

# Greek Island Odyssey

Oct. 4 - 13, 2019



## Oct. 4

Departure today from the U.S. to Greece. Overnight flight to Greece.

## Oct. 5

Our flight arrives Athens, Greece this morning. Upon arrival in Athens we will be met by your English-speaking driver for your transfer to the hotel in Athens. Centrally-located in midtown Athens, our hotel, the Royal Olympic Hotel, sits just in front of the famous Temple of Zeus and the National Gardens. Laying in the shadow of the Acropolis, it is just a stone's throw away from some of the major city attractions, including the new Acropolis Museum, the Plaka and the famous Parliament building. The 5 star family-run property boasts a library, an elegantly decorated roof garden restaurant/bar, an outdoor swimming pool, a fully-equipped gym and spa. The balance of the day is at leisure. An evening walk and dinner in the Plaka will be a nice start to our trip.

## Oct. 6

### Half Day Private Walking tour of Athens with Acropolis museum

**Duration:** approx. 4 hours

Our tour will begin at the new Acropolis Museum, where nearly 4,000 artifacts are on display providing a remarkable insight into the everyday life of the ancient Greeks. The museum is home to impressive collections of decorated pottery, sculptures and relics of a bygone age. There is also a magnificent view of the Acropolis from the museum's terrace. We will then head up to the top of the Acropolis hill via the gates of Propylaea, the monumental entrance to the Acropolis and an iconic example of classical antiquity, where we will discover the magnificence of the Parthenon and learn about the effect it has had on modern history. Finally, we will take a pleasant stroll through the narrow streets of the Plaka, the city's historical neighborhood and see the Parliament Building in Syntagma Square, where you can watch the ceremonial changing of the guards at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. (B)

## Oct. 7

This morning we will transfer from our hotel to the airport in Athens for our mid-morning flight to the popular Greek island of Mykonos. On arrival in Mykonos we will be transferred to our hotel, the Tharroe of Mykonos Hotel.

The balance of the day is at leisure. The hotel is Located on the top of a small hill, it offers breathtaking view of the sunset and panoramic views over the Aegean Sea, Windmills landmark and Mykonos Old Town center. Tharroe of Mykonos is a place of absolute beauty and privacy. (B)



## Oct. 8

A free day to do as much as you want or as little as you want. Our hotel is a lovely place to relax and the ever popular Mykonos Town is only a short distance away. The Island of Mykonos is considered the most cosmopolitan spot in Greece, with numerous attractions, such as the amazing beaches, the picturesque villages, the vivid nightlife, the numerous churches and museums. Mykonos Town, called Chora, is definitely one of the nicest and most charming old





towns of the Greek islands, with endless small streets, shops, windmills, churches, terraces and whitewashed houses. The perfect place to wander around with a great selection of bars, restaurants, shops and secret spots with amazing views of the Aegean Sea.

Little Venice is located on the western part of Mykonos Town where it meets the sea. The buildings have been constructed right on the sea's edge with their balconies barely meeting the water. During the 16th and 17th centuries pirating was very common and it is believed that this area was used for the necessary quick loading and unloading of goods. From as early as the 16th century one of the most recognized landmarks of Mykonos Island have been the windmills. Due to its geographic

position, Mykonos was situated on major sea trade-route which at one time joined Venice, the gateway of Europe, to Asia. The need to refine grain and compact it for transport combined with an ample year round supply of wind made Mykonos the perfect location. Easy access to the harbor was necessary so most of the island's mills were positioned in or around the main port with the highest concentration covering the entire western portion of town.

Mykonos Town has so much to offer and beyond that the islands has beautiful beaches, ancient ruins and many lovely small villages. No matter what you do in Mykonos it will be memorable. (B)

### Oct. 9

This morning we will transfer from our hotel to the ferry port in Mykonos for our morning ferry to the island of Naxos, largest island in the Cyclades. On arrival to Naxos we will be transferred to our hotel, the Lagos Mare Hotel. The hotel is located a short walk from the long stretch of Agios Prokopios beach, the 4 star Lagos Mare Hotel, offers one of the best seaside retreats on Naxos. It stands just a few kilometers away from the backdrop of a picturesque village and is renowned for its elegance, luxury amenities and its delicious authentic Naxian cuisine served at the hotel's "1924" restaurant. It has an unrivalled reputation for gracious hospitality and impeccable service. The balance of the day is at leisure to enjoy our beautiful seaside hotel. (B)



### Oct. 10

#### Naxos Yesterday & Today half day island tour – approx. 4 ½ hours

An opportunity to get to know Naxos. Starting from Naxos town, our first stop is in Damalas village, where we visit a traditional ceramics workshop and a restored traditional olive press. Through the valley of Tragaia, we stop at the village Halki with its mansions, the Byzantine



church of Panagia Protothroni and the citrus distillery. Then we visit the Byzantine church of Panagia Drosiani, near the village of Moni, which is considered to be one of the oldest in the Balkans. Next stop is Apiranthos village with its marble paved alleys. On the way back, we visit the lush settings of Flerio, Melanes. The area was very important during antiquity. There lies the impressive statue of Kouros, so called the "Greek", 6,4 meters long, dated from the 7th century BC. (B)





**Oct. 11**

This morning we will be transferred to the ferry terminal for our late morning ferry to the spectacular island of Santorini. On arrival in Santorini we will be transferred to our hotel, the Astro Palace Hotel. The balance of the day is at leisure. The Astro Palace is a paradise that offers uninterrupted views of the azure Aegean Sea. The hotel offers elegant accommodations with a local flair and design. Stylish elegance reflects the harmony of nature with earthly hues set against the backdrop of the clear Aegean waters. Located within walking distance of Fira Town for easy access to shops and restaurants. The perfect place for our stay on beautiful Santorini.

**Oct. 12**

**Discover Santorini, History & archaeology – approx. 5 hours**

See the highlights of beautiful Santorini on this memorable scenic tour around the rural countryside. Here, we will be able to stroll along the maze of narrow streets and appreciate the medieval architecture, secret paths and the wide-sweeping views in every direction. Later on, we will have the chance to admire the so-called “black beach”. Finally, the high point of the tour, a visit to the Minoan Bronze Age settlement of Akrotiri, which has a great number of remarkably well-preserved remains of vibrant Frescoes and artifacts. Enjoy a leisurely last evening in the Greek Isles.



**Oct. 13**

Transfer this morning to the airport in Santorini for the flight to Athens and connecting flights home to the U.S.

**Trip Price:** \$2895.00 per person based on two people sharing a room  
 Single supplement: \$980.00

Every effort has been made to offer firm pricing for this trip. Since this brochure is printed so far in advance it is possible that there could be some small price fluctuation due to changes in currency exchange rates, etc. Any rate change will be advised as soon as possible.

**Included in the price:**

- First class accommodations
- Inter-Island flights and ferries
- All sightseeing tours as listed in the itinerary
- Tours and transfers by first class private motorcoach
- English speaking guides for all tours as listed
- Breakfast daily at the hotels
- VIP World Travel hosts, Steve & Chris Briggs

**DEPOSIT:** A deposit of \$500 per person is required to confirm your reservation.

**FINAL PAYMENT:** Final payment is due July 5, 2019.

**CANCELLATION PENALTIES:** There is a \$100 per person penalty for cancellation from time of deposit. For cancellation from 90 to 61 days before departure the deposit is non-refundable. For cancellation from 60 to 31 days before departure the penalty is 50% of the total price per person. For cancellation from within 30 days of departure the penalty is 100% of the total price per person.

**COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL INSURANCE** is available to protect your investment. Insurance premium is due at time of deposit.

Insurance cost: Residents of Colorado, Tennessee and Minnesota please call for insurance premium costs.

Florida residents:

Age: 36-45 46-50 51-55 56-60 61-65 66-70 71-75  
 \$206 \$218 \$242 \$264 \$291 \$333 \$418

All other states:

\$215 \$227 \$252 \$274 \$302 \$345 \$432

**Not included:**

- Arrival transfer in Athens on Oct. 5. Transfer cost will be added when flight schedules are determined.
- Greek Overnight Stay Tax – 4.00 euros per room per night must be paid directly at the hotels on departure.

**Airfare:** Airfare is additional. VIP World Travel can assist you in making air arrangements from the city of your choice.

# VIP World Travel

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# Greek Island Odyssey Oct. 2019

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