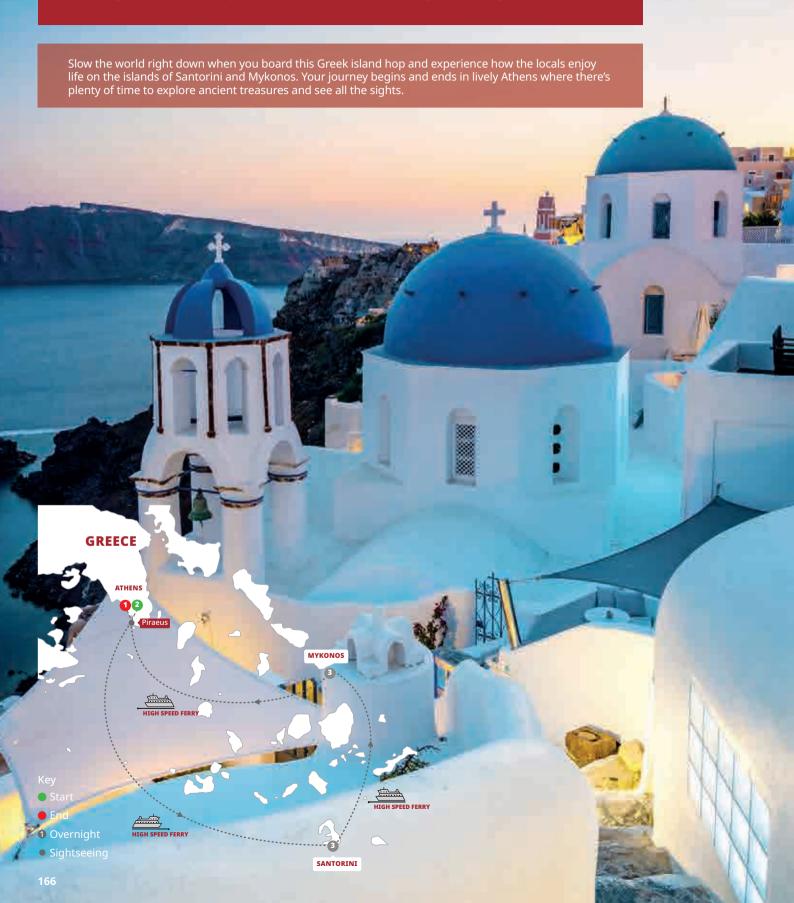
# Greek Island Hopper

10 Days | 1 Country | 12 Meals | Leisurely Activity



Day 1 Welcome to Athens Ease into a simpler way of life – the intoxicatingly slow pace of the Cycladic islands is the ultimate departure from reality, but not before you enjoy a passionate encounter with Athens after being transferred to your hotel. Join your Travel Director and fellow travelers for a Light Meal to kick off your At Leisure discovery of Greece's capital and the enchanting islands of Mykonos and Santorini. (D) Hotel: Divani Caravel/

Radisson Blu Park/Crowne Plaza

Day 2 Explore Ancient Athens Embark on a journey to antiquity with your Local Specialist who will take you to the Acropolis, a sacred site since Mycenaen times. Imagine Athenians ascending the hilltop shrine to worship Athena at the Parthenon, and see the Panathinaiko Olympic stadium, the Temple of Zeus and Hadrian's Arch. Admire the pom-pom march of the Evzone guards at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, then spend the rest of the day on your own soaking up the verve of this vibrant city. (B)

Day 3 Cruise to Santorini We depart
Athens and cruise to Santorini, where we'll
spend the next three days exploring the
island's dramatic beauty. Stroll through
the volcanic island's quaint clifftop towns.
Blue-domed whitewashed façades cling
dramatically to the multi-colored cliffs
providing a spectacular backdrop for
exquisite sunsets. Join your companions
this evening for a memorable meal of Greek
cuisine. (B, D) Hotel: El Greco Resort &
Bungalow/Santorini Palace/Kallisti

Day 4 Santorini Your Way View the magnificent caldera, see the island's ancient ruins or ramble through the winding streets of Fira and Oia - today is yours to enjoy a leisurely exploration of this beautiful island on your own. Indulge in a day of sunbathing and relaxation on one of its many beaches or shop up a storm at its boutique stores. (B)

Day 5 Enjoy Sunny Santorini Consider an optional visit to a local winery to toast to the spellbinding beauty of Santorini and learn about the art of winemaking in the region. Then consider a ride in a caïque (sailing boat) to the volcanic island of Nea Kameni to swim in its glorious hot springs - another full day at leisure to relax and soak up the island's atmosphere. (B)

Day 6 Cruise to Mykonos We take a short ferry transfer to Mykonos - its characteristic hillside windmills overlook the beautiful bay and stand as an enduring greeting to all who arrive. Enjoy an orientation and meet the Women's Cultural Association during a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, before spending the rest of your day getting lost amidst the island's labyrinthine lanes, lined with whitewashed cottages and tumbling cerise bougainvillea. Take to the playground of the rich and

famous and perhaps experience the island's vibrant nightlife. (B, D) Hotel: Rhenia Hotel & Bungalows/Vienoula's Garden/Adonis Hotel



MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® EXPERIENCE



Journey through the folklore of Mykonos as you meet the ladies of a local cultural association who are reviving customs and traditions.

Day 7 Admire Mykonos Set your watch to island time and enjoy a glorious day soaking up the laid-back vibe of Mykonos. Spend your day relaxing on its beautiful beaches, sip champagne in the picturesque Little Venice waterside, or visit some of its historical treasures, including the 17th-century Church of the Paraportiani, the Archaeological Museum and the Aegean Maritime Museum. (B)

Day 8 Marvel at Mykonos Kick back and enjoy another idyllic day in beautiful surrounds. Sample the local seafood flavors or indulge in the traditional almond cakes. Enjoy a leisurely swim in the calm waters of the Aegean or consider a trip to see the mythical sanctuary of Delos, believed by the ancients to be the birthplace of Artemis and Apollo. You'll see amongst others, the remains of the Temple of Apollo, the sanctuary of Artemis, the old city and then walk down the celebrated Lion Street. (B)

Day 9 Cruise to Athens We return to
Athens, via a high-speed ferry. After being
transferred to your hotel, you have free time
for some last-minute souvenir shopping, or
you may wish to spend your last evening in a
traditional Greek taverna. Enjoy an evening of
Greek dishes and lively entertainment from
all parts of the country. (B) Hotel: Divani
Caravel/Radisson Blu Park Hotel Athens/
Crowne Plaza Athens City Center

**Day 10 Farewell Athens** Say a fond farewell to Greece and your newfound friends as you are transferred to the airport for the flight home. Find out more about your free airport transfer at trafalgar.com/freetransfers. **(B)** 

## Find your tour

**Departure months** 

Apr - Sep

See **Trafalgar.com** or your Travel Advisor for dates and prices



# Included highlights and *must-sees*

**Explore** Athens with a Local Specialist

**Discover** Fira, Oia and Mykonos

Visit the Acropolis in Athens

**View** the Parthenon, Hadrian's Arch and the 1896 Olympic Stadium in Athens

**Sail** the Aegean Sea on high speed ferries from Athens to Santorini, Mykonos and returning to Athens



"This trip surpassed our expectations and this photo in Mykonos captured all the color and beauty of Mykonos. We want to wander these streets again!"

- Lorraine Giattini

See more guest stories #TTGreekIslands

4.5<sup>/5</sup> feefo ••

As rated by Past Guests



Day 1 Welcome to Athens Put the 'oh' in opa and embark on an unforgettable exploration of an ancient land of gods and goddesses, myths and legends. Your springboard to your spellbinding holiday is the vibrant capital of Athens, an effortless mix of ancient treasures and modern verve, which you will have an opportunity to explore after being transferred to your hotel. This evening, join your Travel Director and travel companions for a light meal. (D) Hotel: Divani Caravel/Radisson Blu Park/Crowne Plaza

Day 2 Explore Amazing Athens Join your **Local Specialist** for a guided sightseeing tour to the ancient complex that was once the 'Cradle of Western Civilization'. We'll explore the Acropolis with its treasures and admire the Parthenon, dedicated to the goddess Athena, the Royal Palace, Temple of Zeus and the Agora. Dive Into Culture and see remarkable displays of an ancient world during an included visit to the Acropolis Museum, and see Hadrian's Arch and the stadium where the first modern Olympics took place. The rest of the day is yours to enjoy on your own. Stroll through the Plaka, or go in search of the city's tastiest souvlaki. (B)

Day 3 Journey to Corinth, Mycenae and Nafplion We depart Athens crossing the Corinth Canal to the Peloponnesian Peninsula. Arriving in Corinth, we join a Local Specialist to explore an ancient city that several empires fought over throughout the centuries. We continue to Mycenae, a mighty kingdom of Ancient Greece, where we'll see the Beehive Tombs (the Treasury of Atreus), the Lion Gate and the remains of Agamemnon's Royal Palace, in the company of a Local Specialist. Later, we'll travel to Epidaurus to visit the ancient theater and view the Sanctuary of Asclepius, the God of Medicine. (B, D) Hotel: Amalia Nafplio

Day 4 Continue to Ancient Olympia We traverse the Mountains of Arcadia to ancient Olympia, the site of the first Olympic Games held in 776 BC. This evening, we Connect With Locals joining the Karambellas family for dinner on their olive and wine farm at a Be My Guest experience featuring traditional dancing and characteristic Greek philoxenia. (B, D) Hotel: Amalia Olympia

Day 5 Onwards to Patras and Delphi We join a Local Specialist this morning to delve into centuries of history. We'll visit the ancient Olympic site, the museum and the ruined remains of the Temples of Zeus and Hera. Leaving Olympia, we travel north to Patras, crossing the Gulf of Corinth to mainland Greece before continuing to Delphi. (B) Hotel: Amalia Delphi

### Day 6 Off to Thermopylae and Kalambaka

Tread in the footsteps of the ancient Greeks, who would descend on the sanctuary of Delphi to consult with the most important oracle in the classical world. Join your

Included meals: Breakfast **(B)** Lunch **(L)** Dinner **(D)** Hotels: On occasion, hotels of a similar standard and location may be used.

**Local Specialist** and walk the Sacred Way to the 4th-century Temple of Apollo. View the statues immortalising the strength of the athletes who once competed in the Pythian Games. Continue on to a family-ran honey farm for a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Taste the rich thyme honey freshly collected from the hive and come up close to the unique biodiversity of the area. A scenic afternoon drive brings us to Thermopylae, famous for the heroic defense by Leonidas and his brave Spartans against the invading Persians. We cross the lush Thessaly region, the 'breadbasket of Greece', then travel on towards Kalambaka. (B, D) Hotel: Amalia Kalambaka



MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® EXPERIENCE



Meet passionate beekeeper Nikiforos at his honey farm. See the bees thriving in their natural habitat and learn about their role in nature regeneration.

Day 7 Admire Meteora and Return to Athens The UNESCO World Heritage monasteries of Meteora are our first stop today. Join a Local Specialist to visit two of the six Eastern Orthodox monasteries that cling impressively to immense, rounded rock towers overlooking the town. A scenic drive returns us to Athens, where we'll enjoy a rousing Farewell Dinner with our travel companions and reminisce over an incredible journey through Greece. (B, D) Hotel: Divani Caravel/Radisson Blu Park/Crowne Plaza

Day 8 Farewell Athens We say a fond farewell to our newfound friends and the treasures of Greece after an unforgettable journey or why not join a 3 or 7-day Aegean cruise. Find out more about your free airport transfer at trafalgar.com/freetransfers (B)

#### **Cruise Extensions**

Extend your time in Greece with a cruise extension, and choose between three and seven nights cruising the Aegean Sea (p.170). Or why not add our 'Greek Island Hopper' trip after your visit to the mainland (p.166)? Visit trafalgar.com for itinerary details.

## Find your tour

### **Departure months**

Year-round

See **Trafalgar.com** or your Travel Advisor for dates and prices



# Included highlights and *must-sees*

Visit the Acropolis and Museum in Athens, the ancient ruins in Corinth, the ancient theater at Epidaurus, the Olympic Stadium in Olympia, the home of the Oracle at Delphi, and the incredible rock monasteries in Meteora

**View** the Parthenon, Agora, Royal Palace and Temple of Zeus in Athens, the Sanctuary of Asclepius at Epidaurus and the battle site at Thermopylae

**See** the Corinth Canal, the Lion Gate and Agamemnon's Palace at Mycenae

**Explore:** Athens, Meteora, Delphi, Olympia, Epidaurus, Mycenae, Corinth, ancient Ephesus with a Local Specialist

**Be My Guest** Dine and dance with the Karambellas family on their olive and wine farm



"By giving us the chance to work in environmental education by the Grecian apiculturists at Moka Honey, it made travel matter!"

- Valerie Leavitt

See more guest stories #TTBestOfGreece

4.6<sup>/5</sup> feefo ••

As rated by Past Guests



#### See full detailed itineray at trafalgar.com

Days 1 – 7 As Per Best of Greece All overnights, meals and inclusions as per pages 168 - 169.



**MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® EXPERIENCE** 



Meet passionate beekeeper Nikiforos at his honey farm. See the bees thriving in their natural habitat and learn about their role in nature regeneration.

Day 8 Embark and Cruise to Stunning Mykonos We leave the bustling city streets of Athens and cruise to Mykonos, where the Windmills of Kato Mili extend a warm evening welcome as they have to arriving seafarers for centuries. You'll have the evening free to explore the winding lanes of Chora, strolling past whitewashed cottages and tumbling

cerise bougainvillea. As the sun sets over Mykonos, there's no better place for cocktails than Little Venice. (B, L, D)

Day 9 Continue to Ancient Ephesus and Patmos Visit the Turkish shores of Kusadasi for a complimentary Shore Experience to ancient Ephesus. We continue to Patmos, the site where the Book of Revelation was written by St. John. Here, you can choose to see the Cave of the Apocalypse and St. John's Monastery as an Optional Experience. (B, L, D)

## Day 10 Cruise to Crete and on to Santorini

Choose to explore Crete's ancient Minoan culture and heritage at the Palace of Knossos. Admire the brightly colored wall paintings and explore centuries of history. Or you may opt to drive into the beautiful countryside and experience the true flavour of Cretan lifestyle. Continue to Santorini, rising out of the Aegean with its distinctive cliff-top towns. Consider an optional Shore Experience this afternoon, passing villages and vineyards bound for Oia with its white buildings and blue-domed churches. (B, L, D)

Day 11 Disembark in Athens This morning, disembark from your cruise ship and board a transfer to your hotel. (B) Hotel: Divani Caravel/Radisson Blu Park/Crowne Plaza

Day 12 Journey Home Bid farewell to Greece as your trip comes to an end. Transfers are provided to the airport for your return flight home. Find out more about your free airport transfers at trafalgar.com/freetransfers. (B)

## Find your tour

**Departure months** 

May - Sep

See Trafalgar.com or your Travel Advisor for dates and prices



## Included highlights and *must-sees*

Explore Athens, Meteora, Delphi, Olympia, Epidaurus, Mycenae, Corinth, ancient Ephesus with a Local Specialist

**View** the Parthenon, Agora, Royal Palace and Temple of Zeus in Athens, the Sanctuary of Asclepius at Epidaurus and the battle site at Thermopylae

**See** the Corinth Canal, the Lion Gate and Agamemnon's Palace at Mycenae

> See real guest stories #TTAegeanCruise

4.4<sup>/5</sup> feefo 😁 As rated by Past Guests



#### See full detailed itineray at trafalgar.com

### Days 1 – 7 As Per Best of Greece

All overnights, meals and inclusions as per pages 168 - 169.

Day 8 Athens Your Way Spend the day at leisure on your own and see the city's ancient sites. (B) Hotel: Divani Palace Acropolis

Day 9 Embark on Your 7-Day Cruise Spend the morning on your own exploring what was once the 'Cradle of Western Civilisation'. See the city's ancient sites before boarding your cruise ship this afternoon for your sevennight cruise through the Aegean. (B, D)

Day 10 Explore the Vibrant Streets of Thessaloniki Today you will have time to explore Greece's second largest city. Walk along the waterfront and enjoy the many cafes along Aristotelous Square and see ancient monuments such as the Arch of Galerius. (B, L, D)

### Day 11 Explore the Iconic Ephesus Ruins

Arrive in Kusadasi, your gateway to the ancient Greek City of Ephesus. You'll join an included Ancient Ephesus sightseeing tour revealing the Hellenistic and Roman heritage of this UNESCO-listed site before returning to your ship for your evening departure. (B, L, D)

Day 12 Cruise to Crete Start your morning on Crete, Greece's largest island and the fifth largest in the Mediterranean. Home to myths and legends, including Zeus' birthplace and the Minotaur, you may choose to embark on an epic tour to the capital city of Heraklion. Alternatively drive deep into the beautiful

countryside and experience the true flavour of Cretan lifestyle. (B, L, D)

Day 13 Enjoy Sunny Santorini Wake up in Santorini, the Cycladic Island with sheer cliffs and dazzling panorama. Explore the capital of Thira, with its clifftop restaurants and cafés, breath-taking views, and amazing sunsets. Consider an optional Shore Experience this afternoon, passing villages and vineyards bound for Oia with its white buildings and blue-domed churches that vie for the best views over the caldera. This evening is free for you to explore the island's buzzing nightlife. (B, L, D)

Day 14 Marvel at Mykonos Enjoy a full free day to explore the narrow rambling streets of Chora. You could choose an optional visit the Sacred Island of Delos, the birthplace of Apollo. (B, L, D)

Day 15 Journey to Milos Dock in the former home of the famous Venus de Milo. There's time to explore the 'Island of Colours' on an Optional Experience. Alternatively you may prefer a trek to the heart and soul of Milos, sampling the best of local cuisine. Depart this evening for Athens, celebrating a final evening on board with new friends. (B, L, D)

Day 16 Disembark in Athens This morning, disembark from your cruise ship for your transfer to your hotel. (B) Hotel: Divani **Palace Acropolis** 

Day 17 Journey Home Transfers are included today as your trip ends. Find out more about your free airport transfer at trafalgar.com/freetransfers. (B)

# Find your tour

## **Departure months**

May - Sep

See Trafalgar.com or your Travel Advisor for dates and prices



# Included highlights and must-sees

Explore Athens, Meteora, Delphi, Olympia, Epidaurus, Mycenae, Corinth, ancient Ephesus with a Local Specialist

**Visit** the Acropolis and Museum in the ancient theatre at Epidaurus, the Olympic Stadium in Olympia, the home of the Oracle at Delphi, and the incredible rock monasteries in Meteora, ancient Ephesus, Crete, Santorini, Milos and Mykonos

View the Parthenon, Agora, Royal Palace and Temple of Zeus in Athens, the Sanctuary of Asclepius at Epidaurus and the battle site at Thermopylae

See the Corinth Canal, the Lion Gate and Agamemnon's Palace at Mycenae

> See real guest stories #TTAegeanCruise

4.6<sup>/5</sup> feefo 😁 As rated by Past Guests