



Myth, Legends, and Islands of Greece: Athens, Mykonos, and Santorini

10 Days

It's impossible to resist the allure of the **Greek Islands**—these oases of whitewashed churches, ancient monuments, and sidewalk cafes on the shores of the **Aegean Sea** are a siren call to travelers. This adventure begins in Athens, where **centuries-old archaeological sites** form a classical backdrop to a blossoming, trendy downtown. Then it's off to the lively island of Mykonos, where eclectic shops, bars, and restaurants line the waterfront, and **gorgeous white sand beaches** are mere minutes away. A ferry takes visitors to Santorini nearby, to explore the hilltop community of **Oia with its charming whitewashed houses with bright blue roofs**, and witness the stunning spectacle of the island's **multicolored cliffs**. Heavenly cuisine, rich history, and swoon-worthy views: what's not to love?

Highlights

- ★ Discover the Treasures of Athens on a Shared Tour
- ★ Shared Tour: Full-Day Jeep Safari on Mykonos Island
- ★ Santorini Island and Semi-Private Caldera Sailing Sunset Tour by Catamaran
- ★ Small Group Tour: Santorini Sunset Wine Adventure

Itinerary Details

Day 1 - 3

- ✈ International Arrival
- 🚗 Transfer to the Hotel

2 Nights

Athens

Discover the capital of Greece, where ancient history blends seamlessly with modern life. While the Acropolis towering over the cityscape is the star attraction, there is plenty more to Athens to discover. Archaeological sites such as the gigantic Hadrian's Gate and the ancient Agora are strewn across the city, alongside architectural monuments such as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which commemorates Greek troops killed in war. This is also the main center of learning in all of Greece, thanks to the Academy, Athens University, and the National Library, where archaeologists, historians, and scholars converge. Museums and attractions aside, Athens' hip neighborhoods are memorable too with their vibrant street art, artisanal boutiques, and cafes, and a thriving food and nightlife scene. The cobbled streets of Plaka lead straight up to the Acropolis, while Monastiraki Square offers the perfect spot for people-watching all day long. At Syntagma Square, visitors can witness the symbolic Changing of the Guards ceremony and then picnic in the vast botanical gardens next door. Visit Lycabettus Hill for panoramic views of this bustling metropolis, or escape with a day trip to nearby beaches, port towns, and the lush Attica peninsula.

Included activities

Day 1: Arrival in Athens

Arriving in Athens, guests will be met by a representative who will escort them to the hotel. The afternoon is the perfect time to explore the cobbled old town with its winding alleyways and historic and modern buildings. Take a peek at the ancient Aghora and walk through the bustling square at Monastiraki, or watch the ceremonial changing of the guards at Syntagma Square. Stop by a sidewalk cafe for gyros or Greek coffee, and then it's time for the evening sightseeing tour with an expert guide.

Shared Tour: A Night Out in Athens

Athens is a mesmerizing blend of illuminated ancient ruins and bustling streets, bars, and restaurants filled with lively music and laughter. The evening begins with a short panoramic drive through the historic city center, past Syntagma Square. At the slope of the sacred hill, one can see the majestic Acropolis alight in the dark, towering over the city. Walk through the narrow, cobbled streets of Plaka, the Old City, and then feast on typical local dishes like souvlaki, moussaka, and gyros at a Greek taverna. Next up is a fun floor show, complete with live music and traditional Greek folk dances.

Day 2: Athens

After a leisurely breakfast, meet the guide in the hotel lobby and set off for a private half-day city sightseeing tour. Upon return, spend the afternoon and evening exploring the charming squares and back streets of Upper and Lower Plaka. This part of the old city is home to several quaint churches and historical buildings perfect for exploration, as well as a flea market in Monastiraki nearby. Local Greek tavernas are plentiful, be sure to stop at one to sample saganaki—a hard Greek cheese that's fried and sprinkled with lemon juice—or a slice of flaky spanakopita.

Private Half-Day Athens Sightseeing Tour

This tour highlights the striking contrast between the ancient and the modern that makes Athens such a fascinating city. Accompanied by an expert, guests begin at the Panathenaic Stadium, where the modern Olympic Games were held in 1896. The tour passes by the Temple of Olympian Zeus and Hadrian's Arch, a gateway built to honor the namesake Roman emperor. Guests will see the Parliament and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier that commemorates Greek soldiers killed in war. Athens houses some of the country's best modern centers of learning—the Academy, the National University, and National Library, which guests will view before arriving at the tree-lined Syntagma Square. Next on the itinerary is the Acropolis, undoubtedly the pièce de résistance in Athens, with masterpieces from the golden age such as the Propylaea, Temple of Athena Nike, Erechtheion, and the Parthenon, an enduring symbol of Ancient Greece. The tour ends at the Acropolis Museum, which houses every artifact found on the Acropolis.



Day 3 - 6

-  Transfer to the Airport
-  Flight from Athens to Mykonos
-  Transfer to the Hotel

3 Nights

Mykonos

One of the most famous Greek islands, sun-soaked Mykonos offers you a glamorous getaway in the Mediterranean. It's famous for its lively bars and restaurants, nightlife and culture, with a party atmosphere all summer long. The island boasts a charming Old Town with whitewashed homes, blue-domed churches and trendy boutiques and waterfront cafes. Explore the stylish bars of Little Venice on the promenade, walk Chora's maze-like alleys lined by colorful buildings, and watch boats go in and out of the Old Port. Mykonos stunning beaches are a sun-worshiper's dream with long stretches of soft white sand, crystal clear waters and plenty of watersports. While not sunbathing or swimming, you can hop on a boat and jet off to nearby islands, or travel inwards into the island to discover historic sites and traditional Cycladic villages like Ano Mera. An absolute highlight of the Mykonos experience is watching a sunset from the secluded Armenistis lighthouse.

Included activities

Day 3: Arrival in Mykonos

Enjoy the better part of the morning and early afternoon in Athens to do some final independent sightseeing before the flight to Mykonos. Upon arrival, a transfer representative will be waiting as an escort to the hotel. Mykonos is known for its food and nightlife, so it's time to don some party outfits and head out for the evening!

Day 4: Mykonos

On the docket for today is an exciting jeep safari adventure of Mykonos Town and island. With charming whitewashed buildings, narrow, cobbled alleys, and blue-domed churches, Mykonos is impossibly picturesque. Sandy beaches with the clearest waters line the shores, along with lively restaurants and beach clubs where guests can grab refreshments before continuing the tour of the island. In the afternoon, a waterfront restaurant is the perfect place for lunch, after which guests can lay back on one of the island's numerous white sand beaches and soak up the sun.

Shared Tour: Full-Day Jeep Safari

Explore the hidden corners of Mykonos on an exhilarating off-road safari! This adventure takes guests to the island's north side, where they'll visit the lighthouse, higher regions, and the water reservoir lake. The journey continues around Ano Mera, featuring a visit to the nearby women's monastery and the ancient Venetian fortress Paleokastro. On the east side, enjoy spectacular views and explore a deserted mine rich with interesting minerals. Pause for lunch by the sea in one of the beautiful bays (lunch not included), before heading south to Mykonos' stunning beaches, where there's a stop for a refreshing swim. The final stop offers a breathtaking panoramic view above Mykonos town, perfect for capturing a memorable photo of an unforgettable day.

Day 5: Mykonos

This morning is ideal for exploring Mykonos Town at a leisurely pace. It's maze-like streets, brimming with quaint boutiques, cafes, and art galleries, lead to the whitewashed Panagia Paraportiani church in the heart of town. Stroll along the waterfront promenade of Little Venice or visit the Archaeological Museum with artifacts from 425 B.C.E.! Afterward, a boat takes guests from New Port to Tinos for a guided tour.

Tinos Full-Day Tour

Experience the beauty and charm of old Greece on this visit to the big-brother island of Mykonos. Few are familiar with this lesser-known island, but its charms are diverse. In Tinos Town, visit the Evangelistria Church, the most important church in Greece and home to an icon of the Virgin Mary that's believed to have miraculous powers. Scenic vistas abound on the bus ride across the island, with highlights of the drive including stops at the marble village of Pyrgos, the women's Monastery of Kechrovouini, and Volax, the quaint village of basket makers. There are numerous traditional Greek tavernas where guests can sample local dishes such as rabbit stews, sausages, or gruyere. The evening is free to explore the harbor or browse the colorful shops in Tinos town before the return to Mykonos. (Note: Lunch is not included in this tour and is at the guests' own expense.)



Day 6 - 9

-  Transfer to the Pier
-  Ferry from Mykonos to Santorini
-  Transfer from the Pier to the Hotel

Santorini

The most popular of the Greek islands, crescent-shaped Santorini in the Cyclades charms visitors with its stunning landscapes and white-washed houses, framed by the sparkling blue waters of the Aegean Sea. At the heart of the island lies a partly-submerged caldera—the result of a volcanic eruption many centuries ago, flanked by dramatic cliffs with picturesque villages and vineyards perched on the cliffsides. Scenic villages such as Fira and Oia offer iconic blue-domed churches and narrow, winding streets with panoramic views around every corner. Framed against this backdrop are beaches such as Perissa and Kamari, in myriad shades of red, black, and white. Sunsets in Santorini, and especially Oia, are mesmerizing, with the evening sky blanketed in cotton candy pink and orange. The island also boasts one of the best food and nightlife scenes in the Cyclades, though less illustrious than its neighbor Mykonos, thanks to a plethora of restaurants spread across its cliffside villages and waterfronts.

Included activities

Day 6: Arrival in Santorini

In the morning, meet a transfer representative for an escort from the hotel to the ferry for Santorini. The high-speed catamaran generally takes approximately three hours to reach Santorini, but this can be longer depending on weather conditions. In Santorini, a transfer representative will meet guests at the pier and take them to the hotel. The evening is ideal for wandering the lively streets and dining in one of Fira's numerous restaurants. Visitors may have to pay more if the establishment has a view of the island's caldera, but the vista is certainly worth the splurge!

Day 7: Santorini

It's a good idea to slather on the sunscreen before heading out to explore this sunny island. Today, guests will embark on a fun-filled cruise which concludes with a beautiful sunset at Oia with its breathtaking views of the Aegean Sea, and Santorini's massive volcanic crater on the west coast! For dinner, local tavernas offer authentic Greek meals of tomato fritters and roasted lamb, along with fine wine from one of the island's many fantastic vineyards.

Semi-Private Tour: Caldera Sailing Sunset Tour by Catamaran

Discover Santorini's stunning coastline on this delightful cruise, complete with a delicious lunch and wine. The journey begins from Vlychada port, offering guests a refreshing swim in the clear blue waters of the Red Beach. Sail past the iconic lighthouse south of the caldera and explore secluded volcanic beaches. Tour highlights include swimming and snorkeling at the Red Beach, a barbecue and swimming at the White Beach, and a dip in the volcanic hot springs. The cruise also passes Aspronisi, the Ancient Lighthouse, Akrotiri, and Indian Rock, culminating with a final stop below the picturesque village of Oia to watch the sunset. The tour concludes at Ammoudi port. Guests can relax on deck, explore the volcanic hot springs, and soak in the breathtaking scenery of Santorini.

Day 8: Santorini

The last day in Santorini is full of the culinary joys of Greece with an immersive cooking class in the earlier part of the day and a wine and cheese filled evening tour. With the time in-between, guests can take the time to revisit some favorite places, relax on the beach, or spend time purchasing some travel souvenirs for the return journey home tomorrow!

Shared Tour: Santorini Cooking Class

Guests will enjoy exploring Greek cuisine in this immersive hands-on cooking class! Discover the exquisite flavors of Greek dishes while experiencing the unique island of Santorini and its rich Mediterranean culture, all crafted with local traditional organic products.

Small Group Tour: Santorini Sunset Wine Adventure

Experience the award-winning volcanic wines of Santorini on a small-group tour that takes guests to three of the island's most legendary wineries. Discover the rich history of Santorini and learn how its unique volcanic soils influence winemaking. Visit three traditional wineries scattered across the picturesque island, where guests will sample 12 different wines accompanied by local cheeses and snacks.



Day 9 - 10

-  Transfer to the Airport
-  Flight from Santorini to Athens
-  Transfer to the Hotel

1 Night

Athens

Discover the capital of Greece, where ancient history blends seamlessly with modern life. While the Acropolis towering over the cityscape is the star attraction, there is plenty more to Athens to discover. Archaeological sites such as the gigantic Hadrian's Gate and the ancient Agora are strewn across the city, alongside architectural monuments such as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which commemorates Greek troops killed in war. This is also the main center of learning in all of Greece, thanks to the Academy, Athens University, and the National Library, where archaeologists, historians, and scholars converge. Museums and attractions aside, Athens' hip neighborhoods are memorable too with their vibrant street art, artisanal boutiques, and cafes, and a thriving food and nightlife scene. The cobbled streets of Plaka lead straight up to the Acropolis, while Monastiraki Square offers the perfect spot for people-watching all day long. At Syntagma Square, visitors can witness the symbolic Changing of the Guards ceremony and then picnic in the vast botanical gardens next door. Visit Lycabettus Hill for panoramic views of this bustling metropolis, or escape with a day trip to nearby beaches, port towns, and the lush Attica peninsula.

Included activities

Day 9: Arrival in Athens

This morning, a flight takes guests from Santorini airport to Athens, where a representative will meet and escort them to the hotel. Having checked in, it's time for a tour of Cape Sounion at the southernmost tip of the Attica peninsula, where the Temple of Poseidon is located. Upon return, the evening is free to explore the city on and revisit any beloved sites. The open-air Cine Paris is great for catching a movie, located on a rooftop in Plaka with views of the Acropolis from a few lucky seats.

Cape Sounion Tour

The tour begins with a drive on the Athens Riviera, past the picturesque beaches of Glyfada, Vouliagmeni, and Varkiza. An hour and a half later, reach Cape Sounion, the southernmost point of Attica, where the white marble pillars of the Temple of Poseidon overlook the azure ocean. Built to honor the god of the sea, the temple once served as a sacred site where seafarers once made their offerings and prayed for safe passage before their voyages. Ancient myths and legends add to the mystery and allure of this site. After a short exploration, enjoy walking along the rocky promontory for fantastic views of the Saronic Gulf.

Day 10: Athens

After a Grecian breakfast, it is time to bid adieu to this beautiful country. A representative will be waiting at the hotel to transfer guests to the airport in time for their flight home. As they soar through the clouds high above Greece, it's time to reflect on the wonderful trip as the islands recede in the distance.

-  Transfer to Airport



Inclusions

Includes

- Activities and excursions, as specified in the itinerary
- Accommodation: Athens (3 nights) - Mykonos (3 nights) - Santorini (3 nights)
- Meals: Daily breakfast, except when otherwise specified
- Private arrival and departure transfers, as specified in the itinerary
- Flights: Athens - Mykonos, Santorini - Athens
- Ferry: Mykonos - Santorini
- English speaking assistants and guides
- Admission tickets as specified in the itinerary

Not Included

- Tips and personal expenses
- Visa and tourism charges
- Travel, health, and cancellation insurance