



Greece 2024

Travel Dates: May 13, 2024 – May 26, 2024

“Study Abroad Greece 2024” is a 13 day/12 night journey for students to find artifacts and sites that defined Ancient Greek culture mixed in with modern Greek “living” culture of the people. Greece is one of those countries where the ancient and modern coexist and are irrevocably linked in defining the culture. Modern cities and towns are next to, right on top of, or sometimes in the shadow of ancient sites and this breeds a deep connection to the past for the modern population. This connection is not just for the Greek people in Greece but also those of Greek heritage especially in Tarpon Springs, Florida. This connection is kept alive by the Sister Cities agreements that Tarpon Springs still holds with various cities/islands in Greece. This journey will also honor these agreements by visiting some of the Sister Cities, and maybe even be part of a new agreement.

Day 1 - Monday, May 13

We will be traveling from the U.S.A. to Athens, Greece overnight.

Day 2 - Tuesday, May 14

We arrive in Athens, Greece in the morning and take a Private Bus from the airport to the hotel where we will check-in and get refreshed before an Orientation Walking Tour. On the tour the group will become oriented with their neighborhood, the public transportation systems, nearby pharmacies, markets, ATMs, etc. Additionally, an in-depth safety briefing will be provided for what to do in case of an emergency. We will then have our Welcome Dinner included in the trip.

Day 3 - Wednesday, May 15

We will start the day with included breakfast at hotel. We will then walk up and tour the Athenian Acropolis to study the Parthenon temple, Temple of Athena Nike, Propylaea, Erechtheum, and other ruins on site. After we finish there and have lunch (student expense), then we will go to the New Acropolis Museum for the afternoon. At the end of the day we will go to

the Plaka area near Monastiraki station and dinner on our own (student expense). Afterwards, back to the hotel for overnight in Athens.

Day 4 -Thursday, May 16

After the included breakfast at hotel we travel to Delphi, the ancient center of the world for the Greeks and the center of prophecy. The day journey will includes a walk up the Sacred Way, past the Treasuries, the Temple of Apollo, the Theater of Dionysus, and the Stadium where the Pythian Games were once held. We then will find some lunch on our own (student expense) before touring the Delphi Museum. When we return to Athens we will have some Cultural time and if time we can explore the Agora and/or Theaters around the Acropolis. Dinner will be downtown around Gazi area around Kerameikos station (student expense). Finally back to the hotel for overnight in Athens.

Day 5 - Friday, May 17

We will start the day with included breakfast at hotel and then we will take a train to the port at Piraeus then take a ferry to the nearby island of Aegina. Once settled at the hotel we will explore the city for lunch (student expense) and then either travel to the Holy Monastery of the Holy Trinity OR prepare to hopefully be a part of the signing for a new Sister City agreement with Tarpon Springs and Aegina. Students will be on their own to find their own dinner (student expense) if there is not a dinner at the agreement. At the end of the evening, we are back at hotel for overnight in Aegina.

Day 6 - Saturday, May 18

When we start in Aegina with included breakfast at hotel, we will get ready to get on the ferry from Aegina to the port at Piraeus. From there we will take the train to Athens airport and students will get lunch on their own (student expense) before we fly to the island of Kos. Once in Kos, if time, we will visit the ancient medical center, the Asklepieion and then explore the city area for dinner (student expense). We will stay overnight in Kos hotel.

Day 7 - Sunday, May 19

From the Kos hotel included breakfast we will then catch the ferry to the island of Kalymnos, one of the early Sister Cities with the city of Tarpon Springs. After getting settled at the hotel, we will meet with some local representatives, have lunch (student expense), and get a look at the experience of island culture on this particular island (each island has its own culture). We will get dinner in Pothia (student expense) and then back to hotel.

Day 8 - Monday, May 20

We start the day with included breakfast at hotel and then travel to the Monastery at Agios Savva, one of the main monasteries on each of the islands in Greece. Back to Pothia for lunch (student expense) and then visit the medieval site of Chrysocheria Castle. We will have dinner in Pothia (student expense) and then overnight at the hotel.

Day 9 - Tuesday, May 21

We will start the day with included breakfast at hotel in Kalymnos and depending on the ferry schedule we will have some cultural explorations and lunch in Kalymnos (student expense). We will then take a ferry from Kalymnos to the small island of Halki. Halki is another Sister City to Tarpon Springs with a long connection to the city. After settling in at the hotel, we will work on a traditional dinner with some local representatives. We close the day at the hotel overnight in Halki.

Day 10 - Wednesday, May 22

Starting the day in Halki with the included breakfast at hotel, we will then meet with some local people for Sister City association and experience small island life culture and we will discuss the comparisons of these different cultures on different islands. After lunch (student expense), we will take a ferry from Halki to Rhodes. We will check in at the hotel and have an evening in part of the Old Town of Rhodes and find dinner (student expense). We have the first overnight in the hotel in Rhodes.

Day 11 - Thursday, May 23

We will start the day with included breakfast at hotel and then go on a walking tour around the Old Town of Rhodes, finding lunch along the way (student expense). In the afternoon, we may meet with representatives from the University of the Aegean and maybe have a tour and cultural exchange. Dinner in the Old Town (student expense) and then overnight at the hotel.

Day 12 - Friday, May 24

After included breakfast at hotel we will take a day trip to the small island and other Sister City, Simi. We will try to meet with local people for Sister City association and have lunch (student expense) in the main city. After lunch, we will take ferry to other side of island to Sacred

Monastery of Saint Archangel Michael the Panormitis. This site connects directly to Tarpon Springs as the monastery at Panormiti dedicated to St. Michael was a major influence on the famous St. Michael's Shrine in Tarpon Springs. After we return to Rhodes there will be some cultural exploration time and then dinner (student expense). Back to the hotel to settle in for the day.

Day 13 - Saturday, May 25

On our last day of this trip, we will start the day with included breakfast at hotel before the bus tour exploring the iconic East coast line of Rhodes down to Lindos. Lindos has one of the oldest Acropolis sites in the region and will give us a nice close to the trip since we will start with the famous Athenian Acropolis. We will have lunch in Lindos (student expense), and after lunch we return on the Bus tour to the villa at Kalithea, and the town of Faliraki. We return back to the hotel and prepare for our Farewell Dinner (included in the trip). We will return to the hotel to get ready for our departure day the next day and overnight in Rhodes.

Day 14 - Sunday, May 26

We will start our last day with included breakfast at hotel. We will get our flight to Athens and then connect with our international flight back to the U.S.A.