

12 Day Sampling of Greece

DAY 1: ATHENS. Upon arrival at Athens Airport, you are met and privately transferred into the city for six nights at the luxurious **NJV Athens Plaza Hotel**. Or we can offer the **Electra Palace Hotel**, a well-located four-star hotel.

DAY 2: ATHENS. Free days to explore Athens on your own for visits to the Acropolis, Plaka District etc. Lots of sightseeing suggestions will be added throughout your itinerary at time of final documentation.

DAY 3: MYCENAE / EPIDAUROS / CORINTH. A full day of sightseeing with a private driver/guide (ten hours on both full days of private guiding) for a drive across the Corinth Canal to Corinth and on to Mycenae. Here you'll see the famous Beehive Tombs and stop for lunch (all entrances and lunch included). Then continue to Epidaurus with its stunning theater, a marvel of antiquity with almost perfect acoustics – even more astonishing considering it dates from 3 to 4,000 BC. Return to Athens for your overnight.

DAY 4: ATHENS. A full day at leisure in Athens or perhaps for an optional excursion to Cape Sounion or for a visit to some of the nearby Saronic Islands such as Hydra or Aegina, an easy day trip by Hydrofoil.

DAY 5: DEPHI. A full day with a private driver/guide for a drive north of the city to visit sacred site of Delphi, one of Greece's most spectacular sites and location of the Castalian Spring. Lunch and entrances are included today. Return to Athens for your overnight.

DAY 6: HERAKLION – CRETE. Take a cab to the airport this morning for your flight to Crete (flight not included) and upon arrival pick up a mid-size manual rental car (inclusive of tax, CDW and unlimited mileage – a one way fee must be paid locally of \$30.00). Check in for two nights in Heraklion at the **Astoria Capsis Hotel**, the oldest and most popular hotel in the city, dedicated to offering its guests an unforgettable stay.

DAY 7: HERAKLION / KNOSSOS. This morning we include the services of an English-speaking driver/guide for a visit to Knossos Palace, where you will visit the Labyrinth with its legendary connection to the mythical Minotaur. Entrances included. Return to Heraklion for a free afternoon to explore on your own.

DAY 8: RETHYMNO / CHANIA. Head west today to Chania stopping en-route in Rethymno. Continue to Chania for two nights at the beautiful **Casa Delfino Suites**. Situated at the old Venetian Harbor, Casa Delfino Suites is an elegant 17th-Century Venetian mansion, carefully and attractively restored as an exclusive hotel of just twenty-one suites. A secluded entrance leads to the large sheltered courtyard of pebble mosaics, where guests enjoy the peaceful shade.

DAY 9: LOCAL SIGHTSEEING. Free time to explore Chania, one of Crete's highlights any time of the year.

DAY 10: SANTORINI. Make your way to Chania Airport where you'll drop off your rental and catch your flight to Santorini (flights not included). Upon arrival you're privately transferred to **Loucas Hotel**. Clinging to the edge of the cliff, the hotel offers visitors a traditional Santorini setting. All 25 rooms have spectacular views of the Aegean Sea and of the famous Santorini Volcano. Free time to explore on your own.

DAY 11: ATHENS. Return to the airport for your flight to Athens and then take a cab into the city for two nights at either the **NJV Athens Plaza** or **Electra Palace**.

DAY 12: DEPART. After breakfast this morning our services will end with a private transfer to the airport.

Note: This is a sample itinerary based on 2 guests.

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