

Greece 2026

Travel Dates: December 11 - 21, 2026

Day 1 - Friday, December 11

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

Day 2 - Saturday, December 12

- We arrive in Athens, Greece in the morning and take a private Bus from the airport to the hotel.
- We will check-in and get refreshed before an Orientation Walking Tour. On the tour, we will become oriented with their neighborhood, the public transportation systems, nearby pharmacies, markets, ATMs, etc.

Meals Included

Welcome Dinner

Day 3 - Sunday, December 13

- We will start the day with breakfast at the hotel. We will then have a walking tour of the different parts of Athenian Acropolis: The Parthenon temple, Temple of Athena, Propylaea, and Erectheum. These sites are in dedication to the goddess of victory, Athena.
- After we finish there and have lunch, we'll spend the afternoon at the New Acropolis Museum.
- At the end of the day, we'll head to the Plaka area near Monastiraki for dinner.

Meals Included

Breakfast

Day 4 - Monday, December 14

- Today, we will 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 will have lunch after touring the Delphi Museum. It is one of the principal museums of Greece.
- If there is time, we will have a quick visit in the town of Arachova. It is famous for skiing as it is a mountain town and a sweet-smelling cheese called formaela.
- When we return to Athens, we will have some cultural time and dinner.

Meals Included

Breakfast

OR

- We will start the day by taking a train to the port at Piraeus then a ferry to the island of Aegina.
- Once settled at the hotel, we will explore the following sites:
 - Holy Monastery of the Holy Trinity is one of the oldest existing of the Meteora monasteries.
 - Temple of Aphaia. This temple is a tribute to the goddess of fertility and agriculture, Aphaia.
- We will have lunch in the port town and have cultural time or meet with some political representatives from the Sister City agreement with Tarpon Springs and Aegina.
- We will take a ferry back to Athens to have some Cultural time and dinner.

Meals Included

Breakfast

<u>Day 5 – Tuesday, December 15-Olympia and Amaliada/ Sister City</u>

- Today, we will travel along the northern coast of the Peloponnesus to get to the city of Olympia.
- We will have lunch and a quick tour of the town area of Olympia. It is where the ancient Olympic Games were held.
- We may be meeting at the local capital of Amaliada, the political center of the region of Ilida, which is a Sister City of Tarpon Springs. We may be meeting with local regional officials or a possible tour of an olive oil production facility to learn about the importance oil production has been in this region for many millennia.
- We will have some Cultural time and dinner.

Meals Included

Breakfast

Day 6 – Wednesday, December 16-Ancient Olympia/Ilida/Sister City

- We will travel to the Ancient Olympia site for the day. We will explore the Ancient ruins of the birthplace of the Olympic Games including the temple of Zeus and the temple of Hera, which is where the Olympic flame is lit for every modern Olympic games.
- After leaving the archaeological site, we will have lunch and then go to the National Archaeological Museum in town. This museum is home to the richest collection of Greek Antiquity artifacts.
- When the museum visit is over, we will end the day with dinner and cultural time.

Meals Included

Breakfast

<u>Day 7 – Thursday, December 17-Zakynthos</u>

- We will travel to the city of Kyllini to catch a ferry to the Ionian island of Zakynthos. Here we have a full day at the Festival of Saint Dionysius, the island's patron saint, creating a unique opportunity to observe an authentic Greek Orthodox religious celebration in the community setting.
- In the evening, we catch the ferry back to the mainland and then short drive back to Olympia. We will end the day with dinner and cultural time.

Meals Included

Breakfast

Day 8 – Friday, December 18-Kalamata

- We will travel from Olympia to Kalamata. This city is known for the Kalamatianos dance, Kalamata olives, and Kalamata olive oil.
- We will have lunch and then meet with civic leaders in conjunction with a possible Sister City agreement or attend a local cultural event.
- Then we will have some cultural time before getting dinner downtown.

Meals Included

Breakfast

<u>Day 9 – Saturday, December 19- Kalamata to Nafplion</u>

- We start the day in Kalamata and then travel to Nafplion. Once a capital of Greece, it is also famous for its Venetian architecture and wonderful Old Town.
- We will tour the Old Town and port getting lunch along the way.
- Then we will enjoy some cultural time before dinner near the hotel.

Meals Included

Breakfast

Day 10 – Sunday, December 20-Mycenae and Athens

- We will travel to the ruins of Mycenae. It is known for its role in the mythical Trojan War.
- After a quick lunch, we head back to Athens and get ready for any last cultural time or packing before we have our farewell dinner.

Meals Included

Breakfast

Farewell Dinner

Day 11 - Monday, December 21-Athens

• We will begin our last day with breakfast at hotel. We will get to the airport in Athens and then connect with our international flight back to the U.S.A.

Meals Included

Breakfast