



MITALUMNI Travel Program

Ancient Greece

with Santorini and Crete

June 8-21, 2025

14 days from \$7,692 total price from Boston, New York
(\$6,995 air & land inclusive plus \$697 airline taxes and fees)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel + Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.



An Exclusive Small Group Tour for Alumni & Friends
of Massachusetts Institute of Technology

MITALUMNI Travel Program

Dear MIT Alumni and Friends,

We invite you to travel with us on an exclusive 14-day small group journey to discover the grandeur of the ancient world in Greece and experience the beauty of the Aegean isles. Classical Greece comes to life at unmatched archaeological sites, on idyllic islands and alongside Athens' contemporary life.

We begin our tour in Athens, visiting the city's treasured sites and tour the city's most important sites, including the 5th-century Acropolis and Parthenon. After touring the National Archaeological Museum, explore Ancient Corinth. We take a private boat excursion to tranquil Hydra and visit the archaeological sites of Mycenae and Epidaurus. Next is a three-night sojourn in the Cretan capital, Heraklion. Here visit the Minoan Palace and the renowned Archaeological Museum, board a private boat for a cruise to Spinalonga and spend time at a Cretan olive oil farm. During a two-night stay on the island of Santorini, enjoy a tour and tasting at a winery and tour the archaeological site of Akrotiri. Our Grecian sojourn concludes with a final afternoon and evening in Athens.

Space on this exciting program is limited and will fill quickly. Call Odysseys Unlimited at 888-370-6765 and book today!

Sincerely,



Melissa Chapman Gresh, MIT Alumni Travel Program

MIT ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM RESERVATION FORM: ANCIENT GREECE

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited's office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**

Attn: Special Interest Groups

One Newton Place

275 Washington Street, Suite 300

Newton, MA 02458

ANCIENT GREECE • JUNE 8-21, 2025

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender ____ (needed for secure flight info)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender ____ (needed for secure flight info)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request an upgrade to _____

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)

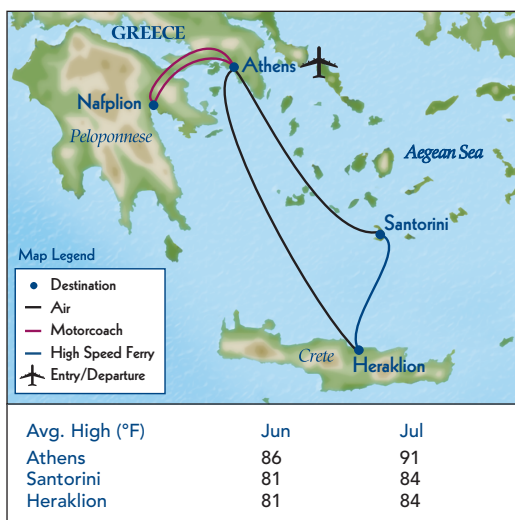
Ancient Greece

with Santorini and Crete

14 days from \$7,692 total price from Boston, New York

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Unearth the grandeur of the ancient world on this singular journey combining premier archaeological sites with the beauty and lore of the Aegean and her isles. As the ancient world comes alive in Athens and the Peloponnese, Crete and Santorini, we celebrate the glory that was Greece – and still is today.



Day 1: Depart U.S. for Athens, Greece

Day 2: Athens After our arrival in the Greek capital, there's time to relax at our hotel. As guests' arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities or meals planned for today.

Day 3: Athens On this morning's tour we visit the city's most important sites, including the 5th-century Acropolis and Parthenon, and the renowned Acropolis Museum, housing artifacts only from the site itself. Then the afternoon is at leisure for independent exploration; ancient sights, monuments, and museums abound. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner at a hotel. *B,D*

Day 4: Athens/Cape Sounion Today's excursion takes us to Cape Sounion, where we explore the ruins of the ancient Greek Temple of Poseidon, dating to the 5th century BCE. Dedicated to the mythical god of the sea, the temple poses a stunning sight, standing high on a rocky headland surrounded on three sides by the cobalt waters of the Aegean. Following our visit, we enjoy lunch along the Athenian Riviera before we return to Athens, with the remainder of the day free for independent exploration. Dinner tonight is on our own in this cosmopolitan city. *B,L*

Day 5: Athens/Corinth/Nafplion This morning we visit the National Archaeological Museum, home to the world's most significant collections of Greek artifacts. We then depart by coach to the Peloponnesian Peninsula, Greece's southernmost region separated from the mainland by the Corinth Canal. En route we visit the ruins and museum of Ancient Corinth, one of the country's largest cities in antiquity that was demolished by the Romans (146 BCE), who then rebuilt it a century later. Today, only low stone walls, foundations, and several Corinthian columns remain as testimony to the mighty city that once flourished here. The site boasts a strong connection to Christianity: Paul wrote his two letters, First and Second Corinthians, here; and we see the altar where he preached. This afternoon we reach our hotel in Nafplion and dine there tonight. *B,L,D*

Physical Activity Level

4 Moderate/Challenging

Walk 4-6 miles per day, often uphill, on uneven terrain especially at archaeological sites, and on marble surfaces that can be slippery; archaeological sites in Greece require walking on steep grades; occasional long walks from motorcoach drop-off to sights and hotels; many stairs of varying height throughout tour

Your Tour at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Athens		
2-4	Athens	NJV Athens Plaza	Deluxe
5-7	Nafplion (Peloponnese)	Ippoliti Hotel	Sup. First Class
8-10	Heraklion (Crete)	Aquila Atlantis Hotel	First Class
11-12	Thira (Santorini)	Santorini Palace Hotel	First Class
13	Athens	Sofitel Athens Airport	Deluxe
14	Depart Athens for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



On Day 3 we visit the Acropolis in Athens.

Day 6: Mycenae/Epidaurus It's a day steeped in ancient history as we first tour the imposing ruins at Mycenae, a UNESCO site that represented the pinnacle of civilization from the 15th to the 12th centuries BCE. A key influence on the development of classic Greek culture (and hence Western civilization), Mycenae also is linked to Homer's epics, *Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. We see the Tomb of Agamemnon, with what was the world's highest and widest dome for more than a thousand years, and the Lion's Gate, the only known Bronze Age monumental sculpture in Greece. We move on the vast archaeological site and museum of Epidaurus, with its 2,300-year-old theater – a master-piece of Greek architecture known for its perfect acoustics – still in use today. Long associated with healing and medicine, Epidaurus comprises one of the most complete sanctuaries remaining from antiquity. Then we return to Nafplion, where the afternoon is free for lunch on our own and perhaps to explore this gem of a Venetian/Byzantine town with picturesque narrow streets, fortifications, and a bounty of waterfront cafés. Tonight, we enjoy dinner together at a local *taverna*. *B,D*

Day 7: Nafplion/Hydra This morning we travel to the port of Metohi, where we board a private boat for the ride to Hydra, the car-free Saronic island where donkeys provide the transportation. After lunch together at a local *taverna*, we have free time to enjoy this picturesque island as we wish. Late afternoon we return to Nafplion for an evening at leisure. *B,L*

Day 8: Nafplion/Heraklion, Crete En route to Athens this morning we stop to see the Corinth Canal, cutting at sea level through the narrow Isthmus of Corinth to the Saronic Gulf in the Aegean. We continue on to the Athens airport for the 50-minute flight to Crete, arriving mid-afternoon in Heraklion,

the Cretan capital. After checking in at our hotel, we enjoy an afternoon at leisure; this evening we take a walking tour of the Venetian/Ottoman-influenced town center prior to dinner at a local restaurant. *B,D*

Day 9: Heraklion/Knossos This morning we visit one of the greatest museums in all of Greece: Heraklion's Archaeological Museum housing artifacts from 5,500 years of Cretan history, from the Neolithic period to Roman times. The museum is especially renowned for its Minoan collection, much of which was excavated from the ruins of the palace of Knossos – and which we explore next. Once the political center of Minoan civilization and legendary home of King Minos, the Labyrinth, and the Minotaur, Knossos is considered Europe's "oldest city" and the largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete. After lunch together, we visit a Cretan olive oil farm to learn about the history of olive oil production and to enjoy a tour and tasting. We dine together in Heraklion tonight. *B,L,D*

Day 10: Heraklion/Spinalonga/Kritsa After an hour's drive this morning, we board a private boat for a cruise through the Bay of Elounda to Spinalonga, a former Venetian island fortress later occupied by the Ottomans then used as a leper colony from 1903 to 1957. Then we move on to the picturesque village of Kritsa, set on a sloping rock hill surrounded by olive groves. Here we visit the Byzantine-era Panagia Kera church, known for its frescos and rich iconography. After lunch together, we have time at leisure to explore Kritsa's narrow streets lined with traditional houses. We return to Heraklion in time for dinner on our own tonight. *B,L*

Day 11: Crete/Santorini We depart this morning by high-speed ferry for Santorini, southernmost of the Cycladic islands. Once believed to have been the



LEAVE THE ROAD,
TAKE THE TRAILS.”

– PYTHAGORAS

legendary lost island of Atlantis, Santorini today attracts both Greeks and visitors alike with its stupendous setting of cubiform whitewashed houses sitting atop the jagged cliffs of a crescent-shaped caldera. Upon arrival we visit a local winery for a tour and tasting then have free time in the town of Firostefani for lunch and to explore on our own. *B,D*

Day 12: Santorini Today we tour Santorini’s archaeological site of Akrotiri, a Bronze Age Minoan location that was abandoned in the 17th century BCE following a volcanic eruption – whose ash also preserved the excavations that we now see. This afternoon we head to the town of Oia, known for its iconic whitewashed architecture and stunning views. *B*

Day 13: Santorini/Athens This morning we encounter Santorini from another perspective, as we embark on a private cruise around the island and its caldera, the flooded volcanic crater that forms Santorini’s half-moon shaped bay. Then we transfer to the airport for the flight to Athens, where tonight we celebrate our Greek odyssey at a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 14: Depart for U.S. We transfer to Athens’ international airport this morning, where we connect with our return flight home. *B*



Old ways endure ...



On Day 10, we cruise to Spinalonga.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 12 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, and First Class hotels
- 24 meals: 12 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 7 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Tour Departs: June 8, 2025

Prices include int'l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Boston, New York	\$7,692
Chicago, Washington, DC	\$7,992
Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia	\$8,092
Los Angeles, Miami, Minnesota, Orlando, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Tampa	\$8,192
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$6,495

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$697, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,495. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – \$5,495 per person; Premium Economy – \$1,795 per person (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change). Upgrade prices are in addition to the costs above.

Please contact Odysseys Unlimited directly with all trip inquiries and to make a reservation. Their travel consultants are eager to take your call and answer your questions.

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at

888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you secure space on this tour. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on the secure on-line portal, My Odyssey.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas, if required; immunizations and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; optional sightseeing; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 64-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.**

Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Responsibility: The liability of MIT and the MIT Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. serves only as agent for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The MIT Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. Odysseys will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. Odysseys regrets that they cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of their tour itineraries, for reasons beyond their control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail Odysseys to inquire and Odysseys will do their best to answer any questions you may have. Odysseys reserves the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in their opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, the MIT Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

Tour participants must fully review the tour operator's cancellation and refund policies, as the tour participant's financial commitments are directly with the tour operator, with all tour funds being paid to the operator. The purchase of a comprehensive travel insurance policy is highly recommended. The MIT Alumni Travel Program provides further information about the Travel Program and the relationship between the Alumni Association and the tour operator online at: <http://alum.mit.edu/travel/about>

MITALUMNI

Travel Program

600 Memorial Drive
Cambridge, MA 02139
617-253-8200

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JOIN US FOR
AN MIT-EXCLUSIVE
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*Guaranteed Small Group:
Limited to 24 Guests*

