



We Know Greece  
*handcrafted journeys*

# Essential Greece

*2023 Itinerary & Departures*

Athens-The Acropolis, Delphi-The Oracle, Meteora-Hot Gates,  
Kastoria-Alexander the Great, Santorini-Akrotiri.



# 2023 Departures

April 8

May 19

June 1

June 9

June 30

September 1

September 22

**Essential Greece** is a unique experience curated and crafted from over 35 years of experience. We made sure to include everything.

While in Greece, enjoy our warm hospitality, and the peace of mind of having your local guide accompany you throughout your journey.

Private transfers, exceptional accommodations, breakfast, traditional meals, drinks, visits to amazing landmarks and off the beaten path places are only the beginning of what you will discover.



## **Day 1 - Departures from United States**

Flights from the United States to Athens arrive the next day.

## **Day 2 - Arrive in Athens**

We will meet and greet you at the airport. Private transfer to your hotel.

Early in the afternoon, gather with your guide and fellow travelers for a short walk under the Acropolis. A traditional Greek welcome dinner will follow.

*Overnight in Athens*

## **Day 3 - The Acropolis**

We'll visit the famous Parthenon at the Acropolis one of the greatest icons of the ancient world. Time at your leisure to explore the landmarks and picturesque neighborhood that surrounds the Acropolis.

In the afternoon we'll visit the port of Piraeus. We will enjoy a freshly caught dinner by the sea at Mikrolimano.

*Overnight in Athens*

## **Day 4 - The Oracle**

We will travel north to Delphi, The Oracle. Upon arrival, admire a breathtaking view of the area while enjoying light appetizers and refreshments. A visit of the Oracle will follow. The Oracle once housed Apollo's prophets who used their gift of prophecy to serve as consultants to the ancient classical world.

Enjoy Greek style lamb chop dinner tonight at a nearby village.

*Overnight in Delphi*



## Day 5 - Hot Gates-Meteora

Our first stop today is at the Hot Gates (Thermopylae), where in 480 BC King Leonidas led his 300 Spartan warriors into battle against an army of thousands of Persians.

We will continue on to Meteora, a location known for its unique cliffs and massive rock formations. At the tops of these incredible rock pillars sit old monasteries that seem almost suspended in the air. Light lunch under the rocks.

Our journey today will continue to the Byzantine city of Kastoria. Dinner at the old town.

*Overnight in Kastoria*

## Day 6 - Kastoria

Kastoria is a beautiful city nestled in a valley surrounded by limestone mountains. Its charming lake encompasses a large perimeter of the city, and is a point of pride for the locals. This city hosts a treasure trove of Byzantine history and has preserved many Greek traditions. Easy walk around the lake as we visit an 11th century monastery, and the Dragon's Cave.

Early in the afternoon we will meet a local family and take part in traditional festivities with a customary Greek celebration and dinner with traditional lamb on the spit and more!

*Overnight in Kastoria*

## Day 7 - Alexander The Great

Morning visit of Vergina, a must see destination for anyone familiar with Alexander the Great. A tour of the impressive new museum that houses King Philip's tomb, father of Alexander the Great, will follow.

Late lunch in Thessaloniki before we fly over to Santorini.

*Overnight in Santorini*

## Day 8 - Santorini

Morning visit to the fascinating ancient archaeological site of Akrotiri. This Bronze Age settlement was buried in volcanic ash after an eruption in the 17th century BC, similar to the phenomena found in Pompeii.

*Overnight in Santorini*

## Day 9 - Catamaran Cruise

We will take a catamaran cruise around the famous Galdera and the sunken volcano. There will be stops for swimming and snorkeling. We will enjoy a delicious BBQ meal prepared on the spot, with Greek appetizers and drinks.

*Overnight in Santorini*

## Day 10 - Departures from Greece

A private transfer will take you to Santorini airport for your flight to Athens.

Continue your journey back home or let us know if you'd like ideas for an extension within Greece or Europe.



**\$ 7,130 per person**  
*In a single room*

**\$5,140 per person**  
*Sharing a double room*

**\$4,770 per person**  
*Sharing a triple room*

### Included

Private transfer upon arrival in Athens with meet & assist.  
Hotel in Athens for two nights. Breakfast and taxes included.  
Welcome dinner.  
Guided tour of the Acropolis, with entrance tickets.  
Dinner at a fish tavern by the sea.

Private transfer from Athens to the Oracle, Delphi.  
Light lunch at Delphi.  
Delphi entrance tickets and guided tour.  
Hotel in Delphi for one night. Breakfast and taxes included.  
Dinner at Arahova.

Private transfer from Oracle, Delphi to Meteora via Hot Gates.  
Private guided tour at Meteora and a visit at a monastery.  
Entrance fees included.  
Light lunch at Meteora.  
Private transfer from Meteora to Kastoria.  
Hotel in Kastoria for two nights. Breakfast and taxes included.  
Dinner in Kastoria.  
Guided tour of Kastoria, with all entrance fees included.  
Local celebration at a private venue with traditional dinner.

Private transfer to Vergina, Alexander the Great's birthplace.  
Guided tour of King Phillipos' tomb. Entrance fees included.  
Private transfer to Thessaloniki airport.

Late lunch/dinner at Thessaloniki.  
Flight from Thessaloniki to Santorini with one stop in Athens.  
Hotel in Santorini for three nights. Breakfast and taxes included.  
Guided tour to Akrotiri with entrance fees included.  
Catamaran cruise. Dinner on cruise included.  
Private airport transfer to Santorini airport.  
Domestic non-stop flight from Santorini to Athens.

All domestic flights are in economy class and include seat assignments, carry-on, personal item and one checked bag up to 50lbs.

Unlimited soft drinks, coffee, tea, beer, white and red wine are included at all meals.

Private, bilingual local guide throughout the trip.  
Professional licensed guides at the monuments.

All taxes & fees.  
All gratuities included.  
Participation in a small group of 18 guests maximum guaranteed.  
Guaranteed departures for 2023 are  
**April 08, May 19, June, 01, 09, 30,  
September 01, 22.**

### Not Included

Cancellation, medical or travel insurance.  
International tickets from USA to Athens, Greece.

### How to Book this Trip

Please send us a request by email ([info@weknowgreece.com](mailto:info@weknowgreece.com)) or text us at 210-445-8048. We will need a copy of the photo page of your passport by email or text. If you don't have a passport yet we need your full names and date of birth as they will appear on your passports.  
Name changes are not permitted for domestic airline tickets.

### Travel Insurance

Your trip is changeable (fees apply) but non-refundable. We strongly recommend buying travel insurance.  
We recommend travel insurance plans from two of the most reliable travel insurance companies:

AIG Travel Guard  
[www.travelguard.com](http://www.travelguard.com)

Allianz Travel insurance  
[www.allianztravelinsurance.com](http://www.allianztravelinsurance.com)

### Payment Options

50% deposit upon booking and final payment 90 days before departure.

20% deposit upon booking and 6 or more equal monthly payments, interest-free. (Must be booked at least 6 or more months prior to departure) Final payment must be made prior to departure.

*Aerial photo of Kastoria*