

Evansville Museum of Arts, History & Science presents...

Gems of Greece: Athens, Naxos & Crete

September 5 – 18, 2026

Book By
Jan 6, 2026
& Save
\$350
Per Person



Thomas (Tom) R. Lonnberg serves as the chief curator and curator of history for the Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science. Since 1988, he has curated numerous history exhibitions and has presented a variety of programs interpreting the past. He serves as president of the Vanderburgh County Historical Society and on the Community Advisory Board of WNIN. Lonnberg earned his master's degree in history from Indiana University and a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Southern Indiana.

Upgrade to Elite Airfare! See inside for details.



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Small Group Travel rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

14 Days • 21 Meals: 12 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 5 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Acropolis Site & Museum, Naxos & Lesser Cyclades Day Cruise, Kitron Distillery & Tasting, Knossos Palace, Cooking Class, Pottery Demonstration, Olive Oil & Wine Tasting, Cretan Folk Dancing & Dinner

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 4	Crowne Plaza Athens City Center, Athens
Days 5 – 7	Attica Blue Hospitality/ Galaxy Hotel Naxos, Naxos
Days 8, 9	Olive Green Hotel, Heraklion
Days 10 – 12	Samaria Hotel, Chania
Day 13	Holiday Suites Boutique Hotel, Athens

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Enjoy arriving early or checking out late with our Pre and Post night stays. Ask for rates. Arriving a day early will give you time to relax and get acquainted with the area. It also provides a buffer in case of flight delays so you don't miss anything on tour.

Day 1: Saturday, September 5, 2026 Overnight Flight You're on your way to Greece! Get ready to soak in the Mediterranean lifestyle as you explore Greece's beauty, ancient wonders, and lively culture from the capital to the isles.

Day 2: Sunday, September 6, 2026 Athens, Greece Arrive in Athens, the capital of Greece and "the cradle of democracy." Settle in as you prepare to be a part of this immortalized city, home of the famous Parthenon, ancient monuments, and inviting neighborhoods where you can explore the heart of Greek culture. As travelers' arrival times will vary, we have not included any sightseeing or meals today. Later this evening, we'll meet for a briefing about the journey ahead.

Day 3: Monday, September 7, 2026 Athens Begin your day in Athens on a panoramic tour through the city, taking in the history of Athens' many landmarks. Then, explore artifacts recovered from the Acropolis archeological site with a guided visit to the Acropolis Museum. Just steps from where ancient relics were recovered, the "new museum" (as the locals still call it) offers incredible views of the Acropolis. After, get to know Plaka, the lively neighborhood at the foot of the Acropolis, brimming with welcoming restaurants and shops. Here, take time to explore and find a spot for lunch on your own, soaking in your surroundings while indulging in delicious Greek cuisine. Later this evening, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner. (B, D)

Day 4: Tuesday, September 8, 2026 Athens Today, get an up-close look at the iconic Acropolis and its monuments – universal symbols of classical antiquity. Marvel at the ancient history all around as you stroll beside the Parthenon on a guided tour of the incredible archeological complex. Next, experience an **Impact Moment** during a stop at a community-minded café and workshop. This café with a mission shines a light on stories of people from the community who have overcome homelessness through work and support of the unique art made onsite. After a light lunch at the café, the rest of the afternoon and evening are yours to explore more of Athens independently. (B, L)

Day 5: Wednesday, September 9, 2026 Athens - Naxos Get an early start today and set out for the island of Naxos! The journey begins by boarding the ferry with your luggage in hand. Once you've set your luggage down, settle in for views of the sea as the ferry stops at islands along the way. Arrive in Naxos, the prosperous, self-sustaining island and the largest of the Cyclades in the Aegean Sea. After getting off the ferry, your first stop is to see the island's emblem, the giant marble gate at the unfinished Temple of Apollo – Portara. Take free time for lunch on your own before settling in at your hotel. Tonight, gather for dinner at a nearby restaurant in Chora (Naxos Town). (B, D)

Day 6: Thursday, September 10, 2026 Naxos - Lesser Cyclades - Naxos This morning, board a sailboat for a full-day cruise* to take in the beauty of Naxos and the nearby Lesser Cyclades islands of Koufonisia. After sailing along the eastern shore of Naxos, step off the boat onto the island of Kato Koufonisi with some time to explore. Enjoy a Greek barbeque lunch with local wines as well as the chance to take a dip in the Aegean Sea's turquoise waters. Next, sail to Ano Koufonisi and take time to stroll along the island's beautiful beaches and visit the small village. Sail on, back towards Naxos to Rina Cave, where you may wish to dive in and explore. Arrive back at your Naxos hotel this evening. (B, L)

Day 7: Friday, September 11, 2026 Naxos Today, trade the seaside bustle of Chora for the mountain villages of Naxos. First, visit the peaceful village of Halki, the former capital of the island, and feel like you've stepped back in time as you stroll its alleys. In the picturesque hilltop village of Apiranthos, take time to explore and slow down among the locals. Later, return to your hotel for some downtime. This evening, sample the local spirits, including Kitron (a liqueur exclusively made on Naxos), served with delicious bites at a third-generation family-owned distillery. Learn about the machinery and distillation process and gain an appreciation for the unique liqueurs made here. (B)

Day 8: Saturday, September 12, 2026 Naxos - Heraklion, Crete Enjoy the morning at leisure. Later this afternoon with your suitcase in tow, board the ferry to Heraklion, Crete. After a ferry trip, arrive in Crete, the largest of the Greek islands and get your first taste of Cretan cuisine with dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 9: Sunday, September 13, 2026 Heraklion This morning, take a walk around Lion's Square – the heart of Heraklion. Next, head to Knossos Palace for a guided tour of the site, a major center of Minoan civilization. Among these remarkably preserved ruins, imagine the everyday lives of ancient Minoans and recall legend, as this is considered the mythic place where King Minos kept the Minotaur in his labyrinth. As you travel through the Cretan countryside, take in the sprawling olive groves that have shaped Crete ever since olive cultivation began in Minoan times. In



Book by Jan 06, 2026 & Save \$350 Per Person:

Double \$8,449; **Double \$8,099***
 Single \$9,749; **Single \$9,399;**
 Triple \$8,349 **Triple \$7,999**

For bookings made after Jan 06, 2026 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Evansville Regional Airport, Inter-flights from Chania International Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$549 per person.

Alternate gateways are available upon request.

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from EVV

Upgrade your in-flight experience with Elite Airfare

Additional rate of: Premium Economy \$1,490; Business Class \$4,190

• * Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class or First class) is valid until 8 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability.

† Refer to the reservation form to choose your upgrade option

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. **(See registration form for consent.)**

Archanes, visit a women's cooperative café to learn about traditional Cretan dishes and enjoy a hands-on cooking class followed by lunch. Afterward, return to your hotel for an afternoon and evening at leisure. (B, L)

Day 10: Monday, September 14, 2026 Heraklion - Rethymnon - Chania Leaving Heraklion, head toward Chania today with a couple of stops along the way. Visit Margarites, a pottery village. Among the more than 20 pottery workshops in this village, visit the only one that uses both new and old (wood-fired) baking techniques. After watching a pottery demonstration, you can take the opportunity to shop for unique wares. Continue to Rethymnon with its beautiful old town and enjoy free time for lunch. Later, arrive in the city of Chania and gather for dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 11: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 Chania - Vouves - Anoskeli - Chania Set out to explore Chania's old Venetian Harbor, the port city's vibrant hub, built in the 14th century. As you stroll along the

narrow streets, you may enjoy sips of Greek coffee or try a local pastry. Then, set out for Vouves to see the world's oldest olive tree, estimated to be an astonishing 2,000 to 4,000 years old. Continue to a family-run olive mill and winery for a tasting of oils and wines paired with a light charcuterie lunch. Back in Chania, enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. (B, L)

Day 12: Wednesday, September 16, 2026 Chania Today, **it's your choice!** Visit the Archaeological Museum of Chania and explore its treasures on your own **-OR-** join a guided tour of Aptera's archaeological site. Spend the afternoon in Chania any way you wish. Tonight, gather with your fellow travelers and celebrate the journey. Enjoy dinner and a performance of traditional Cretan folk dances – and join in during a dance lesson! (B, D)

Day 13: Thursday, September 17, 2026 Chania - Athens This morning, a short flight takes you back to Athens. Take the afternoon to soak in the city's energy or do some last-minute souvenir shopping. Tonight, gather for a drink and light fare,

Experience It! Crete's Olive Trees

On Crete, the largest island of Greece, uncover the deep roots of the olive tree, known as a symbol of peace and prosperity. Dating back to 3500 BC, the ancient Minoans of Crete were among the first cultures to practice olive cultivation. By 2000 BC, Cretan olive oil production defined the island's economy, with exports to the mainland of Greece as well as further afield to North Africa and Asia Minor. While olives are grown throughout Greece today, Crete's olive trees make up more than a third of the country's total olive crop. As you take in views of the island's groves, visit the world's oldest olive tree in Vouves and taste the rich oil's flavors in the local cuisine, experiencing how this "liquid gold" is infused into the essence of Crete.

For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1319814>

toasting to the end of your journey through Greece. Look out over the city and soak in the incredible sight of the Acropolis once more, aglow at night. (B)

Day 14: Friday, September 18, 2026 Athens - Tour Ends Your tour of Greece's gems ends today. (B)

Important Tour Information:

Book Now rates valid until Jan 06, 2026, valid on air inclusive packages only.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

If you choose to visit Aptera as your Choice on Tour, you can expect to be standing or walking for 1 to 1.5 hours with little shade.

Luggage handling is not available when getting on and off the public ferries between Athens, Naxos, and Crete. You will need to carry your own luggage for approximately 200 feet each way. As the ferry is the main connection between the mainland and several islands, you can expect large crowds and personnel directing travelers to their destinations with a very quick turnaround.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

In order to access the Acropolis archeological site, you will be required to climb about 50-60 steep uneven steps and walk over rugged terrain with loose stones and without railings.

*On occasion, due to inclement weather, your boat trip in Naxos may be moved to the following day and your sightseeing activities will be swapped. While on the cruise, be sure to bring a bathing suit, towel, hat, and sunscreen.

Due to a limited number of tickets for the Acropolis, travelers who book within 60 days of departure may be waitlisted until tickets can be confirmed.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

To complete your tour, we include round-trip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised, many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.



Internal flights are required in order to participate on this tour and are included in the final price, quoted at time of booking.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

Travel Requirements:

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

ETIAS visa waiver requirements are anticipated to begin during the last quarter of 2026, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit https://travel-europe.europa.eu/etias_en

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of December 30, 2025 are based upon availability. Final payment due by June 07, 2026. Deposits are refundable up until January 06, 2026.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

**For important reservation information visit
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1319814>.
You can also find this information on your tour documents.**

This form is intended for use by the Group Leaders only. Please note that Collette is unable to process this form

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of December 30, 2025 are based upon availability. Final payment due by June 07, 2026. Deposits are refundable up until January 06, 2026.

Your passport should be valid for at least 6 months beyond the dates of your tour.

YOUR INFORMATION:

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) **EXACTLY** as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.

IMPORTANT: In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names/initials or suffixes <Jr, Sr>. Your passport should have at least eight months of validity if you're traveling internationally.

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

Nickname: _____ Gender: () Male () Female Date of Birth: month _____ day _____ year _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____ Cell: () _____ Email Address: _____

Should you become ill or injured, whom should we contact (not traveling with you): _____ Phone: () _____

ROOMING WITH: ☐ Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

AIR GATEWAY: Departure airport for this tour: _____

Air Seat Request: () Aisle () Window () Next To Traveling Companion

Collette cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through Collette and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times.

Please be advised, when travelling as part of a group, many airlines do not provide seat assignments. Preferred seating may be available for an additional charge.

Pre check number / KTN or Global Entry numbers _____

Please reserve an upgrade to Elite Airfare for an additional rate of: ☐ Premium Economy \$1,490 ☐ Business Class \$4,190

Service is limited and not available on all flights or carriers. Other restrictions may apply. Please note: if you purchase an upgrade, we cannot guarantee the same flight schedule as the group. Upgraded class of service is for the international portion of the journey only.

Elite Air pricing (Premium Economy, Business Class, or First Class) is valid until 8 months prior to departure, after which rates are subject to change and will be quoted based upon availability.

Are you willing to separate from the group air schedule to accommodate your upgrade request? () Yes () No

"Federal law forbids carriage of hazardous materials such as aerosols, fireworks, lithium batteries & flammable liquids aboard the aircraft in your checked or carry-on baggage. A violation can result in 5 years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Details on prohibited items may be found on TSA's "prohibited items" web page: <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>."

TRAVEL PROTECTION: () Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection \$549 () No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B which includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons. See Part B for details.)

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Collette



Special Needs Form

Please complete this form, sign and return it to us within 14 days of receipt.

Email: TravelOperations@collette.com

Fax: 401.727.4745

Mail: Collette: Travel Operations
180 Middle Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

TRAVELERS NEEDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

You must report any disability requiring special attention to Collette at the time the reservation is made. *Collette will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable of and totally responsible for providing the assistance. Neither Collette nor its personnel, nor its suppliers, may physically lift or assist clients into transportation vehicles. If a traveler thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call Collette to determine what assistance might reasonably be given. Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities. Internationally, a great deal of walking may be necessary to fully enjoy the destination. Travelers should be in good health and must be able to walk reasonable distances. In some areas, travelers may be required to walk on uneven ground, cobblestone streets or raised thresholds.

****To request a wheelchair accessible room on a cruise, the traveler or person sharing the room must have a recognized disability that alters a major life function and requires the use of a mobility device and the use of the accessible features provided in the wheelchair accessible stateroom. The cruise company may take appropriate action against someone who has reserved or purchased such a stateroom fraudulently. Action may include but is not limited to removal from the stateroom to a non-accessible accommodation up to denial of boarding.***

Reservation # _____

Name: _____ Male or Female (circle one)

Are you traveling with a wheelchair? Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- Does your wheelchair collapse? Yes No
- Can you stand and climb steps to board the coach without it? Yes No
- Are you capable of lifting your own wheelchair? Yes No

If you are not capable of lifting your own wheelchair who will provide assistance?

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your wheelchair:

Height _____ Length _____ Width _____

Are you traveling with a walker? Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- Does your walker collapse? Yes No

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your walker:

Height _____ Length _____
Width _____

Tour Managers and drivers do not provide assistance lifting, pushing or carrying wheelchairs or walkers. Motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.

Are you requesting any hotel room accommodations? Yes No

If "YES" Please indicate if one or more of the following is required in the washroom.

- Walk-in shower Yes No
- Grab bars Yes No
- Raised toilet seat Yes No

Please provide any details in reference to the nature of your request.

Most hotel rooms that can accommodate the request will be equipped with only 1 bed.

Do you understand and accept? Yes No

Collette cannot guarantee the availability of such rooms as many hotels have a limited number of rooms that are equipped with the above accommodations.

Are you traveling with an oxygen tank? Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- You must contact the airline directly to arrange transportation of the oxygen on the plane. Oxygen requests vary by airline and location and can take up to 2 weeks to request.
- You are responsible for supplying your own electrical cords, and converters as needed.

This form must be remitted within 14 days of receipt for any special needs accommodation request.

Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities and motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.

The Americans with Disabilities Act only applies in the United States. Many international destinations cannot accommodate passengers' requests. Collette will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants, but we cannot guarantee that all requests will be honored on international destinations.

Collette also regrets that it cannot provide individual assistance to a tour member with special needs for walking, dining, or other special personal needs. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable and totally responsible for the assistance.

I have read and understand the above:

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Internal Use Only

Reason: _____

Tour: _____ Reservation # _____

TS/Group: _____

Tour Date: _____