Custom Greece Tour: From Athens to the Greek Isles

Dates: September 20-29, 2025 (Main Tour)

September 28 - October 2, 2025 (Extension - Islands)

Included: 9 nights' accommodation at 5* hotels listed in itinerary

Expert guides for 9 days

Private transportation daily per itinerary

Individual arrival & departure airport transfers with VIP assistance

Flights and ferries as described in the itinerary

Meals listed in the itinerary: 9 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 8 dinners Soft drinks and non-alcoholic beverages included with meals

Entrances, sites, and honorariums for speakers

Gratuities for guides, drivers, hotels and restaurant meals included

Bottled water on tours & transfers

US-based customer service representatives

Not included: International airfare

Alcoholic beverages at meals

Travel insurance-**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**Single Supplement = \$2,270 per person
Meals not mentioned in the itinerary

Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

Pricing: \$9,675 x 8-9 paying travelers

\$9,325 x 10-11 paying travelers \$8,750 x 12-13 paying travelers



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Athens - Saturday, September 20

Arrive in Athens and pass customs with VIP assistance from the jetway. Meet your guide and driver in the Arrivals Hall and take a Panoramic tour of Athens en route to your accommodations. Enjoy an orientation to the surrounding neighborhood and festive group dinner on the rooftop of Kuzina restaurant.

Overnight: Athens Capital MGallery Collection [D]

Day 2: Athens - Sunday, September 21

Tour Athens from the morning until early afternoon including a visit to the Acropolis and its attractions, followed by a private visit to the world class Acropolis Museum. Enjoy the afternoon at your leisure. Then wrap up the day with conversation over dinner with an Athenian journalist or local official.

Overnight: Athens Capital MGallery Collection [B, L, D]

Day 3: Delphi & Ossios Loukas - Monday, September 22

Depart early in the morning for Delphi, making a stop at the historic walled monastery of Ossios Loukas dating to the 10th century. See the stone monuments at the "center of the world" and enjoy lunch at the local restaurant "To Patriko Mas." Return to Athens for dinner at highly regarded Athens eatery such as Dopios by Christoforos Peskias or similar, within walking distance of the hotel.

Overnight: Athens Capital MGallery Collection [B, L, D]

Day 4: Heraklion, Crete - Tuesday, September 23

After breakfast, depart head to the airport for a mid-morning flight to Crete. Meet your guide and enjoy a private tour of the Archaeological Museum at Heraklion followed by a casual lunch in town. Take a walking tour of the city for an introduction to the island and have a special dinner experience at Peskesi.

Overnight: GDM Megaron Hotel, Heraklion [B, L, D]



Day 5: Knossos - Wednesday, September 24

Depart for a guided tour of Knossos, a major center of Minoan civilization, and have a picnic lunch at a local winery. Return to Heraklion for an afternoon and evening at your leisure.

*Possible to add a visit on Day 4 or Day 5 with an activist or organization to discuss Crete's unique position within the evolving migrant crisis and the reality for refugees throughout Greece (as available here, or at an earlier destination).

Overnight: GDM Megaron Hotel, Heraklion [B, L]

Day 6: Rethymno - Thursday, September 25

Today head to Rethymno for a private Guided walking tour of the city including the Egyptian Lighthouse, Old Venetian Harbour, Four Martyrs Church, Moschea Neratze and Rimondi Foundation. Continue into a small traditional village for a private cooking experience and lunch with the renowned Cretan Chef Konstantinos Mathioudakis at his home. Discuss life in Crete while tasting local wines and fares. Return to Heraklion in the late afternoon to enjoy a group dinner on your last evening in Crete.

Overnight: GDM Megaron Hotel, Heraklion [B, L, D]

Day 7: Arrive to Naxos - Friday, September 26

Transfer to the Port of Heraklion for a high-speed ferry to Naxos Island. Meet your guide for a walking tour to the Portara of Naxos (or the Great Door), a massive marble doorway that stands proudly as the jewel of Naxos. It lies close to the port, on the islet of Palatia. In ancient times, a strip of land connected the northern side of Naxos port to the islet of Palatia. Today, the strip of land has been replaced by a causeway. Myth has it that the islet of Palatia was exactly where Ariadne, the Minoan princess, was abandoned by her lover Theseus after he killed Minotaur on the island of Crete. After lunch at a local restaurant, enjoy a walking tour of Chora (Naxos City) including the most beautiful parts of Naxos' Old Town and its castle with an orientation to the island's culture and history over time. You'll have the chance to wander around the Venetian castle that is inhabited to this day, as well as its old market that spreads through narrow, picturesque alleyways showcasing the Cycladic architecture. You will learn about the customs and traditions that have been preserved and the daily life of the town's inhabitants. Check into your hotel and enjoy dinner as a group.

Overnight: Sundunes, Naxos [B, L, D]



Day 8: The Island - Saturday, September 27

After breakfast, enjoy an exciting tour of the island's northern and western ends passing several points of historical interest, archaeological sites and Naxos' oldest distillery. The first stop is Sangri Village, where visitors can see the restored Temple of Demeter, dating to 530 BC. Continue to Halki village, where the oldest citron distillery on the island was opened in 1896. Try traditional Naxian liquor citron then continue to the picturesque village of Apiranthos. The beautiful alleyways and corners of this traditional settlement are definitely worth exploring for the abundance of local products. After lunch at a local restaurant in Apiranthos, reach the village of Apollonas. Engage with a local expert in the field of economic resilience and climate change mitigation to discuss local strategies to achieve a more sustainable future. For dinner, enjoy a culinary workshop for dinner focusing on the practice and benefit of a traditional "Mediterranean Diet" (workshop may be on a different evening).

Overnight: Sundunes Naxos [B, L, D]

Day 91: Cape Sounio - Sunday, September 28

Enjoy a free morning in Naxos, then transfer to the airport to catch your domestic flight to Athens. Head to Cape Sounio to view the Temple of Poseidon and enjoy your "farewell early dinner" at a local Greek Taverna with a view of the Temple. Return to your hotel near Athens airport for the evening.

Overnight: Sofitel Athens Airport Hotel **or** Athens Capital MGallery [B, D]

Day 10: Departure - Monday, September 29 [*Transfer only*]

Private transfer from hotel to Athens airport (if staying downtown Athens rather than Sofitel Airport).

Overnight: N/A [B]

MAIN TOUR SERVICES CONCLUDE WITH CHECK-OUT ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

¹ Return to Athens including concluding visit to Cape Sounio is included both for main tour travelers on September 28-29 (Day 9) for travelers continuing for the "Extension - Islands" below on October 1-2 (see Day 12 on Extension itinerary below. Pricing assumes a minimum of at least four travelers returning to Athens with the main tour and four travelers with the extension.



EXTENSION TOUR - The Islands

Dates: September 28 - October 2, 2025

Includes: 3 nights accommodation at 5* hotels listed in itinerary²

Guide ½ day in Mykonos (Day 11) Guide ½ day in Syros (Day 10)

Transfers between ferry ports and hotels as needed Transfers and transportation as needed per itinerary

Ferry Naxos > Syros one way Ferry Syros > Mykonos R/T

Meals listed in the itinerary: 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinners

Gratuities for guides, drivers, hotels and restaurant meals included

(Overnight at Sofitel Athens Airport on Day 12)*

(Guide & transportation for visit to Temple of Poseidon (Day 12))*

(Dinner on Day 12)* (Breakfast on Day 13)*

(Ferry Syros > Athens one way)*
Bottled water on tours & transfers

US-based customer service representatives

*These are included as part of the cost for the Main Tour, though

travelers on the extension will return to Athens on October 1 instead of

September 28.

Not included: International airfare

Alcoholic beverages at meals

Travel insurance- HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Single Supplement = \$720 per person Meals not mentioned in the itinerary

Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

Pricing: \$2,575 x 4-5 travelers

\$2,320 x 6-7 travelers

² Or similar; double occupancy, including breakfast; overnight in Athens on Day 12 included in Main Tour pricing.



Itinerary

Day 9: Naxos > Syros - Sunday, September 28 [Ferry and Transfers only]

Spend the morning relaxing in Naxos, then transfer to the port for an afternoon (~2pm) highspeed ferry to Syros. Check-in and enjoy an evening at leisure.

Overnight: Boutique Hotel Ploes Syros³ [B]

Day 10: Syros - Monday, September 29

Enjoy a half-day tour on the island, starting with a visit to the picturesque Emoupolis, the island's capital and largest town. Explore the neoclassical architecture of the Town Hall and Apollo Theater, then head to Ano Syros, a charming medieval hilltop village offering panoramic views of the Aegean Sea. Conclude with a visit to the Vaporia district, known for its elegant mansions and waterfront promenade. Dinner included at a favorite local spot in town.

Overnight: Boutique Hotel Ploes Syros [B, D]

Day 11: Mykonos - Tuesday, September 30

Take the scenic ferry ride (\sim 9am) across the Aegean Sea, arriving in Mykonos to view its iconic windmills overlooking the picturesque harbor. Enjoy lunch at Kiki's Tavern (or similar) and wander the charming streets of Mykonos Town, seeing its whitewashed buildings, narrow alleyways and vibrant bougainvillea-lined squares. Catch a ferry back to Syros (\sim 2pm) for the evening.

Overnight: Boutique Hotel Ploes Syros [B, L]

Day 124: Cape Sounio - Wednesday, October 1

Enjoy the morning in Syros, then transfer to the port to catch your ferry (~12:30pm) back to Athens. Head to Cape Sounio to view the Temple of Poseidon and enjoy your "farewell

³ Deluxe Double - Sea View

⁴ Pricing for Day 12-Day 13 is included in the costs for the "Main Tour," based on a minimum of four travelers continuing on the Extension - Islands.



early dinner" at a local Greek Taverna with a view of the Temple. Return to your hotel near the Athens Airport for the evening and depart the following morning.

Overnight: Sofitel Athens Airport [B, D]

Day 13: Departure - Thursday, October 2 [No services]

Check-out and head to the airport (adjacent to your hotel) to depart.

Overnight: N/A [B]