Ancient Greece with Santorini and Crete

14 days for \$6,892 total price from Washington, DC

(\$6,295 air & land inclusive plus \$597 airline taxes and fees)

Unearth the grandeur of the ancient world on this singular journey combining premier archaeological sites with the beauty and lore of the Aegean and her isles. As the ancient world comes alive in Athens and the Peloponnese, Crete and Santorini, we celebrate the glory that was Greece – and still is today.



Your Small Group Tour Highlights

Athens sightseeing, including Acropolis and Parthenon • Excursion to ancient Delphi • Tour of National Archaeological Museum, Athens • Visits to archaeological sites of Corinth, Mycenae, and Epidaurus • Half-day excursion to Hydra • Heraklion's Minoan Palace of Knossos and Archaeological Museum • Private cruise to Spinalonga • Tour and tasting at olive oil farm • Two-night stay on island of Santorini • Winery tour and tasting • Archaeological site of Akrotiri

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating		
1	Depart U.S. for Athens				
2-4	Athens	Athens Capital Center Hotel-MGallery	Deluxe		
5-7	Nafplion (Peloponnese)	Amphitryon Hotel	Sup. First Class		
8-10	Heraklion (Crete)	Aquila Atlantis Hotel	First Class		
11-12	Thira (Santorini)	Santorini Palace Hotel	First Class		
13	Athens	Athens Capital Center Hotel-MGallery	Deluxe		
14	Depart Athens	for U.S.			
Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.					



On Day 4, we tour the ruins of Delphi, believed by the ancients to be the "navel [center] of the world."

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Athens, Greece

Day 2: Athens After our arrival in the Greek capital, there's time to relax at our hotel. As guests' arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities or meals planned for today.

Day 3: Athens On this morning's tour we visit the city's most important sites, including the 5^{th} -century Acropolis and Parthenon, and the renowned Acropolis Museum. We also take a walking tour of Hadrian Street and the Plaka district. Then the afternoon is at leisure for independent exploration; ancient sights, monuments, and museums abound. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. B,D

Day 4: Delphi Today's excursion takes us to central Greece to explore Delphi, one of the most beautiful and celebrated ancient sites. Nestled between twin cliffs on a slope of Mount Parnassus and spilling out onto the Sacred Plain, Delphi is where the oracle representing the revered god Apollo presided over the ancient world. We see the ruins of the Sanctuary of Apollo; walk the marble Sacred Way; and climb to the 4th-century BCE theater still in use today. We also visit Delphi's museum that houses the bronze "Charioteer," one of antiquity's greatest statues. After lunch in a local restaurant, we return to Athens late afternoon. *B,L*

Day 5: Athens/Corinth/Nafplion This morning we visit the National Archaeological Museum, home to the world's most significant collections of Greek artifacts. We then depart by coach to the Peloponnesian Peninsula, Greece's southernmost region separated from the mainland by the Corinth Canal. En route we visit the ruins and museum of Ancient Corinth, one of the country's largest cities in antiquity that was demolished by the Romans (146 BCE), who then rebuilt it a century later. Today, only low stone walls, foundations, and several Corinthian columns remain as testimony to the mighty city that once flourished here. The site boasts a strong connection to Christianity: Paul wrote his two letters, First and Second Corinthians, here; and we see the altar where he preached. This afternoon we reach our hotel in Nafplion and dine there tonight. B,L,D

Day 6: Epidaurus/Mycenae Among the highlights of this morning's visit to the vast archaeological site and museum of Epidaurus: the 2,300-year-old theater, a masterpiece of Greek architecture known for its perfect acoustics and still in use today. Long associated with healing and medicine, Epidaurus comprises one of the most complete sanctuaries remaining from antiquity. This afternoon we tour the imposing ruins at Mycenae, a UNESCO site that represented the pinnacle of civilization from

the 15th to the 12th centuries BCE. A key influence on the development of classic Greek culture (and hence Western civilization), Mycenae also is linked to Homer's epics, *Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. We see the Tomb of Agamemnon, with what was the world's highest and widest dome for more than a thousand years; and the Lion's Gate, the only known Bronze Age monumental sculpture in Greece. Then we return to Nafplion to explore this gem of a Venetian/ Byzantine town with picturesque narrow streets, fortifications, and a bounty of waterfront cafés. We enjoy an afternoon at leisure before we dine together tonight at a local taverna. *B,L,D*

Day 7: Nafplion/Hydra This morning we travel to the port of Ermioni, where we board a private boat for the ride to Hydra, the car-free Saronic island where donkeys provide the transportation. After lunch together at a local taverna, we have free time to enjoy this picturesque island as we wish. Late afternoon we return to Nafplion for an evening at leisure. *B*,*L*



Old ways endure ...

Day 8: Nafplion/ Heraklion, Crete En route to Athens this morning we stop to see the Corinth Canal, cutting at sea level through the narrow Isthmus of Corinth to the Saronic Gulf in the Aegean. We continue on to the Athens airport for the 50-minute flight to Crete, arriving midafternoon in

Heraklion, the Cretan capital. After checking in at our hotel, we enjoy an afternoon at leisure; this evening we take a walking tour of the Venetian/ Ottoman-influenced town center prior to dinner at a local restaurant. *B*,*D*

Day 9: Heraklion/Knossos This morning we tour the ruins of the palace of Knossos, once the political center of Minoan civilization and legendary home of King Minos, the Labyrinth, and the Minotaur. Considered Europe's "oldest city," Knossos is the largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete. After lunch, we visit one of the greatest museums in all of Greece: Heraklion's Archaeological Museum housing artifacts from 5,500 years of Cretan history, from the Neolithic period to Roman times. The museum is especially renowned for its Minoan collection, much of which was excavated from the palace of Knossos. Then we return to our hotel, where the rest of the day is at leisure, with dinner on our own. *B*,*L*

Day 10: Heraklion/Spinalonga/Agios Nikolaos After an hour's drive this morning, we board a private boat for a cruise through the Bay of Elounda 66

Go as far as you can. Go further than you can!"

– Nikos Kazantzakis

to Spinalonga, a former Venetian island fortress later occupied by the Ottomans then used as a leper colony from 1903 to 1957. From here we travel to the colorful harborside town of Agios Nikolaos, with its galleries, shops, cafés, tavernas, and tiny Lake Voulismeni, where, legend has it, the goddess Athena once bathed. Next: a visit to a Cretan olive oil farm to learn about the history of olive oil production – Greece consumes more olive oil than any other country – and to enjoy a tour and tasting. *B*

Day 11: Crete/Santorini We depart this morning by high-speed ferry for Santorini, southernmost of the Cycladic islands. Once believed to have been the legendary lost island of Atlantis, Santorini today attracts both Greeks and visitors alike with its stupendous setting of cubiform whitewashed houses sitting atop the jagged cliffs of a crescent-shaped caldera. Upon arrival we visit a local winery for a tour and tasting then have free time in the town of Firostefani for lunch and to explore on our own. *B*,*D*

Day 12: Santorini Today we tour Santorini's archaeological site of Akrotiri, a Bronze Age Minoan location that was abandoned in the 17^{th} century BCE following a volcanic eruption – whose ash also preserved the excavations that we now see. Late this afternoon we head to the town of Oia, known for its iconic whitewashed architecture and stunning views. B,D

Day 13: Santorini/Athens After a late morning flight to Athens, we check in at our hotel then have free time for lunch on our own and an afternoon at leisure, perhaps to visit the Plaka for last-minute shopping or to stroll the broad plaza of lively Syntagma Square. Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner at our hotel. *B*,*D*

Day 14: Depart for U.S. We transfer to Athens' international airport this morning, where we connect with our return flight home. *B*

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 12 nights' accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, and First Class hotels
- 24 meals: 12 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 7 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



We spend two nights in idyllic Santorini.

Tour Departs: January 6, 2023

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fee		
New York	\$6,592	
Boston, Philadelphia	\$6,792	
Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago,		
Cincinnati, Cleveland,		
Detroit, Miami,	\$6,892	
Orlando, Tampa,		
Washington, DC		
Dallas, Denver, Houston,		
Los Angeles, Minneapolis,,		
Phoenix, Portland (OR),	\$6,992	
San Francisco, Seattle		
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,595	

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$597, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,395. Your \$500 deposit is fully refundable up to 95 days before departure. All 2023 tour prices above (excluding airlines taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$3,795 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,495 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change)

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking on uneven or cobblestone streets and at sites of ancient ruins. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to the fullest.





THE SMALL GROUP TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

Important Information About Your Tour General Terms and Conditions

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Tour Prices

Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2023, and include accommodations based on double occupancy; airfare from your departure city; airline taxes, surcharges, and fees, and port charges and cruise line fees (where applicable), which are subject to change until final payment has been made; internal air, rail, and motorcoach transportation; meals, sightseeing, and transfers as described; hotel taxes; entrance fees for included sightseeing; the services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director; luggage handling for one bag per person; and all gratuities as described below. Please note that the cost of air upgrades is subject to change.

<u>Gratuities</u>

Tour prices include all gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers on base tours and on optional extensions when accompanied by an Odysseys Unlimited representative. Please note that gratuities for the Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour) are not included. These tips are optional and should be extended on a voluntary basis. Gratuities are not included on "On Your Own" optional extensions.

Not Included in Your Tour Price

Airfare from your hometown to your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages,

laundry, room service, and meals not specified; immunizations, inoculations, and COVID-19 testing; communications charges; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10–\$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Registration and Payment

A deposit of \$500 per person confirms your reservation and is fully refundable up to 95 days prior to departure. Full payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure and may be made by personal check or credit card. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to cancel any reservations that are not paid in full at any time after final payment is due. If you make your reservation after the final payment date, payment in full will be required upon reservation.

Cancellations and Refunds

If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

For all tours (except as noted)

Charge
Full refund
25% of tour price
50% of tour price
75% of tour price
No refund

For Ancient Greece, Egypt & the Eternal Nile, Machu Picchu to the Galapagos, Patagonian Frontiers

Prior to departure	Charge
95 days or more:	Full refund
94-65 days:	50% of tour price
64-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. If due to unforeseen circumstances Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

Pre-Departure

Upon reservation, you will be able to access all information regarding your tour in My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal. This material includes your invoice, a detailed day-by-day itinerary, visa requirements (if applicable), Travel Protection Plan information, and more. Your final tour documents, including airline itineraries (with e-ticket numbers), will be available in the portal two to three weeks before departure.

Single Travelers

We welcome single travelers, and offer a limited number of single accommodations on each tour. Because hotel and cruise rates are priced by the room or cabin, the per person cost for accommodations occupied by one person is higher than that shared by two people. We endeavor to keep single supplements at a reasonable cost. Please note that single rooms in many foreign hotels may be smaller than those to which you are accustomed.

Changes to Your Reservation

We will not charge a fee for any changes

made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a \$100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason or at any time, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure.

Required Information

Upon reservation, we will need to obtain from you the following, in accordance with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Secure Flight program (for details, please visit www.tsa.gov), as well as for our international travel partners: your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender. In addition, airlines may require that we provide them with your contact information prior to departure. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Travel Documents

A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on all of our international tours. For all domestic tours, where we fly into a U.S. city to begin the tour or out of a U.S. city at the end, you must present a valid U.S. government-issued photo identification. Starting on May 3, 2023, your governmentissued photo ID must be REAL ID-compliant (or you can present an alternate form of ID, such as a passport). Visit www.dhs. gov/real-id or contact your local DMV for more information. If your tour requires a visa(s), we strongly recommend that you have at least six blank visa pages available; for tours not requiring a visa(s), we recommend that your passport have at least three blank visa pages. We will send you specific visa and entry requirements after you make a

reservation. You are responsible for obtaining these documents. If you need to obtain a visa, we recommend our preferred provider G3 Global Services. If you are traveling with a minor, please contact us for special entry requirements. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please contact your embassy or consulate to ensure you obtain the proper documentation.

Health and Medical Issues

We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in an Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day), often uphill or on uneven or cobblestone streets. You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire, and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. While we do our best to accommodate food allergy concerns, we cannot guarantee zero cross-contamination.

Air Transportation

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent

flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour "Land Only" is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

Responsibility

The liability of VMFA, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers.

We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary or staff changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. Cruise itineraries may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions.

VMFA Member Travel reserves the right to use photos that might include you in marketing materials and for other purposes unless you specify otherwise.



RESERVATION FORM

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Odysseys Unlimited toll-free at 888-370-6765.** Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and mail it to Odysseys Unlimited's office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300

Newton, MA 02458

Tour Name							
Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): Please sign me/us up □							
Full Passport Name	Date of Birth	Gender					
Full Passport Name	Date of Birth	Gender					
Address							
City	State Z	(IP					
Home Phone ()	Cell Phone ()						
E-mail(s)	Badge Name(s)						
Please book my/our air from	I/We request an air upgrade to						
I will share a room with	I request a single room	(limited availability) 🗖					

I/We request an upgrade to cabin category ___

(for Patagonian Frontiers only)