



# Greece – Yesterday & Today

## September 10 - 21, 2009



Explore the civilization of ancient Greece as reflected in the monuments and archaeological sites that cover the Greek landscape. Athens, the National Archaeological Museum, the Acropolis, and the world-renowned temple of the Parthenon are the perfect starting place for this program, providing an introduction to the country's long and complex history. The exquisite monuments of Athens will illustrate the finest artistic achievements of the Classical Age. At Olympia, visit the remains of the Temples of Zeus and Hera, and the site of the first Olympic games. Take an optional cruise of the Greek Islands.



### Escorted by Robert Brasier:

Your escort, working artist, art historian and teacher Robert Brasier is Deputy Director of Education and Public Programs at the Palm Springs Art Museum in California. He received a BFA in Painting from the San Francisco Art Institute and an M.A. in Art History from The University of Cincinnati. Brasier has held teaching positions at Xavier University and the University of Cincinnati in Ohio and continues his passion for teaching by giving lectures, training docents and teaching classes for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute of California State University San Bernardino, Palm Desert Campus. A guiding principle in his career has been that art making, art history and art appreciation are all ways of exploring and understanding ourselves through the mirrors of the outside world. The ancient civilizations of the Greek mainland and islands offer a terrific opportunity for this kind of exploration.

### Food: An Insight Into Culture

Celebrating food as another way to gain an understanding of a culture, you will visit local food markets, enjoy meals in select authentic local restaurants, and hear Chefs talk about some of their favorite dishes.

**UNESCO World Heritage Sites:** The Archaeological Site of Delphi, The Acropolis, Athens, Meteora, Archaeological Site of Epidaurus, Medieval City of Rhodes, Archaeological Site of Olympia, Mystra

**People to People Experiences:** Meet the Greek people at a specially arranged dinner at a local taverna in the Plaka, Athens.

**Sample Lectures:** "What We Think We Know: The Shadow of the Renaissance & Neo-Classical Eras," "Early, Middle & Late: Understanding the periods of Greek Art," "Rock Stars: Fame & Fortune for Ancient Greek Artists," "Humanism in Sculpture & Architecture," "Myths, Gods & Men."

### Day 1 - Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> - Thursday

#### USA / Athens, Greece

Depart on a regularly scheduled flight to Athens, Greece.

### Day 2 - Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> - Friday (D)

#### Athens

Arrival at Athens Airport where you will be met by our representative and escorted to your hotel. Spend the rest of the day at leisure. Evening lecture, then after dinner enjoy a walk of the



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Plaka, which is the old Turkish quarter of Athens located on the northeastern slope of the Acropolis. Electra Palace Hotel

**Day 3 - Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> - Saturday (B, L, D)**

**Athens**

Visit the famed Acropolis and the Parthenon. The Acropolis (meaning "high city") saw the construction of temples during the Mycenaean Age. These were destroyed by the Persians in 480 B.C. Pericles began to rebuild the city of temples, which was regarded as the zenith of Classical Greece and the Golden Age of Athens. The crowning temple is the Parthenon, designed with mathematical genius. To achieve perfect form, the foundation was built slightly concave with the fluted Doric columns slightly convex, to make both look straight. Visit the Acropolis Museum, which houses a splendid collection of Archaic and Classical Greek sculpture. A lecture on Greek politics is planned for the evening. A people-to-people experience is planned at a local taverna. Electra Palace Hotel

**Day 4 - Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> - Sunday (B, D)**

**Athens / Kalambaka**

Begin your journey of exploration to the great sites of classical Greece by traveling through the countryside to Kalambaka. This city was destroyed by the Nazis in WWII. It is now a modern city close to Meteora and its rock-top monasteries. Since the 11th century, solitary hermit monks have lived in the caverns of Meteora. Access to the monasteries was first controlled by removable ladders, then windlasses hauled monks up in nets. Steps have now been hewn into the rocks. Hotel Divani Meteora

**Day 5 - Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> - Monday (B, L)**

**Kalambaka / Delphi**

Visit the Church of the Metropolis dating back to the 14th century. Wall paintings dating back to the mid-18th century still exist. Then begin your journey to Delphi. Built on Mt. Parnassos, overlooking the Gulf of Corinth, Delphi's setting is stunning. According to mythology, Zeus released two eagles at opposite ends of the world, and they met here. Visit the Archaeological Museum, which includes one of the most famous statues of ancient Greece, the Charioteer (a life-sized bronze statue), and the statue of Antinoos and the Naxian Sphinx. Delphi Palace Hotel

**Day 6 - Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday (B, D)**

**Delphi / Olympia**

Visit the sanctuary at Delphi, dedicated to Apollo. Pilgrims bearing gifts came to ask advice of its oracle. The Delphi oracle was believed to be Apollo's mouthpiece and was the most powerful in Greece. Battles were fought, marriages contracted, journeys embarked upon, and business deals closed on the strength of its guidance. In 191 BC Delphi was taken by the Romans, and the oracle's power dwindled. It was consulted on personal rather than political

matters. Travel to Olympia.  
Europa Hotel Olympia

**Day 7 - Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday (B, D)**

**Olympia**

Olympia, the most holy place in ancient Greece and site of the first Olympic Games. View the remains of the great Temple of Zeus; the Temple of Hera, one of the earliest known examples of the Doric style of architecture; the famed Museum with one of the world's major sculptures, "Hermes" by Praxiteles; and the Stadium that gave birth to the Olympic Games. Europa Hotel Olympia

**Day 8 - Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> - Thursday (B, L)**

**Olympia / Kalavrita / Nauplia**

Early morning departure for Patras. After a short stop, continue on to Diakofto where you will leave your motor coach and board a funicular train for the ride to Kalavrita. Visit the Aghia Lavra Monastery then return to Kalavrita for lunch at a local taverna on the square. Visit the Mega Spileon monastery. Continue on to Nauplia, the first capitol of Greece. Hotel Grande Bretagne

**Day 9 - Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> - Friday (B, D)**

**Nauplia - Mycenae and Epidaurus**

After breakfast, embark on a sightseeing program of Nauplia. Orchards laden with ripe fruits stand in the foreground. Beyond them lies the calm Bay of Nauplia with a picturesque Venetian fortress in between. The first Greek school and Parliament were established in Nauplia. In the church of Agios Georgios, Capodistrias, the first Governor of Greece, was sworn into office and the first King of Greece took the oath of allegiance. Visit the famous citadel of Mycenae, inhabited since 3,000 B.C., from which Agamemnon set forth for the war with Troy. Visit the ruins, including the famous Lion Gate and the Tomb of Agamemnon. Travel to Epidaurus, one of the great centers of medicine in the ancient world. It was the sanctuary of Aesculapius, the god of medicine and antiquity. Designed by Polyclitos to accommodate over 14,000 spectators, the theater in Epidaurus will provide a highlight of the visit to this site. This magnificent theater is one of the marvels of Greece with its remarkable acoustics. Return to Nauplia for a walking tour of the city. Hotel Grande Bretagne

**Day 10 - Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> - Saturday (B, L)**

**Nauplia / Corinth / Athens**

Travel to Corinth and view the columns of the Temple of Apollo. In the afternoon you will have lunch in Loutraki followed by sightseeing. A lecture on the Greek press will be presented in the evening. Electra Palace Hotel

**Day 11 - Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> - Sunday (B, D)**

**Athens**

Visit the National Archaeological Museum containing a collection of priceless treasures from the past. The museum should provide an excellent review of the various periods of Greek history. You will also view the imposing Temple of Olympian Zeus, largest of the ancient temples of Athens; Hadrian's Arch, dating from Roman times; and the Temple of Theseus, the best-preserved Doric temple in all of Greece. A special farewell dinner is planned at the Dionysius Restaurant, which faces the Acropolis.  
Electra Palace Hotel

**Day 12 - Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> - Monday (B)**  
**Athens / USA**

Transfer with assistance to the airport for your flight back to U.S.A.

B - Breakfast

L - Lunch

D - Dinner

Drinks are not included.

## PROGRAM PRICE

**\$2,995** p.p. double occupancy Land Only - Plus Airfare (does not include international airfare, giving you the flexibility to use frequent flyer miles or search the internet for the best airfares available.)

**\$795** single-room supplement

## PROGRAM EXTENSION GREEK ISLAND CRUISE

**Day 12 - Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Monday (B, L, D)**

**Athens / Piraeus / Mykonos**

Transfer to Piraeus, the seaport of Athens, where you will board your cruise ship and travel westward through the Saronic Gulf and out into the waters of the Aegean Sea. Arrive at Mykonos, one of the most charming of the Aegean Isles; with its quaint streets lined with white-washed houses, its charming boutiques with their Greek handicrafts, and its thriving night life.  
Aquamarine Cruiseship

**Day 13 - Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Tuesday (B, L, D)**

**Mykonos / Santorini / Heraklion**

Morning arrival at Santorini, the volcanic crescent-shaped island believed to be the legendary lost city of Atlantis that disappeared beneath the sea. Sail to Heraklion, Crete's capital and home of the Minoan civilization. Travel though the countryside on an optional excursion to the famed Palace of Knossos, center of the brilliant Minoan civilization where the legendary Minotaur once prowled the Labyrinth. These ruins, which range from 3,000 to 4,000 years in age, long predated the cities of mainland Greece and existed more than 1,000 years before

the building of the Parthenon. If you wish, you may ask to be dropped off and visit the Heraklion Museum; an easy walk back to the ship.

**Day 14 - Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Wednesday (B, L, D)**  
**Rhodes**

Dock at Rhodes, home of the Sun God Apollo. Rhodes' harbor was once dominated by one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Colossus of Rhodes. Explore the walled medieval city of the Knights of St. John, swim and sunbathe on the glittering Elli beaches, or take an optional excursion to the ancient Acropolis of Lindos, dominated by a majestic fort overlooking the bay at St. Paul.

**Day 15 - Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> - Thursday (B, L, D)**  
**Kusadasi / Patmos**

Early morning arrival at this popular Turkish port and doorway to a rich ancient history. Take an optional excursion to Ephesus, a marbled city of libraries, temples, the Great Amphitheater, and the fabled Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Sail to the sacred island of Patmos, and visit the monastery of St. John the Evangelist and the grotto where he wrote "The Revelations" while in exile.

**Day 16 - Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> - Friday (B)**

**Piraeus / Athens / USA**

Transfer with assistance to the airport for your flight back to U.S.A.

## EXTENSION PRICE

**\$795** per person double cabin - Inside

**\$895** per person double cabin - Outside

**\$995** per person double cabin - Stateroom

**\$395** single-cabin supplement - Inside

Accommodations and meals as listed in the detailed itinerary. All shore excursions are optional and are purchased on the ship. Price does NOT include the **\$95** port taxes per person (subject to change). Cruise itinerary or vessel may change without notice.

## PROGRAM FEATURES

- \* Services of a specially selected professional English-speaking national guide throughout the program.
- \* All air and land transfers with assistance.
- \* All gratuities and taxes for hotels, meals, and services as indicated in the itinerary.
- \* Transfers, including baggage handling, by private motor coach.

# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## RESERVATIONS & DEPOSITS

Early reservations are essential. A deposit of \$500.00 per person is required at the time of registration. Balance is due 60 days prior to departure with an additional deposit due 90 days prior to departure. All pricing is in \$US dollars.

## SINGLE TRAVELERS

Accommodations are based on double occupancy. Single accommodations are sometimes difficult to obtain but should a request be made, TravelLearn, Inc. will do its best to secure these accommodations.

## AIR FARE / FLIGHT ITINERARY

We can assist you with getting airfare. There is a \$50 per person air ticket fee for this service. Tickets are express mailed to you with your final documents approximately two weeks prior to your departure.

## BAGGAGE

Airline baggage restrictions vary greatly from airline to airline. The most common, on regularly scheduled flights to and from the U.S. is two checked pieces, the total dimensions (Width+Height+Length) of which do not exceed 107 inches provided neither piece exceeds 62 inches. One unchecked piece of carry-on luggage, the total dimensions of which do not exceed 45 inches. Please note that some destinations have not approved the piece count rules, and the international weight rule of a maximum of 44 lbs. still applies.

## ELIGIBILITY / HEALTH

Information on health requirements for this program will be mailed to you upon registration. We recommend that all travelers check with their personal physician about medications and inoculations. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment must be reported in writing when the reservation is made. By forwarding a signed registration form and trip deposit, you certify that you do not knowingly have any physical or other conditions of disability that would create a risk for you or other trip participants. We assume no responsibility for medical care or for special dietary requirements. Hospital facilities for serious problems are often unavailable and evacuation can be prolonged, difficult, and expensive. A parent or guardian for the entire journey must accompany individuals under the age of 18. There is no maximum age limit, but all participants must be in good health and physically fit. The Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of a program or to require any participant to withdraw from a program at any time when such action is determined to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the group or individual.

## NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR COST

Cost of obtaining passport or visa; expenses on the U.S. mainland; personal expenses such as beverages; laundry; phone calls; faxes; cables; travel insurance; excess baggage fees; items not on regular menus; expenses of guides, buses, or cars for sightseeing not included in the itinerary; gratuities to guides; airport taxes and other items not mentioned as being included. Transfers to / from the airport unless schedule is sent to TravelLearn.

## CANCELLATION / INSURANCE

TravelLearn, Inc. is required to make various deposits to reserve accommodations, transportation arrangements, tickets, etc. in organizing these Learning Vacations. Therefore, if you must withdraw from the program, irrespective of reason after your date of registration you will forfeit whatever portion of the deposits that cannot be retrieved from various airlines and land operators plus a \$100 cancellation penalty per person. The expected cancellation penalties are as follow: From the date of registration to 90 days prior to departure - \$100; 89 to 60 days prior - 30% of total program price; 59 to 30 days prior - 60% of price; less than 29 days prior to departure - refund, if any, will be only the amount recovered by TravelLearn, Inc. Cancellation penalties vary with different types of airfares. No refund will be made for unused portions of the trip and all cancellation/ withdrawal notifications MUST be received in writing. The date the WRITTEN cancellation is received by

TravelLearn, Inc. will determine the cancellation date. If final payments are not made by the designated date it will be assumed that the participant has withdrawn from the travel program and cancellation fees will be charged accordingly. Cost increases may occur unexpectedly. Rates are based on group tariffs; if the trip does not have sufficient registration, a small party supplement may have to be charged. The Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. may be compelled to amend prices, and we reserve the right to do so without prior notice. An increase in trip prices shall not be sufficient grounds for any refund of funds paid for the trip other than our normal cancellation policy terms. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. Insurance is a personal matter, the Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. encourages each participant to consider the purchase of trip cancellation, baggage, and all other forms of travel insurance to provide the level of protection deemed necessary. TravelLearn, Inc. will provide information on insurance options for this program after the receipt of your registration. The right is reserved to cancel any trip prior to departure, in which case full refund of the paid trip funds to the Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. will be given, but the Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. are not responsible for any other trip preparation expenses, such as penalized or non-refundable air tickets, insurance fees, visa fees, and medical expenses.

## DOCUMENTS / RESPONSIBILITY

Most destinations require a current passport, which has at least 6 months validity left from your intended return date. It is the responsibility of the passenger to ensure that he is in possession of a valid passport and travel documents, visas, and health certificates as required by countries visited. Any delays or cancellations created by clients doing their own visa processing is the sole responsibility of the client. Final documents will be express mailed to you approximately two weeks prior to your departure. Services in connection with this itinerary are rendered by suppliers acting as independent contractors and not as agents or employees of the Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. TravelLearn, Inc., its Owners, Outfitters, Agents, and Employees give notice that they act only as the agent for the owners, contractors, and suppliers providing means of transportation and/or all other related travel services and assume no responsibility whatsoever caused by injury, loss or damage to person or property in connection with any service resulting directly from: acts of God, detention, annoyance, delays, expenses arising from quarantine, strikes, thefts, pillage, force majeure, failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, civil disturbances, terrorism, government restrictions or regulations, and discrepancies or changes in transit or hotel services over which it has no control. Costs for each Learning Vacation were based on air fares and international exchange rates as of June 2008. The Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. has tried to prevent any additional charges and they do not anticipate that any increase will need to be made on the ground portion of these programs. The Educational Institution and TravelLearn, Inc. reserves the right to make changes or substitutions in the dates, itinerary, speakers/lecturers, or costs as it becomes necessary or desirable without liability to itself or its co-sponsoring or affiliated associations and organizations or their agents. In the event of the tour being cancelled by the operator, we shall have no responsibility other than the refund of all deposits and monies paid to him by tour participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of the tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. All cooperating airlines and steamship companies are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are on board; the limit of their liability is that of a common carrier and the passage contract in use by such carriers, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between companies and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Acceptance of the services of TravelLearn, Inc. by institutions and/or travelers constitutes acceptance by them of all of the above noted terms and conditions. The aforementioned conditions apply equally to the institutions cosponsoring this tour that assume no responsibility for any loss, injury, or damage to participants or their property in connection with any aspect of this tour.

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# Learning Vacation



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**TO REGISTER:** Please mail this completed registration form with your **\$500 per person** deposit check made payable to **TravelLearn Escrow Account** to:

**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
37-500 Cook Street  
Palm Desert, CA 92211**

For those who wish to pay by credit card please provide the information requested below:

\_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ Discover Card \_\_\_\_\_ AMEX

Full Name of Card Holder \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Digits on back of card \_\_\_\_\_

An additional deposit will be due **90 days prior to departure**. Full payment must be made **60 days prior to departure**. Enrollments received after this date must be accompanied by full payment.

ENCLOSED IS MY (OUR) PAYMENT TO RESERVE \_\_\_ SPACE(S) FOR THIS PROGRAM:

(Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Gender: M / F  
NAME (Participant #1) month / day / year

STREET ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIPCODE

(\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE HOME PHONE FAX E-MAIL ADDRESS

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR PASSPORT OCCUPATION

(Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Gender: M / F  
NAME (Participant #2) month / day / year

STREET ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIPCODE

(\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR PASSPORT OCCUPATION

PLEASE CHECK OR FILL IN ALL THAT APPLY:

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We would like to take the Optional Extension. Cabin Category \_\_\_\_\_

I will share a double room with \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like TravelLearn to find me a roommate (Smoking / Non-smoking).

\_\_\_\_\_ I am requesting a single room supplement.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We would like TravelLearn to assist with my air arrangements.

\_\_\_\_\_ I/We plan to make our own air arrangements (Land Only Price).

AGREEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING: I have examined the conditions under which enrollment is completed, along with program descriptions, costs, terms and conditions, and find them acceptable.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_