Greek Island Explorer





Day 1 | Arrive Athens (2 Nights)



Let it sink in – the fact that you're standing in what was once the center of the western world, where the likes of Socrates, Aristotle and Plato offered their wisdom and insights which have stood the test of time. Your launch pad to a Greek island adventure begins in the capital, where you'll be met on arrival and transferred to your hotel. There's plenty of time to relax on the islands, so lace up your walking shoes and discover the city your way. Later, join your Travel Director and fellow travelers for a glimpse into what lies ahead.

Hotel: Zafolia

Day 2 | Athens sightseeing and free time



The Acropolis looms large over Athens and today you'll get up close and personal with this ancient citadel. Your Local Specialist reveals its extraordinary history that spans thousands of years as you view the archaeological remains of temples, theaters and the mighty Parthenon, considered the most important building to survive Classical Greece. You'll view the Panathinaiko Olympic Stadium, the Temple of Zeus and Hadrian's Arch, stopping in Syntagma Square to admire the curiously clad Evzone guards at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The rest of the day is yours to explore Athens on your terms, but with ancient history on your mind you may wish to embark on an Optional Experience to see the 5^{th} -century BC Temple of Poseidon at Sounion. This evening, if the sizzle of street food hasn't already captured your attention, you may wish to join your fellow travelers for an optional traditional dinner at a favorite city taverna.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: 7afolia

CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Mythical Sounion - Take a relaxing trip down to the southernmost tip of Mainland Greece to see the 5th Century B.C Temple of Poseidon at Sounion. See if you can spot where Byron carved his initials on one of the temple's columns and marvel at the sheer rugged beauty of the surrounding coastline as you uncover classical Greek history.

Adult: 50.00 EUR

Athens at Night - Treat yourself to a quintessential Greek travel experience, enjoying a 'meze style' dinner in the vibrant nightlife district of Athens, Psiri. Dine like the locals with free-flowing wine and traditional dishes, served in the centre of the table to share, so you can experience all the flavours of Greek cuisine.

Adult: 56.00 EUR

Day 3 | Athens - Santorini (3 Nights)



Don't resist the urge to slow it all down as you leave the busy cityscape behind and catch a high-speed ferry to Santorini. The spectacular volcanic eruption in 1646 BC had quite the magic touch on its dramatic landscape. After checking in and an orientation tour, you'll have some time on your own, followed by dinner at your hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Kamari Beach

Day 4 | Santorini free time



Don't waste a second of your time lazing on the sunsoaked beaches of Santorini when you can ascend to its highest point for stunning views instead. This Optional Experience will reveal the iconic landscapes of the Cyclades you've only seen in photographs – the gleaming whitewashed buildings, cerulean blue domes and tumbling cerise bougainvillea. An alternative Optional Experience could see you board a caïque fishing boat to the volcano instead, soaking in its warm thermal waters and healing mud against the backdrop of Santorini's enchanting cliff-top villages. This evening, there's no better place to bid farewell to another beautiful island day than in Oia. After an optional afternoon wine tasting paired with local meze, you'll stroll through its marble streets to our favorite sunset spot to capture the Instagram shot of the trip.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Kamari Beach

CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Santorini Island Tour With Visit To Akrotiri - Take a tour of Santorini's must-visit destinations, from the ancient village of Akrotiri to the black sand beach of Perivolos. Kick things off with a drive to the highest viewpoint on the island, Profitis Ilias, before we make our way to village of Pyrgos to admire iconic Cycladic architecture and later explore the Bronze Age village of Akrotiri. Top off the tour with a leisurely swim on the black beach.

Adult: 70.00 EUR

*You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Akrotiri Unearthed - This morning embark on an unforgettable quest, driving through amazing landscapes and picturesque villages. Today you will discover Santorini's true essence and learn its fascinating history spanning from antiquity to modern times. Step into antiquity as we visit one of the most significant archeological sites of Greece, the prehistoric settlement of Akrotiri. Almost 4 millenniums ago, a huge volcanic eruption, buried the whole city in ash, preserving this bronze aged settlement also referred as "Greek pre-historic Pompeii". Santorini is also famous for its wine production and the distinctive local varieties. Our next stop of the day is a local Santorini winery where we enjoy a variety of local "meze" (Greek hors d'oeuvres) and sample the locally produced wines. Learn about the "kalathies" vines and the unique way that locals have grown grapes for centuries. Later in the afternoon, visit the idyllic village of Oia, known as one of the

prettiest spots on the island. With its white-washed houses resting on the clifftops of the caldera, blue -domed churches sprinkled along the charming narrow alleys, cute cafés and restaurants overlooking the volcano, a visit to Oia is iconic experience and a must see!

Adult: 85.00 EUR

* You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Day 5 | Santorini free time



Indulge in another full day to explore Santorini your way. You could choose one of several Optional Experiences to fill the day or stroll through Fira's narrow streets shopping for last-minute souvenirs, clothing and jewelery. Incredible views of the Caldera are never far as you explore the island's ancient paths, villages and beaches on your own. Why not make the most of your final evening in Santorini, sampling the local culinary delights with uninterrupted views of the Aegean Sea? There's always time for one last ouzo.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Kamari Beach

CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Sunset On Board - Set sail on board our large wooden "caique" towards the dormant volcano Nea Kameni. Whether you opt to climb the volcano or relax on board, you'll have the chance to swim in the thermal hot springs before enjoying a casual dinner with wine, music and good company. Enjoying the striking colours of a Santorini sunset, with views of Oia in the distance, you'll love this once-in-a-lifetime travel experience.

Adult: 85.00 EUR

* You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Traditional Greek Wedding Show - This is one travel experience you won't soon forget! Experience the plate-smashing rollicking good time of a traditional Greek wedding with this vibrant, interactive musical. Meet the family and be part of the story as you eat, drink, dance and break plates in the traditional customs as you settle in for the Greek Wedding Show.

Adult: 65.00 EUR

* You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Day 6 | Santorini - Mykonos (3 Nights)



Bound for the island playground of Mykonos. All that stands between you and the sun-kissed shores of the Cyclades is a short high-speed ferry ride. After transferring to your hotel and a short orientation tour, Mykonos is yours for the taking so don't hold back and seek out your favorite island spots for the rest of your stay. Whitewashed houses line the narrow streets and life is rather idyllic behind the colorful wooden shutters that shield the locals from the warm Mediterranean sun. Dinner tonight is included and you'll need no excuse to stay out late, indulging in the island's renowned nightlife.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Alkistis

Day 7 | Mykonos free time



Snap your fingers and you'll be on the other side of the island. Well, almost. You could choose to spend your day exploring tiny Mykonos your way or join your fellow travelers for an optional Island Tour driving through arid landscapes to some of its most celebrated beaches. Before you dip your toes into the water, you'll visit Ano Mera village whose 16th-century monastery is dedicated to the protectress of Mykonos. Then continue to the beautiful Blue Flag beach of Kalafatis.

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Alkistis

CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Ultimate Mykonos Experience - Today we explore the vibrant Island of Mykonos, driving through amazing Cycladic landscapes, admiring some of its splendid beaches and scenic locations. Our exploration begins with a visit to the traditional village of Ano Mera and its famous Monastery dedicated to the protector of the island, before continuing to Kalafatis Beach to enjoy a swim in the beautiful Aegean Sea.

Adult: 52.00 EUR

Day 8 | Mykonos free time



Grab your front-row seat to the goings-on in Mykonos's old port as you sit perched on one of the brightly painted wooden balconies characteristic of Little Venice. There's time today to wander through the shopping streets of Chora village and see the 16th-century windmills of Kato Mili that look out over the bay. For history lovers, there's no better way to spend your day than joining an optional visit to nearby Delos, the legendary birthplace of Apollo and his twin sister Artemis. On this captivating exploration of what was once the most important site in ancient Greece, you'll see many artefacts that have been collected in the ruins of this sacred site. After a day of sightseeing, you'll want to make the most of your final evening in this island playground. Seek out a taverna with beautiful views of the sunset and toast to another day in paradise with new friends.

Meals: Breakfast **Hotel:** Alkistis

CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Ancient Delos - Join us for a boat ride to Delos, the legendary birthplace of the God Apollo and his twin sister Artemis, which is today one of the most important archaeological sites of the eastern Mediterranean. Explore the remains of the Temple of Apollo, the sanctuary of Artemis, the old city, the theatre and more before touring the famous Museum of Delos to admire historic artefacts.

Adult: 84.00 EUR

Day 9 | Mykonos - Athens (1 Night)



Leaving island life behind, it's time to return to Athens for a final exhilarating encounter with the vibrant Greek capital. Transfer to your Athens hotel, then spend the evening in the narrow lanes of Plaka following your nose past its 19th-century façades to find the best souvlaki in town. A lively evening lies ahead if you've yet to have your fill of good times with good friends. Keep your toes tapping to the street music that fills the air and find a taverna with your name on it.

Meals: Breakfast
Hotel: Zafolia

CHOICE OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Traditional Greek Taverna Meal With Entertainment - Travelling through Greece means one thing: food, glorious food! Immerse yourself in the authentic culture of Athens with an excursion to a traditional taverna. Savouring the sumptuous flavours of Greek food and your drink of choice, you'll enjoy watching dancing and musical performances as you dine. Later, when the official events wrap up, you're welcome to stay in the taverna to mingle with the locals.

Adult: 59.00 EUR

Day 10 | Depart Athens



Your journey through Athens and the Greek islands reveals why ancient Greece was the chosen land for gods and goddesses, philosophers, poets and famous personalities. As you prepare for your return journey and long after you arrive home, you'll remember the generous spirit, postcardperfect scenery and legacy of the ancients that are among the many gifts that Greece has given you. Say farewell to your new friends at the end of your holiday. Find out more about your available transfers at costsavertour.com/transfers.

Meals: Breakfast