beach' and visit Santo Wine, the largest winery on Santorini. Alternatively, join the *optional* Santorini Wine Tour to explore the world of Therian volcanic wines and enjoy tastings at three family estate wineries

**Optional:** Full Day Santorini Island & Akrotiri Tour

**Overnight:** Santorini Le Mer 5\* Hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 8, Monday – 21 May - Full Day in Santorini**

Enjoy a second full day at leisure in Santorini. Thousands of years ago, one of the most devastating volcanic eruptions in history occurred here. This event is believed to have led to the demise of the ancient Minoan culture and inspired several Greek myths. To learn more, join the *optional* Santorini Volcano Cruise aboard a motorized sailing boat that circles around the island. Sail to the nearby volcanic island of Nea Kameni and Therasia for leisure time before returning to the port of Athinios. Alternatively, join the *optional* Santorini Catamaran Cruise to spend a relaxing day sailing in the blue waters of Santorini. Savor a freshly prepared lunch, and enjoy time to swim at the famous Red Beach

**Optional:** Full Day Santorini Volcano Cruise

**Overnight:** Santorini Le Mer 5\* Hotel

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 9, Tuesday 22 May – Fly to Athens from Santorini**

Enjoy a third full day of leisure in Santorini. In early evening, transfer to the airport for your flight to Athens. Upon arrival, walk over to your hotel located at the airport.

**Overnight:** Athens Sofitel Hotel

#### **DAY 10, Wednesday – 23 May Depart Greece**

Since the hotel is at the airport, walk over to the check-in counter for your early morning departure flight.

**Meals:** Breakfast