

# GREECE

For a Lifetime!

September 5-16, 2025



Dear Friends,

When I led our Playhouse Greece trip in 2023, I knew it would be an incredible adventure, but I did not realize how life-changing it would be. I was profoundly moved standing where the Greeks embraced history, philosophy, and democracy (and gave us those words!). Add being at ancient theatres that premiered foundational works of drama, and it ended up not being a tour but a spiritual journey.

I want to share the Greek experience with you through this outstanding itinerary that will keep you constantly amazed and thrilled.

You will experience jaw-dropping sites like the Parthenon, the original Olympic stadium, the Temple at Delphi, and the incredible Epidauros Theatre (right next to perhaps the first hospital). There is history everywhere, and in addition to the unforgettable sites, you will also see stunning artwork displayed in first-class museums.

A tour highlight will be meeting the Greek people. You will visit family-owned businesses like an olive press and an Ouzo distillery. These new friends are delightful personalities that will charm you.

One of my friends told me my 2023 social media posts made it look like "Greece is one pretty postcard picture after another," and it is so true. You will swim at the beautiful beaches of Skopelos, the setting of the Mamma Mia! film, enjoy the lovely vistas of the beautiful seaside town of Nafplion and dine with the exquisite Acropolis in view. The scenery never stops, and every turn offers you a beautiful photo op.

Our local guide for this trip is Vasiliki (Vicky) Chatzopoulou. Her knowledge is endless, as is her love of her country. She weaves history and mythology together in stories that bring these historic places to life. You will fall in love with her.

The Playhouse Greece 2025 trip is indeed a "Trip for a Lifetime." I am so excited to share an enchanting nation that you will keep in your heart forever.

Morrie Enders, Executive Director, Lincoln Community Playhouse



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.



## Athens Historic Center



### September 5, 2025 - Friday

#### Traveling to Greece

Our trip of a lifetime begins as we take an overnight flight to Athens, Greece. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your dream vacation.

### September 6, 2025 - Saturday

#### Athens

Welcome to Athens! Upon arrival, we meet our private tour guide, who will accompany us throughout the trip. We are off to experience some of the most incredible sights in history. Our first stop is at the nearby Thorikos Theater, the first theatre in the world. Let your imagination wander as we take a closer look at this magical site! We continue to Cape Sounion with the impressive Temple of Poseidon rising above the Aegean Sea. A seaside lunch is served before we reach Athens in the afternoon. Athens is one of the oldest cities in the world, full of myths, mysteries, and legends. The city is home to many sacred ancient sites, monuments, and landmarks - a fusion of old and new and a buzzing cosmopolitan metropolis. Check in to our hotel for an evening at leisure to relax and unwind. If you are still awake, take an evening stroll by the Acropolis; it's right next door. B (during flight) | L

### September 7, 2025 - Sunday

#### Athens

After a delightful breakfast, we head out to discover Athens, the cradle of Western civilization as we know it today. Founded seven thousand years ago, the city flourished in the fifth century BC when Athenian democracy was practiced in the Bouletarion (council chamber) and open discussion was encouraged in the Agora (marketplace). A short distance by foot takes us to the Acropolis, dominated by the Parthenon and built as a temple to Athena in the 5th century BC. From the top of the hill, you will see the Agora, where Socrates,

## Nafplion



Plato, and Aristotle strolled. We will take a closer look at the Theatre of Dionysus, dating back to the 6th century BC. The origins of Greek theater lie in the festivities of the followers of Dionysus, the god of fertility and wine, and the cult around Dionysus has some interesting stories to tell. Lunch is served at a local restaurant before we continue by motorcoach through the city to see the House of Parliament at Syntagma Square, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Public Library, the University, and the Panathenaic Stadium, where the first Olympics of the modern era were held. The late afternoon and evening are yours to enjoy more of the city. Don't miss the old town "Plaka" with its numerous shops (open till late!), enjoy people-watching, or stroll around the Acropolis hill at sunset. B | L

### September 8, 2025 - Monday

#### Epidaurus Theater - Nafplion

After a hearty breakfast, we will drive towards Peloponnese. We will stop to admire the canal that connects the Gulf of Corinth with the Saronic Gulf in the Aegean Sea. It's showtime, folks! We arrive at the Ancient Theatre of Epidaurus, a 2,300-year-old stage with legendary acoustics from ancient times. This place will make a memorable impression on all of us as it also hosts the roots of all medicine and the cult of the God of Medicine, Asclepius. If you recall the snake wrapped around the physician staff, today's symbol of the medical profession, this is where it all began. We will visit the museum to discover and learn all about it! Lunch is served under the open skies at a local olive oil press; it doesn't get much better than this! Learn about the important and nutritious value of extra virgin olive oil. We arrive at Nafplion, one of the prettiest cities in Greece. You will love the local shops, cafes, and taverns. An Ouzo tasting is arranged tonight; cheers to our great group, and a good night's rest! B | L | T

## Ancient Theatre of Messini



### September 9, 2025 - Tuesday

#### Kalamata - Ancient Messini - Olympia

We continue our journey to Kalamata (this is the area of the world-famous olives) to visit an exceptional monastery, the Abbey of the Nuns. Founded in 1796, it has been a local space for charity, a safe place during German and Italian occupation, and a shelter for those displaced during the Greek Civil War. A central courtyard filled with orange trees houses the nuns' living areas and a church. The monastery is famous for its silk production, including silk headscarves known to be among the finest in the world, embroideries, and small icons. Lunch is served at a local tavern before we arrive in Messini. The Ancient Theatre of Messini reopened in 2013 after 1,700 years of silence. This theatre plays one of the most significant roles in the Greek world of performances. In the late afternoon, we reach Ancient Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games. The Athletes met here for the first time in 776 BC, and this is where the Olympic Torch is lit every 4th year. This place has an exceptional aura. The evening is yours to enjoy and relax. B | L

### September 10, 2025 - Wednesday

#### Ancient Olympia - Delphi

After breakfast, we are off to the stadium, where it all took place. Listen to the stories of athletic heroes and ancient Gods. We board our motorcoach and cross the impressive Rio-Antirio bridge, the world's longest multi-span cable bridge, to mainland Greece. Next, the Pan-Hellenic sanctuary of Delphi, set in a spectacular landscape at the foot of Mount Parnassos. Considered for many centuries the cultural and religious center of the Hellenic world, it is also home to the "Oracle" and Apollo's Sanctuary, one of the seven wonders of the ancient Greek world. The theater could seat nearly 5000 people and still hosts ancient plays and other cultural events during summertime. Our evening is spent in the village. B | L



## Meteora



### September 11, 2025 - Thursday

#### Thermopylae - Meteora

Enjoy breakfast at our hotel. Then, prepare to learn about a heroic persistence against seemingly impossible odds: the Battle of Thermopylae (480 BC). This is where the Greek army, led by the city-state of Sparta under Leonidas and consisting of about 7,000 men, maintained its position against the Persian army of 300,000. Although the Persian forces won the battle after three days, the delay at Thermopylae allowed the Greek city-states time to prepare for the continuing invasion. Next up, Meteora! The second-biggest and most important group of monasteries in Greece, after those in Mount Athos (which can be visited by men only). The first mention of their history is traced back to the 11th century when the first hermits settled here. UNESCO has characterized the rock monasteries as a unique phenomenon; see and judge for yourself. The monasteries have formed the backdrop to parts of "Games of Thrones," and the James Bond movie "For Your Eyes Only" was filmed here. Enjoy the view of the cliffs by night from the courtyard of our hotels. B | L

### September 12, 2025 - Friday

#### Skopelos

We are off to Mamma-Mia Island! Today's journey takes us to the port of Volos, where we will take the ferry to Skopelos. Skopelos is home to incredible beaches, and it is worth spending some time beach-hopping and relaxing, taking in the gorgeous surrounding views. One of the most famous beaches on Skopelos Island is Kastani Beach, which is renowned for its use as a filming location in the film Mamma Mia. We will reach our hotel in the afternoon. It is located in the center of Skopelos town and just a short walk from the nearest beach. Enjoy strolling through the quaint village while a local restaurant prepares our dinner. B | D

## Delphi



### September 13, 2025 - Saturday

#### Skopelos - Mamma Mia Tour

After a relaxed breakfast, we follow in the footsteps of the "Mamma Mia" movie. Pack your beach attire; today includes an opportunity for a great swim if you like. We head towards the island's west coast to visit the Chapel of St. John (Ioannis), also known as the Mamma Mia wedding church. Once we arrive, we will take our time to climb the 199 steps to the top to enjoy the stunning views and the cooling sea breeze from the top of the rock. The second stop is at Kastani Beach for more in-depth film information and relaxation at the new Kastani Beach bar. We will see where major filming took place for more than ten days and admire this beautiful beach, which proved to be the perfect film location. The last stop is at Agnontas Beach for a swim in the crystal-clear waters or, if you prefer, hang out at the local tavern where lunch is served: it's right next to the beach. We return to our hotel in the early afternoon for a leisurely evening. What's not to love? B | L

### September 14, 2025 - Sunday

#### Skopelos

Breakfast and a day at your own pace. Enjoy everything Skopelos has to offer; stroll, swim, relax, shop for unique souvenirs, or, if you're a wildlife lover, you can take a day trip to Alonissos, the next-door island, to experience the Marine Park. More than 80 types of birds (from tiny warblers to cormorants, gulls, and eagles) and 300 species of fish reside here, along with reptiles and other animals. And the increasingly rare Mediterranean Monk Seal (so-called because of its love of isolation), for which the park is best known. This day is a treat! B

### September 15, 2025 - Monday

#### Athens

After a hearty breakfast, we will begin our trip back to Athens. We will take the

## Skopelos Town



ferry to the island of Evia, make a stop for lunch in one of our favorite places, and then cross the bridge from Chalkis to mainland Greece. We will make a short stop at Marathon before reaching Athens in the late afternoon. Enjoy the panoramic views from the roof garden of our hotel and take a last stroll to breathe in the sweet air of Greece. B | L

### September 16, 2025 - Tuesday

#### Traveling home

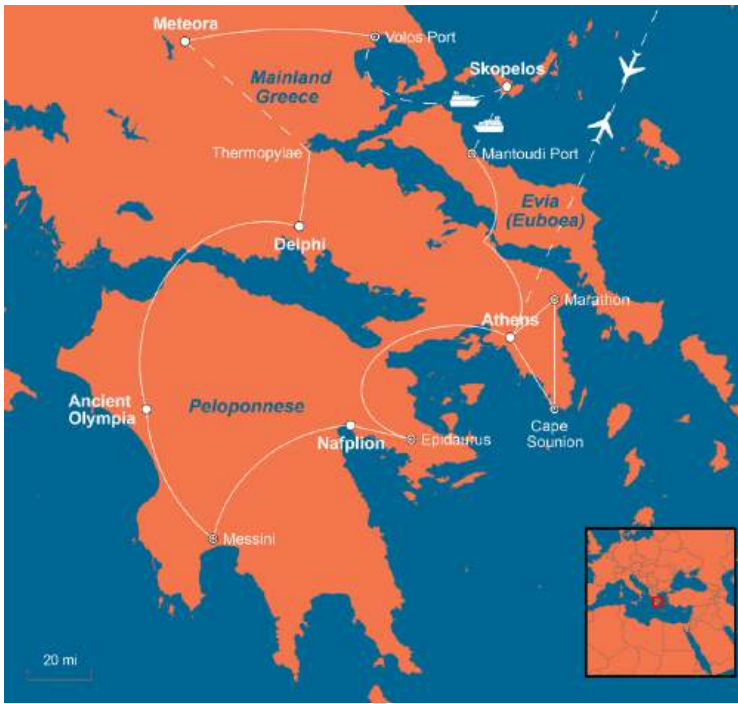
All too soon, our journey has come to an end. Transfer to Athens airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and to clear security. You may do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding and flying west across The Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. B | Meals during flights

Itinerary subject to change.

**B = Breakfast, L = Lunch,  
T = Tasting, D = Dinner**



Delphi Sphinx - a Myth or a Fact?



To register contact:



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www.executivetravel.com

ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours/>

**Package Price:**

Per person in a shared double room: \$3,995  
 Per person in a single room: \$4,995

*Limited number of single rooms available.  
 Triple rooms are not available on this trip.*

*We offer a "Pair & Share" service. Ask us to assist in finding your roommate if you would like to share a room!*

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon registration. The deposit can be paid by cash, check, or credit card. The balance is due on May 9, 2025, is non-refundable, and can be paid by cash or check. Credit card payments (any payments after the deposit) will access a 3.5% processing fee.

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT:**  
 Register at least eight (8) months prior to departure and receive a **\$200 DISCOUNT!**

*This tour will be materialized with a minimum of 18 and a maximum of 25 travelers. Should the number fall below 18, all funds paid to Executive Travel will be refunded 90 days prior to departure.*

**Group airfare:**

Group airfare will be available by the end of October 2024.

**Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4**

This tour involves an extensive amount of walking, stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and steep areas within the places visited. Expect to walk up to 4 miles a day. This trip is **not** recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Comfortable, sturdy shoes are recommended.

**Hotel Accommodation** (final accommodations 90 days prior):

- Athens: Hotel Royal Olympic or similar
- Nafplion: Hotel Agamemnon or similar
- Olympia: Hotel Europa or similar
- Delphi: Hotel Nidimos or similar
- Meteora/Kalambaka: Hotel Grand Meteora or similar
- Skopelos: Hotel Aeolos or similar

**Travel Insurance:**

We recommend travel insurance to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer a plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services. For rates and plan highlights, please ask us.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #0D10209. Insurance coverages underwritten by individual member companies of Zurich in North America, including Zurich American Insurance Company (NAIC #16535, state of domicile: New York), 1299 Zurich Way, Schaumburg, IL 60196.

**Included:**

- 10 nights during the tour at local 3+ and 4-star hotels
- 10 x breakfast
- 8 x lunch
- 1 x dinner
- All transportation as per the tour program
- Admissions to all sites mentioned in the tour program
- English-speaking professional tour guide during all days in Greece
- Baggage handling at hotels (one piece per person)
- Headphones/audio headsets where required
- Host, Morrie Enders, September 5-16, 2025
- Detailed travel documents, handed out three weeks prior to departure (hard-copy and electronic)
- All local taxes and fees as of February 19, 2023

**Not Included:**

- Airfare, estimate \$1,400-\$1,500 per person, incl. taxes & fees
- Additional airline baggage fees (your first checked piece up to 50 lbs is free)
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses
- Meals and beverages other than those mentioned in the tour program
- Entrances to monuments and/or museums other than those mentioned
- Gratuities to guides and drivers (estimate a total of \$15 per day)
- Professional fee, \$75 per person, due at the time of registration
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions



Forwarding registration and deposit signifies that you agree to the terms and conditions found on our website at [executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours](https://www.executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours)

Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.

12/12/2024



## JOIN OUR GROUP AIRFARE!

### We offer group airfare with United Airlines:

September 5, 2025	Omaha* - Chicago	11:21 AM - 12:59 PM
September 5, 2025	Chicago - Athens	4:15 PM - 10:30 AM (September 6, 2025)
September 16, 2025	Athens - Chicago	12:35 PM - 4:20 PM
September 16, 2025	Chicago - Omaha*	7:52 PM - 9:29 PM

### **\$1,650 per person including taxes and fees, economy class.**

\*We are happy to assist with airfare from a different airport than Omaha. Reach out to get your quote. If you travel from a different airport, we aim to have you meet your fellow travelers at Chicago Airport on September 5 and return from Athens around the same time as the rest of the group on September 16.

Individual additional transfers may be necessary if meeting the main group is not possible. We can assist (there could be an additional smaller cost).

### **Important notes about seat assignments, upgrades, TSA Pre-Check- & Frequent Flyer Numbers:**

- Group airfare comes with **seat assignments 30 days prior to departure**. We cannot confirm precise seat numbers earlier than 30 days prior to your departure and therefore cannot guarantee the availability of specific seating on the aircraft. We do our best to honor your preferences (window, aisle seat).
- **Premium seating upgrades - depending on availabilities:**
  - Economy Plus* can be purchased and confirmed once the tickets are issued = 30 days prior to departure. Estimate a supplement of \$600-\$900.
  - Premium Economy* can be reserved at the time of booking your trip with us. Estimate a supplement of \$3,000-\$4,000.
  - Business Class* can be reserved at the time of booking your trip with us. Estimate a supplement of \$8,000-\$10,000.
- **Mileage credit** for individuals on group air contracts is not guaranteed and is subject to the rules of the airline under contract.
- **TSA Pre-Check numbers and Frequent Flyer numbers must be reported at the time of reservation.** Otherwise, each traveler must provide these numbers upon check-in on the day of departure.
- **Taxes**, fuel charges and security fees are subject to change.
- **Air schedules** are subject to change at the discretion of the airline.

### SECURE YOUR AIRFARE WHEN SIGNING UP!

