

# GREECE

Athens | Hydra | Delphi Epidavros | Mycenae Nafplio | Olympia Santorini | Mykonos

+ Moscow



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# **INTRODUCTION**

In the last 4 years, AAT and over 100 of our travelers have run through Paris on 3 separate occasions, been up and down Italy, owned Spain and even took time out to see what Iceland had to offer. After conquering so much of Europe, It's obvious that the next step in our annual getaway should be to see the "cradle of civilization" in Europe itself, Greece!

Like each of our trips to Europe before, this will undoubtedly top all of its predecessors. We will be in Greece for 9 days and there are a total of 12 add-ons and upgrades to customize your trip to your own personal desires. So whether you are someone that likes to explore on your own, see the art and history that Greece has to offer, or go island hoping in the Greek Isle this trip is undoubtedly for you!

We are also happy to announce that for the first time ever, we will have 2 departure points! We will be departing from JFK on July 5<sup>th</sup> returning July 14<sup>th</sup>, and departing once again from LAX on July 19<sup>th</sup> returning on July 28<sup>th</sup>! So for all of our west coast travelers, you won't have to be burden with flying all the way to the east coast! ©

And oh yeah, there is also the opportunity to visit a city that I'm sure many would never imagine us going to, Moscow! So with all that said, we at AAT would like to thank you for considering joining AAT on the second stop of **our 5 journeys** in 2017!

\$24.28 Per Month \$52.86 Per Month

\$50.00 Per Month

\$60.70 Per Month

\$11.43 Per Month

# TRIP SUMMARY

<b>Base Cost</b>			
JFK Departure	\$2,450 payable in a \$20	0 deposit due 10/31 and	7 payments of \$321.43
LAX Departure	\$2,550 payable in a \$20	0 deposit due 10/31 and	7 payments of \$335.71
<b>Trip Dates</b>			
JFK Departure	July 5 <sup>th</sup> 2017 - July 14 <sup>th</sup>	2017	
LAX Departure	July 19 <sup>th</sup> 2017 – July 24t	th 2017	
<b>Included in Cost</b>			
Round Trip Airfa	are Via Aeroflot	<ul> <li>Breakfast</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>9 Day Double Oc</li> </ul>	ccupancy Hotel Stay	<ul> <li>Free T-Shirt</li> </ul>	
Day Tour of Ather	ens	<ul> <li>Ongoing Support</li> </ul>	of AAT staff
<ul> <li>Host Dinner (JFI</li> </ul>	K only)	<ul> <li>Professional Ons</li> </ul>	ite Photographer
Add-ons & Upgra	ades		
JFK Business Class Upg	grade	\$2500.00	\$357.14 Per Month
LAX Business Class Upg	grades	\$4000.00	\$571.43 Per Month
Single Room Upgrade T	`hroughout	\$700.00	\$100.00 Per Month
5 Days in Santorini/My	konos	\$900.00	\$128.71 Per Month
More of Athens Day To	ur	\$205.00	\$29.28 Per Month
A Day in Delphi		\$240.00	\$34.29 Per Month
Nafplio, Epidaurus & M	ycenae	\$325.00	\$46.43 Per Month

\$170.00

\$370.00

\$350.00

\$425.00

\$80.00

#### **Refund Policy**

2 Days in Moscow Single Occupancy

Round Trip Transfers Phila/JFK

Free Day in Hydra

2 Days in Moscow

Day in Olympia

The policy is simple and one I'm sure you will find quite agreeable!

- · Your deposit is 100% refundable up until the day before the first monthly payment is due, which would be November 15th. After that, your deposit is non-refundable.
- Each payment received after November 1thth is fully refundable up until the midway point, which is January 15<sup>th</sup>.
- · After January 15th All payments made before that become non-refundable, all payments made afterwards and prior to the departure date are fully refundable.
- · After May 15th the trip is non-refundable. If you are in need of a refund, you will need to consult your travel insurance
- · Any traveler that falls more than 2 payments behind will be removed from the trip and funds will be refunded per the above refund policy.

#### **Traveling Alone?**

While the option is there for you to get a single occupancy room if you choose, by no means do you have to select it if traveling alone. We understand that the extra money spent in getting your own room, takes away from the money available to you to splurge on the streets of Greece!

For that reason, we extend each traveler the option of having us pair you with a suitable roommate for no additional cost. Roommates are paired based upon the answers to their personality questions on their registration form, as well as their ages and even astrological signs. Prior to departing you will give the contact information of your roommate, giving each of you the opportunity to get properly acquainted.

#### The 'Tell-A-Friend' Discount

Do you know someone who may be interested in joining our trip but isn't a member of AAT? Here is your chance to save a little money while bringing them on a trip of a lifetime!

For every traveler that you refer to our trip, you can subtract \$50 from the cost of your trip. There is no limit to the amount of people you can bring, as long as that person has not already traveled with AAT.

Be sure to tell your friend to enter your name in the registration form under "How did you hear about this trip?"

#### **How Do These Add-Ons Work?**

Good Question! After 4 years and taking hundreds of travelers across the globe, one thing has become apparent; while we as humans innately enjoy being in large groups, it doesn't mean that all members of the group want to do the same things. For that reason, despite being a group travel company, we design our trips with the individual in mind!

So if you are someone that is looking to travel in luxury, no worries! Simply check off the business class and/or single room upgrade and you get to be a part of our group while still having your own unique experience. Moreover, if you are an avid traveler that is looking to make new friends but would rather explore on your own, simply select nothing during checkout and you have 9 days to explore Greece at your own pace, and I'm sure there will be plenty of others on the trip to accompany you.

The total cost of each add on will be divided amongst the monthly payments and you are free to add or change your add-ons right up until a month before departure.

# JFK ITINERARY

# Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup> 2:20 PM Depart JFK Via Aeroflot flight no SU101

Thursday, July 6 <sup>th</sup>	
6:25 AM	Arrive in Moscow
8:20 AM	Depart Moscow for Athens via Aeroflot flight no SU2110
12:20 PM	Arrive in Athens
2:00 PM	Transfer to The Royal Olympic Hotel
6:00 PM	Host Dinner

Friday, July 7 <sup>th</sup>	
9:00 AM	Depart for <u>Athens City Tour</u>

# Saturday, July 8th

Opt 1: More Of Athens Cost: \$ 205.	
Visit Benaki Museum of Islamic Ar	t
Visit the Central market	
Visit National Archaeological Museum	
Byzantine and Christian Museum	

Opt 2: San	torini/Mykonos Day 1	Cost: \$ 900.00
10:30 AM	Check Out of Hotel	
10:00 AM	Depart for Athens Airport	
12:00 PM	Depart for Santorini Via Sky Express	
	Flight GQ228	
12:45 PM	Arrive in Santorini	
1:30 PM	Transfer to Mediterranea	n Beach Hotel

# Sunday, July 9th

Opt 3: A day in Delphi	Cost: \$ 240.00
Temple of Apollo	
Delphi's Archaeological Museum	
Charioteer of Delphi	

Opt 2: Santorini/Mykonos Day 2
Visit the black sand beaches of Kamari
Visit the Red Sand Beaches of Akrotiri
Visit Akrotiri Archaeological Site
Museum of Prehistoric Thira
Free Time in Oia

# Monday, July 10th

Opt 4: Nafplio, Epidaurus &	Cost: \$ 325.00
Mycenae	
Visit the Archaeological ruins of M	ycenae
Visit 3 Venetian Fortresses(Bourtzi, Palamidi,	
Akronafplia) in Nafplio	
Visit Nafplio Archaeological Museum	
Visit the Theater of Epidavros	

Opt 2: Santorini/Mykonos Day 3		
12:00 PM	Check Out of Hotel	
Transfer to boat dock		
Ferry to Mykonos		
Transfer to Petinos Hotel		

# Tuesday, July 11th

Opt 5: Day In Hydra Cost: \$ 170
Free Day in Hydra

Opt 2: Santorini/Mykonos Day 4

Free Day in Mykonos

# Wednesday, July 12th

Opt 6: Day In Olympia	Cost: \$ 370
Visit Sanctuary of Olympia	
Visit archeological museum	

Opt 2: Santorini/Mykonos Day 5		
4:40 PM	Transfer to Mykonos Airport	
6:20 PM	Depart Mykonos Airport via Ryan Air	
	Flight No FR6593	

# Thursday, July 13th

Free Time in Athens

Friday, July 14 <sup>th</sup>	
12:25 AM	Depart for Moscow via Aeroflot flight no SU2113
4:20 AM	Land in Moscow

Return to	Return to JFK		
9:40 AM	Depart for JFK via Aeroflot flight no		
	SU100		
12:25 PM	Arrive in New York		

Opt 7: 2 Day in Moscow Day 1		Cost: \$350
5:30 AM	Transfer to Moscow Ho	tel
12:00 PM	Visit the Red Square	
	St Basils Cathedral	
	The Kremlin	

### Saturday, July 15th

Opt 7: 2 Day in Moscow Day 2		
11:00 AM	Transfer to Moscow Airport	
2:25 PM	Depart Moscow via Aeroflot flight no	
	SU102	
5:20 PM	Arrive in New York	

# LAX ITINERARY

# 4:10 PM Depart LAX Via Aeroflot flight no SU107

Thursday, July 20 <sup>th</sup>	
1:50 PM	Arrive in Moscow
6:30 PM	Depart Moscow for Athens via Aeroflot flight no SU2112
10:35 PM	Arrive in Athens
11:30 PM	Transfer to The Royal Olympic Hotel

Friday, July 21st	
9:00 AM	Depart for Athens City Tour

# Saturday, July 22nd

Opt 1: More Of Athens	Cost: \$ 205.00
Visit Benaki Museum of Islamic Ar	t
Visit the Central market	
Visit National Archaeological Museum	
Byzantine and Christian Museum	

Opt 2: Santorini/Mykonos Day 1		Cost: \$ 900.00
10:30 AM	Check Out of Hotel	
10:00 AM	:00 AM Depart for Athens Airport	
12:00 PM	Depart for Santorini Via Sky Express	
	Flight GQ228	
12:45 PM	12:45 PM Arrive in Santorini	
1:30 PM	30 PM Transfer to Mediterranean Beach Hotel	

# Sunday, July 23rd

Opt 3: A day in Delphi	Cost: \$ 240.00
Temple of Apollo	
Delphi's Archaeological Museum	
Charioteer of Delphi	

Opt 2: Santorini/Mykonos Day 2
Visit the black sand beaches of Kamari
Visit the Red Sand Beaches of Akrotiri
Visit Akrotiri Archaeological Site
Museum of Prehistoric Thira
Free Time in Oia

# Monday, July 24th

Opt 4: Nafplio, Epidaurus &	Cost: \$ 325.00
Mycenae	
Visit the Archaeological ruins of M	ycenae
Visit 3 Venetian Fortresses (Bourtzi, Palamidi,	
Akronafplia) in Nafplio	
Visit Nafplio Archaeological Museum	
Visit the Theater of Epidavros	

Opt 2: Santorini/Mykonos Day 3		
12:00 PM	Check Out of Hotel	
Transfer to boat dock		
Ferry to Mykonos		
Transfer to Petinos Hotel		

# Tuesday, July 25th

Opt 5: Day In Hydra Cost: \$ 170
Free Day in Hydra

Opt 2: Santorini/Mykonos Day 4

Free Day in Mykonos

# Wednesday, July 26th

Opt 6: Day In Olympia	Cost: \$ 370
Visit Sanctuary of Olympia	
Visit archeological museum	

Opt 2: Santorini/Mykonos Day 5	
4:40 PM	Transfer to Mykonos Airport
6:20 PM	Depart Mykonos Airport via Ryan Air
	Flight No FR6593

# Thursday, July 27th

Free Time in Athens

Friday, July 28 <sup>th</sup>	
12:25 AM	Depart for Moscow via Aeroflot flight no SU2113
4:20 AM	Land in Moscow

Return to J	JFK
12:25 PM	Depart for LAX via Aeroflot flight no
	SU106
2:25 PM	Arrive in Los Angeles

Opt 7: 2 Day in Moscow Day 1		Cost: \$350
5:30 AM	Transfer to Moscow Ho	tel
12:00 PM	Visit the Red Square	
	St Basils Cathedral	
	The Kremlin	

### Saturday, July 29th

Opt 7: 2 Day in Moscow Day 2	
11:00 AM	Transfer to Moscow Airport
2:25 PM	Depart Moscow via Aeroflot flight no
	SU102
5:20 PM	Arrive in Los Angeles

# GREECE: THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

#### **Entry Requirements**

In order to enter Greece your passport must be valid for 6 months after the date of entry. There are no vaccinations required and visas are not required for visits less than 90 days,

#### **Economic Crisis**

It is true that the people of Greece are undergoing a period of economic hardship, so perhaps you may see a few protests and union strikes in Athens. Despite that the tourist destinations of Greece are as safe as ever as Greek hospitality is at an all-time high!

#### **Money**

The currency in Greece is the Euro. Please see the managing your money section for our suggestion on how to exchange your money

#### **Emergencies**

For police dial 100. For fire dial 199. For medical emergencies dial 166.

#### **Taxes**

The Value Added Tax (VAT) has in response to Greece's economic crisis been greatly increased -- it now stands at 23% for many purchases and services, including restaurants and car rentals; food and medicine and certain other "vital goods" tend to have a VAT of 11% while books and newspapers have 5.5%.

You can get most of the VAT refunded by filling out a Tax-Free Check Form, which can be provided by any store, and presenting a copy of it to the refund desk upon your departure

#### Language

While the official language of Greece is Greek, you should have no issues communicating in English.

#### **Tipping**

Tipping is expected in Greece. It is customary to leave a 10%-15% tip at any restaurant, 5%-10% for a taxi ride and 1 EU per day for hotel housekeeping.

#### Water

The tap water in Athens is considered safe to drink, but it is still recommended that you drink bottled water to avoid any pathogens that may be foreign to your immune system. On the Grecian islands, all residents and guests alike drink bottled water.

#### **Electrical Outlets**

Electrical outlets require Continental-type plugs with two round prongs. It's recommended that you purchase an outlet converter prior to your departure.

#### **Crime and Safety**

While crime directed at tourist is rare, normal precautions should be taken while in Greece. Keep a close eye to your belongings and be mindful of pickpockets. Watch out for groups of children, they can often be the cutest and quickest pickpockets.

#### Restrooms

Be prepared to pay to use public restrooms in Greece (fee is around 1 Euro). Try to time restroom breaks with restaurant meals to avoid having to pay to use public restrooms.

<u>Do not flush</u> any toilet paper/products in the toilets! Each bathroom stall will have a trashcan to discard items. The ancient and small plumbing system can't handle flushing these products.

# ATHENS FULL CITY TOUR

# 9:00 AM Depart Hotel Visit the Acropolis(Parthenon, Propylaea and Temple of Athena)

The Parthenon is the most characteristic monument of the ancient Greek civilization. It continues to stand as a symbol in many ways: it is the symbol of democracy and the Greek civilization. It also symbolizes the beginning of the Western civilization and stands as the icon of European culture. The Parthenon was dedicated to



Athena Parthenos, the patron goddess of the city of Athens and goddess of wisdom. It was built under the instructions of Pericles, the political leader of Athens in the 5th century BC. The Parthenon was constructed between 447 and 438 BC and its sculptural decoration was completed in 432 BC. In 1987 it was inscribed as a World Heritage Site (UNESCO, 1987).



The Propylaia (Propylaea) were built as a monumental entrance to the Acropolis rock. It is an impressive building that surrounds the natural entrance to the plateau, and one approached it in ancient times through an inclining ramp that led visitors straight through the steps in front of the Propylaia. Later, the

Romans built a more dramatic ramp that guided the visitors up towards the entrance of the Acropolis in a zigzag fashion.

The Temple of Athena Nike (Greek:  $N\alpha \acute{o}\varsigma$   $A\theta\eta v\acute{\alpha}\varsigma$   $N(\kappa\eta\varsigma)$  is a temple on the Acropolis of Athens. Built around 420BC, the temple is the earliest fully Ionic temple on the Acropolis. It was a prominent position on a steep bastion at the south west corner of the Acropolis to the right of the entrance, the Propylaea



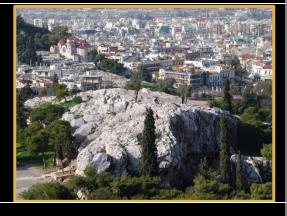
Visit Temple of Olympian Zeus



The Temple of Olympian Zeus in Athens, also known as the Olympieion, was built over several centuries starting in 174 BCE and only finally completed by Roman emperor Hadrian in 131 CE. Its unusually tall columns and ambitious layout made the temple one of the largest ever built in the ancient world.

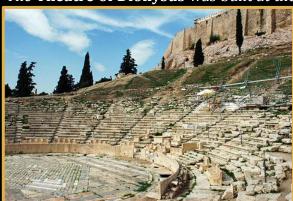
Visit Mars Hill

The Areopagus or **Mars Hill** is a bare marble hill next to the Acropolis in Athens. It is especially popular with travelers for its connections with a speech made by Paul the Apostle.



Visit Theatre of Dionysus

The **Theatre of Dionysus** was built at the time when 'drama' or 'theatre' was



first being created. It's thought that the first drama was presented by Thespis in about 530 BC (which is where we get the word 'Thespian'). These dramas were probably performed in the Agora. The cult of Dionysus was brought to Athens in the 6th C BC, and the theater was built as part of the temple precinct. In the 5th C BC major works of theatre were

performed. These plays were written by some of the great "Attic tragedians", men such as Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides. The plays were performed as part of the cult celebrations of Dionysus. Fortunately, many of their plays have survived, which give us a unique insight into their thinking.

#### Visit the Acropolis Museum

The Acropolis Museum is an archaeological museum focused on the findings of the archaeological site of the Acropolis of Athens. The museum was built to house every artifact found on the rock and on the surrounding slopes, from the Greek Bronze Age to Roman and Byzantine Greece. It also lies over the ruins of a part of Roman and early



Byzantine Athens. The museum was founded in 2003, while the Organization of the Museum was established in 2008. It opened to the public on 20 June 2009. Nearly 4,000 objects are exhibited over an area of 14,000 square meters. The Organization for the Construction of the new museum is chaired by Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Professor Emeritus of Archaeology, Dimitrios Pandermalis.

# **MORE OF ATHENS**

#### 9:00 AM Depart Hotel

Visit the Benaki Museum of Islamic Art



The Benaki Museum collection of Islamic art, which includes examples of all its local variations from as far as India, Persia, Mesopotamia, Asia Minor, the Middle East, Arabia, Egypt, North Africa, Sicily and Spain, ranks among the most important in the world. The evolution of Islamic civilization from the first appearance of Islam up to the Ottoman period and the corresponding development of

Islamic art up to the 19th century are demonstrated by more than 8,000 works of art, including ceramics, gold, metalwork, textiles and glass, smaller groupings of bone objects, inscribed funerary steles and weaponry, as well as the marble-faced interior of a reception room from a 17th-century Cairo mansion.

#### Visit the Central Market

The hectic, colorful Athens agora (market; also referred to as the Varvakios Agora) is the highlight of the vibrant Athinas market district. It's a sensory and gastronomic delight, with an amazing range of olives, spices, cheeses and deli treats. The historic meat market, with hanging carcasses illuminated by swinging light bulbs, is a surreal highlight. The tavernas in and around the market are worth



seeking

out.

#### Visit the National Archaeological Museum

The National Archaeological Museum in Athens houses some of the most important artifacts from a variety archaeological locations around Greece from prehistory to late antiquity. It is considered one of the greatest museums in the world and contains the richest collection of from Greek antiquity artifacts worldwide. It situated is the Exarcheia area in central Athens



between Epirus Street, Bouboulinas Street and Tositsas Street while its entrance is on the Patission Street adjacent to the historical building of the Athens Polytechnic university.

#### Visit Byzantine and Christian Museum

The **Byzantine** and Christian **Museum** is situated at Vassilissis Sofias Avenue in Athens, Greece. It was founded in 1914 and houses more than 25,000 exhibits with rare collections of pictures, pottery, scriptures, frescoes, fabrics, manuscripts and copies of artifacts from the 3rd century AD to the late medieval era. It is one of the most important museums in



the world in Byzantine Art. In June 2004, in time for its 90th anniversary and the 2004 Athens Olympics, the museum reopened to the public after an extensive renovation and the addition of another wing.

# ACCOMODATIONS: THE ROYAL OLYMPIC HOTEL

A short walk from the Acropolis, 5-star Royal Olympic Hotel is located right in front of the Temple of Olympian Zeus and features an outdoor pool and a fitness center. Guests can taste traditional Greek cuisine or enjoy a cocktail at the rooftop Ioannis barrestaurant offering panoramic views over the Acropolis and Lycabettus Hill.



#### **Amenities**

- Free Wi-Fi
- Restaurant
- Bar
- Fitness Center
- Breakfast Included
- Outdoor Pool
- Currency Exchange

The elegantly decorated rooms and suites at Royal Olympic are air conditioned and include a mini bar, hairdryer and bathroom amenities. Each soundproofed unit has a work desk, a satellite TV and a bathroom with shower or bathtub. Most units offers views over the Temple of Zeus or the swimming pool garden.

Hotel facilities include 18 fully equipped meeting rooms, all flooded with natural light and accommodating up to 700 guests. Free Wi-Fi access is provided throughout the hotel, while the multilingual staff is available 24/7. A library is also available on site.



# 5 DAYS IN SANTORINI/MYKONOS

Day 1	
10:30 AM	Check Out of Hotel
10:00 AM	Depart for Athens Airport
12:00 PM	Depart for Santorini Via Sky Express Flight GQ228
12:45 PM	Arrive in Santorini
1:30 PM	Transfer to Mediterranean Beach Hotel
Day 2	
9: 00 AM	Depart Hotel
	Visit the black sand beaches of Kamari
	Kamari is a famous beach resort of
	Santorini situated 10 km southeast of Fira,
	the island's capital. Quite similar to the
	landscape of Perissa, the beach is covered
	by black sand while on the left side of the
	beach is an enormous rock called Mesa
	Vouno that rises from the sea. The area is
	extremely attractive, especially at night
	when the rock shines in the dark. The beach of Kamari is fully organized offering a wide
	range of facilities like sunbeds, umbrellas
	and various types of water sports.
	Visit the Red Sand Beaches of Akrotiri
	The red beach is arguably one of the
	most famous and beautiful beaches of
	Santorini. It is located only some steps
	away from the ancient site of Akrotiri.
	The small size of the beach creates a
	much crowded atmosphere and there
	are many days where most of the
	visitors choose not to make it all the
	way down to the beach and instead
	admire this unique landscape of red
	and black volcanic rocks from the
	headland. Visit Akrotiri Archaeological Site
	The ancient city at Akrotiri is not just the most
	important archaeological site on the island. But,
	thanks to its excellent state of preservation and
	the wealth of finds it has yielded, it is also the
	most important prehistoric settlement found
	anywhere in the Eastern Mediterranean.
	Akrotiri could be characterized as the
	prehistoric Pompeii of the Aegean.

Day 4	
Free Time	in Mykonos
Day 5	
4:40 PM	Transfer to Mykonos Airport
6:20 PM	Depart Mykonos Airport via Ryan Air Flight No FR6593
	Check into to Royal Olympic Hotel
	Museum of Prehistoric Thira
	The Museum of Prehistoric Thera is located in Fira, on the island of Santorini in Greece. It was built on the site of the old Ypapanti Church, destroyed in the 1956 earthquake. The Museum houses a very large number of ancient artefacts from various excavations on Santorini, such as at Akrotiri, and at the nearby Potamos site.
	The earliest excavations on Santorini were conducted by French geologist F. Fouque in 1867, after some local people found old artifacts at a quarry. Later, in 1895-1900, the digs by German archeologist Baron Friedrich Hiller von Gaertringenrevealed the ruins of ancient Thera on Mesa Vouno. He focused on the settlements of 9th century BC there, believed to be a Spartan colony.
	Free Time in Oia
	Oia Santorini: Oia, pronounced Ia (Eeah), is the most famous of all villages of Santorini. It is known throughout the world for its quiet life and fantastic sunset, and is certainly the most beautiful and picturesque village of Santorini. The village is also situated on top of an impressive cliff and offers a spectacular view over the volcano of Palia and Nea Kameni and the island of Thirassia. Oia is situated on the north of the island, 11 km away from Fira.

Day 5	
12:00 PM	Check out of Hotel
	Transfer to boat dock
	Ferry to Mykonos
	Transfer to Petinos Hotel

# ACCOMODATIONS: MEDITERRANEAN BEACH PALACE

A premier resort, one of the best hotels in Santorini, a symbol in the region, is located at the south-eastern coast of Santorini Island. It first opened its doors on June 2005 and since then it is offering the best services to its guests.

The location of our luxury hotel in Santorini makes it ideal for quiet and relaxing holidays while its great variety of activities will satisfy even the most demanding guest.

One of the best hotels in Santorini, Mediterranean Royal is set within 8 acres, 100



meters at the beautiful, quite sandy beach, in the area of Kamari, 3 km from the main square of traditional village of Kamari, and 8 km from the city Fira, and 20 km from Oia.

Mediterranean Royal Hotel in Santorini has an exciting and varied range of dining experience at the main restaurant on the Beach and at the "A la carte" restaurant. With many services and activities, our hotel gives you an adventure and relaxation you'd rather live.

# **ACCOMODATIONS: PETINOS HOTEL**



A minutes' walk from the beach, this polished hotel is also 4 km from the Aegean Maritime Museum and 7 km from the Mikonos ferry port. The airy, modern rooms feature satellite TV, free Wi-Fi and mini-fridges. Upgraded rooms and suites add sea views, private balconies and/or separate living rooms. Apartments with

kitchenettes are also available. Room service is offered. A breakfast buffet is included. Other amenities include a water-view terrace and a restaurant, as well as a bar and a lounge area. Pets are welcome

# DAY TOUR OF DELHI

7:00 AM	Depart Hotel
	Visit the temple of Apollo
	Central among the number of imposing ruins that are interspersed on the Southern slopes of Parnassos mountain is the temple of Apollo. It is an imposing temple of the Doric order whose existence was woven through the turbulent history of the site, and endured numerous incarnations before it settled to the ruinous state we find it today, and which dates back to the 4th c. B.C. The temple of Apollo was first built around the 7th c. B.C. by the two legendary architects Trophonios and Agamedes. It was rebuilt after a fire in the 6th c. B.C. and was named the "Temple of Alcmeonidae" in tribute to the noble Athenian family that oversaw its construction with funds from all over Greece and foreign emperors. This temple was also of the Doric order and had 6 columns at the front, and 15 columns at the flanks.  This temple was destroyed in 373 B.C. by an earthquake and was rebuilt for the third time in 330 B.C. Spintharos, Xenodoros, and Agathon, architects from Corinth. The sculptures that adorned its pediment were the creation of Athenian sculptors Praxias and Androsthenes. It was built to similar proportions and size as the Alcmeonidae version of the temple, with a peristasis of 6 and 15 columns along the
	short and long edges respectively.
	Visit the Delphi Museum
	The Archaeological Museum of Delphi shelters the extensive artifacts unearthed during excavations at the Delphi oracle and its vicinity. It is located adjacent to the archaeological site, and it is one of the top must-see museums in Greece, mainly because of the breadth and quality of artifacts it includes. The permanent exhibition covers over a thousand years, from the Mycenaean era to the Greco-Roman times.



The "Charioteer of Delphi" is one of the best known ancient Greek statues, and one of the best preserved examples of classical bronze casts. It is considered a fine example of the "Severe" style.

The sculpture depicts the driver of the chariot race at the moment when he presents his chariot and horses to the spectators in recognition of his victory. Despite the severity of the moment, the youth's demeanor encapsulates the moment of glory, and the recognition of his eternal athletic and moral stature, with abundant humility.

# NAFPLIO, EPIDAVROS & MYCENAE

7:00 AM	Depart From Hotel
	Visit the Archaeological ruins of Mycenae
	Mycenae is one of the most important archaeological sites of Greece. The fortified citadel is nested over the fertile plain of Argolis near the seashore in the northeast Peloponnese.
	Mycenae is the largest and most important center of the civilization that was named "Mycenaean" after this very citadel.



the shores of Asia Minor during the late Bronze Age era (circa 1600-1100 BCE). The Mycenaean Era occupies the tail end of the Helladic Civilization, which flourished in mainland Greece since 3000 BCE.

#### Visit the 3 Venetian Fortresses

Mycenaean is the culture that dominated mainland Greece, the Aegean islands, and

#### Bourtzi

The small island of Bourtzi in Nafplion is famous for its strong and impressive fortress. Still known by its Turkish name Bourtzi. meaning the Tower. attracts many visitors all vear round. Antonio Gambello, an architect from Bergamo, built the castle in 1471 on this tiny islet in



front of the port of Nafplion, although the construction was completed by the engineer Brancaleone. The design was made specifically to fit the narrow shape of the island. The entire city was fortified in 1473 by the Venetians, mainly to provide protection against pirates. The castle, with entrances to the north and south, has three floors connected by movable stairs. A small harbor on the north-eastern side offered easy and safe access between the sea and the fort. To get protected by their enemies, the Turks had laid the surrounding sea bed with a large barricade of stones that made it impossible for large ships to approach the island and the fort. Later on, after the deliberation of the town in 1821, it was turned into the residence of the executioner for the convicts of the Palamidi castle. Between 1930 and 1970, after alterations by the German architect Wolf Schaeffer, the Bourtzi Castle was used as a hotel. Today the island hosts the Summer Music Festival, providing a

perfectly stunning backdrop to the gala of music. It is easily accessible by boat from the port of Nafplion and it is a must for the visitors of this beautiful town.

#### Palamidi



The fortress of Palamidi is a true architectural masterpiece. This fort was built during the Venetian occupation in the early 19th century and consists of eight bastions, each was self-contained, ensuring that if one bastion was breached the others could still be separately defended. The bastions were built one on top of the other and they all connected with one wall. The Venetians named the bastions by ancient Greek names, such as

Leonidas, Miltiades, Achilles, Themistocles, to give emphasis on the strength of the castle. The beautiful chapel of Agios Andreas is built within the central bastion, which was the best equipped of all the bastions and hence was used as the main headquarters. During the Turkish occupation, Christians were forbidden to enter the fort. However, the struggle for liberation from the Turks began at Palamidi fort. Palamidi fort was seized by Greek rebels, led by Staikos Staikopoulos on 29th of November in 1822. The first Greek among these rebels to set foot in the fort was Dimitrios Moschonisiotis, from the bastion of Achilles. The next day saw the abandoned chapel being cleared and prepared for a Service. The chapel has since then been consecrated to Apostle Andreas and 30th of November is celebrated as his feast day. Palamidi was also used as a prison for a period of time. In 1833, Theodoros Kolokotronis, one of the Revolution leaders was imprisoned here, charged with high treason. Prisoners were made to do physical labor and the 999 steps leading up to the fort were in fact built by the prisoners under the supervision of the Bavarian army.

#### **Akronafplia**

Rising above the old part of town, the Akronafplia fortress is the oldest of Nafplio's three castles, although there's much less to see here than at the other two forts. The lower sections of the walls date back to the Bronze Age. Until the arrival of the Venetians, the town was restricted to within its walls. The Turks called it İç Kale (meaning 'inner castle'). It was used as a political prison from 1936 to 1956.



Visit Nafplio Archaeological Museum

The long history of Nafplion is well-kept in the museums located at the center of the picturesque town. The Archaeological Museum is housed in one of the most elegant Venetian buildings right in the heart of the town that exists from the 18th century. Its vast collection consists of sculptures, manuscripts, jewelry, costumes and rare pieces of clothing from the Mycenaean period as well as



many ceramic vessels from the Geometric era. The Folklore Museum of Nafplion leads by example for its rich collection, more than 25 000 exhibits have survived. The list includes rare pieces from local costumes, traditional vessels and a well-equipped library. The War Museum of Nafplion which is a branch of the Athens War museum opened its doors in 1988, in the historical building at the center of the town. There visitors can admire a vast collection of war material from various periods as well as the bastion of Ioannis Kapodistrias, the first governor of modern Greece. An interesting photo archive with the events from the Work War II is also on display. Komboloi Museum is the only museum of its kind in Greece. It was founded in 1998 by Aris Evangelinos who decided to display his private collection of rosaries. The owner spent 20 years on collecting these lovely items from different places around the world. All of them can be seen in the four levels of the museum in the town of Nafplion.

Visit Theatre of Epidaurus



The Ancient Theatre of Epidaurus is regarded as the best preserved ancient theatre in Greece in terms of its perfect acoustics and fine structure. It was constructed in the late 4th century BC and it was finalized in two stages. Originally the theatre had 34 rows of seats divided into 34 blocks by stairs and walkways. It is situated near the ancient sanctuary of Asklepios, a celebrated healing center of the classical world. It was used as a

therapeutic and religious center dedicated to Asklepios, the god of healing. Today the sanctuary is an extended archeological site with interesting buildings. The theatre is surrounded by lush greenery, an integral part of the theatre itself. This famous ancient theatre distinguishes for its architectural symmetry and the great acoustics.

# A DAY IN HYDRA

9:00 AM	Depart Hotel
	Catch Ferry to Hydra
	Free Time in Hydra



Hydra, built in the shape of an amphitheater on a slope overlooking the Argosaronic gulf, is one of the most romantic destinations in Greece. Traditional stone mansions, narrow cobblestoned streets, secluded squares and above all the banning of cars and the use of around 500 donkeys as means of public transportation, explain the reason why Hydra preserved its distinctive atmosphere through the passage of time. The island experienced exceptional economic growth in the past thanks to its great naval and commercial activity. The Hydriots contributed significantly also to the 1821 War of Independence as their powerful fleet participated in crucial sea battles. It is rather impressive the fact that such a tiny island is the birthplace of five Greek Prime Ministers!

# **OLYMPIA**

#### 6:00 AM Depart Hotel

Visit Sanctuary of Olympia

The sanctuary lies in the alluvial valley formed by the confluence of the rivers, Kladeos and Alpheos; to the north is the wooded Hill of Kronos. To the south is one of the most important buildings at Olympia, the Bouleuterion, the Council building. Far to the north is the Prytaneion where the Prytaneis, the high priests, were in residence, not only during the year of the Games, but permanently.



To the west, close to the banks of the Kladeos River, are the Palaestra and the Gymnasium where athletes were privileged to exercise and take final training for the Games. In the center is the Temple of Hera, wife of Zeus. South of the Temple of Hera stands the overpowering Temple of Zeus.



In ancient times hundreds of statues of athletes and other famous personages were placed throughout the Altis; those statues were votive offerings dedicated to Zeus. Few of the statues have been found since the German School of Archaeology began its nineteenth-century excavation of Olympia. The color, modeling, and perfection of the Altis statues appealed to the Roman conquerors who carried away the art treasures. Happily, a few

remained at the site, and, on exhibit today at the Museum of Olympia, they give us some inkling of what a dazzling sight the entire group of fine statues must have been. Bordering the Altis, to the north, are a series of Treasury Buildings. The arched tunnel, just outside the Altis to the northeast, leads to the stadium.

The sanctuary itself, the Altis, was separated from the rest of the area by a precinct wall and was entered through three main gates, two of the west and one on the south side. The wall enclosed the temples and buildings that were directly connected with the cult. Outside the wall were the buildings serving the needs of visitors to the sanctuary and of the athletes during the Olympic Games (priests' houses, baths, hostels, gymnasium, palaestra, etc.). Activities in the Altis were greatly limited with

the edict forbidding the festivals of the great sanctuaries in AD 393. The destruction of the monuments was by imperial decree in AD 426 and the devastation was completed by an earthquake that struck the region during the 6th c. AD.

Visit the Archaeological Museum of Olympia



The Archaeological Museum of Olympia, one of the most important museums in Greece, presents the long history of the most celebrated sanctuary of antiquity, the sanctuary of Zeus, father of both gods and men, where the Olympic games were born. The museum's permanent exhibition contains finds from the excavations in the sacred precinct of the Altis dating from prehistoric times to the Early Christian period. Among the many precious exhibits the sculpture collection, for which the museum is most famous, the bronze collection, the richest collection of its type in the world, and the large terracottas collection, are especially noteworthy. The museum building comprises exhibition rooms, auxiliary spaces and storerooms. The vestibule and twelve exhibition rooms contain objects excavated in the Altis. The auxiliary spaces (lavatories) are located in the museum's east wing; a separate building between the museum and the archaeological site houses a book and souvenir shop. Finally, part of the east wing and the basement are dedicated to storage and conservation of terracottas, bronze, stone, mosaics and minor objects.

The Archaeological Museum of Olympia, supervised by the Seventh Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities, was reorganized in 2004 to meet modern museological standards.

# MOSCOW: THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

#### **Entry Requirement**

In order to enter Russia a visa must be acquired prior to entry. Visas are processed online (click **HERE**), cost \$50 and have a turnaround time of 10 days. In addition, each traveler must have a passport valid for 6 months after the intended stay.

Day 1 5:30 AM

# 2 DAYS IN MOSCOW

<i>y</i>	110110101010110000111100011100
00 PM	Tour of Moscow
	Visit Red Square
	Red Square began life as a slum, a shanty town of wooden huts clustered beneath the Kremlin walls that housed a collection of peddlers, criminals and drunks whose status left them outside the official boundaries of the medieval city. It was cleared on the orders of Ivan III at the end of the 1400's, but remained the province of the mob, the site of public executions, and rabble rousing, until much later.
	Th

Transfer to Moscow Marriot Grand Hotel





The square's name has nothing to do with communism or with the color of many of its buildings. In fact it derives from the word 'krasnyi', which once meant 'beautiful', and has only come to mean 'red' in contemporary Russian. The name became official in the middle of the 17th century - previously it had been Trinity Square, due to the Trinity Cathedral, the predecessor of St. Basil's. Popularly, it was also known as 'Fire Square', reflecting the number of times medieval Moscow burned. During the

Mongol and Tartar invasions, it was the site of fierce fighting, and right up until the end of the 17th century cannon stood ready to defend the square.

Red Square came into its own in the 20th Century, when it was most famous as the site of official military parades demonstrating to the world the might of the Soviet armed forces. Two of these will be remembered forever. The first was the parade of 7 November 1941, when columns of young cadets marched through the square and straight on to the frontline, which by that point was less than 50km from Moscow. The second was the victory parade on 24 June 1945, when two hundred Nazi standards were thrown in front of the mausoleum and trampled by mounted Soviet commanders in celebration. The year 2000 saw the return of troops to Red Square, with a parade to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of World War Two.

Visit St. Basil's Cathedral



Although it's known to everyone as St. Basil's, this legendary building is officially called "The Cathedral of the Intercession of the Virgin by the Moat". The popular alternative refers to Basil the Blessed, a Muscovite 'holy fool' who was buried on the site (in the Trinity Cathedral that once stood here) a few years before the present building was erected.

The Cathedral was ordered by Ivan the Terrible to mark the 1552 capture of Kazan from Mongol forces. It was completed in 1560. That's pretty much all the genuine history that's known about this celebrated landmark. There, however, scores of legends. Nothing is known about the builders, Barma and Postnik Yakovlev, except their names and the dubious legend that Ivan had them blinded so that they could not create anything to compare. Historians unanimously state that this is nothing but urban folklore.

#### Visit the Kremlin

The Moscow Kremlin usually referred to as the Kremlin, is a fortified complex at the heart of Moscow, overlooking the Moskva River to the south, Saint Basil's Cathedral and Red Square to the east, and the Alexander Garden to the west. It is the best known of the kremlins (Russian citadels) and includes five palaces, four cathedrals, and the enclosing Kremlin Wall with Kremlin The towers.



complex serves as the official residence of the President of the Russian Federation. The name Kremlin means "fortress inside a city",[1] and is often also used as a metonym to refer to the government of the Russian Federation in a similar sense to how the White House is used to refer to the Executive Office of the President of the United States. It had previously been used to refer to the government of the Soviet Union (1922–1991) and its highest members (such as general secretaries,

	premiers, presidents, ministers, and commissars). "Kremlinology" refers to the study of Soviet and Russian politics.
Day 2	
11:00 AM	Transfer to Moscow Airport
	Depart Moscow for LAX or JFK