

Tour Guide...

...to destinations around Greece • summer of 2025 edition



www.bestaxi.eu

20 Summer

We make every route a memorable experience

Destination Ideas



Athens, © GNT0/YSkoulas

The Greek National Tourism Organisation is the copyright holder and exclusive user of the contained images. This publication's sole purpose is to inform travelers about Greece's tour destination options.

Cover photo: Peloponnese, Nafplio, Syntagma © GFilippini

COPYRIGHTS

All images posted in this website are protected by the Law 2121/1993 Copyright, Related Rights and Cultural Matters, Official Gazette A 25 1993. The use of these images is aimed at promoting Greece as a tourist destination. Photographers are mentioned inside every photo.

TOP 6

- 1 **Sounio Ride**
Athens is the best city in the world. It is not just the ancient world that is displayed before the thirsty for knowledge visitor. It is the sun of Attica and the wind of the Athenian sky that... [go to page 6](#)
- 2 **Meteora Full Day Tour**
Meteora literally meaning "middle of the sky", "suspended in the air" or "in the heavens above" is one of the largest and most important complexes of Greek Orthodox monasteries in Greece. The Metéora is included... [go to page 8](#)
- 3 **Delphoi – Arahova Full Day Tour**
"...the site of Delphi was believed to be determined by Zeus when he sought to find the centre of his "Grandmother Earth" (Ge, Gaea, or Gaia). He sent two eagles flying from the eastern and western... [go to page 10](#)
- 4 **Argolis Full Day Tour**
The Ancient Theatre of Epidaurus is regarded as the best preserved ancient theatre in Greece in terms of its perfect acoustics and fine structure. It was constructed in the late 4th century BC and it was finalized in two stages. Originally the theatre had... [go to page 12](#)



TOURS and RIDES

- 5 **Ancient Olympia Full Day Tour**
A tour that starts in Athens has many options. A very nice trip is in Ancient Olympia. The route starts and in 82 km, less than 60 minutes, we reach the Corinth Canal. There you can enjoy the beautiful view from the top and admire the brave trying to do bungee jumping. It is also a very good opportunity to have a coffee with the sea and... [go to page 14](#)
- 6 **Ancient Corinth Half Day Tour**
The tour starts with the best conditions and our first stop is at the Isthmus of Corinth. Many Athenians choose this route to enjoy delicious kebab on a stick, so you will not be able to escape the temptation, unless you are a vegan. The Isthmus of Corinth also offers excellent espresso overlooking Corinth Canal. The pass from the Corinth Canal is so spectacular that it is certain that your camera recordings will be fast-seller in social media. [go to page 16](#)

FUN FACT

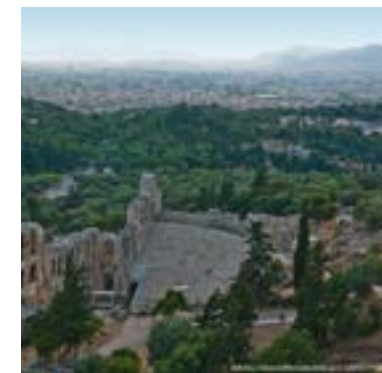
Did you know that most days of the year are sunny in Greece? 250, to be exact...!!!



Top-Rated Places in Athens · Acropolis of Athens · Odeon of Herodes Atticus · Acropolis Museum · National Archeological Museum · Greek Parliament · Athens Plaka · Athens Zappeion · Metropolitan Cathedral · Mikrolimano of Piraeus



ACROPOLIS OF ATHENS



ODEON OF HERODES ATTICUS



ACROPOLIS MUSEUM



NATIONAL ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM



GREEK PARLIAMENT



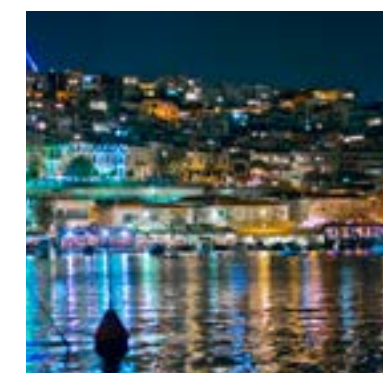
ATHENS PLAKA



ATHENS ZAPPEION



METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL



MIKROLIMANO OF PIRAEUS

Athens, Nightlife © GNT0 / HKakarouhas

Top-Rated Places in Athens · Acropolis of Athens · Odeon of Herodes Atticus · Acropolis Museum · National Archeological Museum · Greek Parliament · Athens Plaka · Athens Zappeion · Metropolitan Cathedral · Mikrolimano of Piraeus

Cape Sounio Ride

Athens is the best city in the world. It is not just the ancient world that is displayed before the thirsty for knowledge visitor.

It is the sun of Attica and the wind of the Athenian sky that enchant in their turn. The tour from Athens to Cape Sounio includes a wonderful walk in the cosmopolitan coastal avenue of Athens until the sun starts to glow at the sea.

Sounio is an ideal destination for swimming, nice food and coffee. The Temple of Poseidon is one of the must see spots in Athens and of course the whole region. The temple of the god of the sea touching the blue water with its edges in combination with the sky creates a scene inspired by Ancient Greece. The time when Macedonians and Athenians quarreled for the historic area of Sounio.

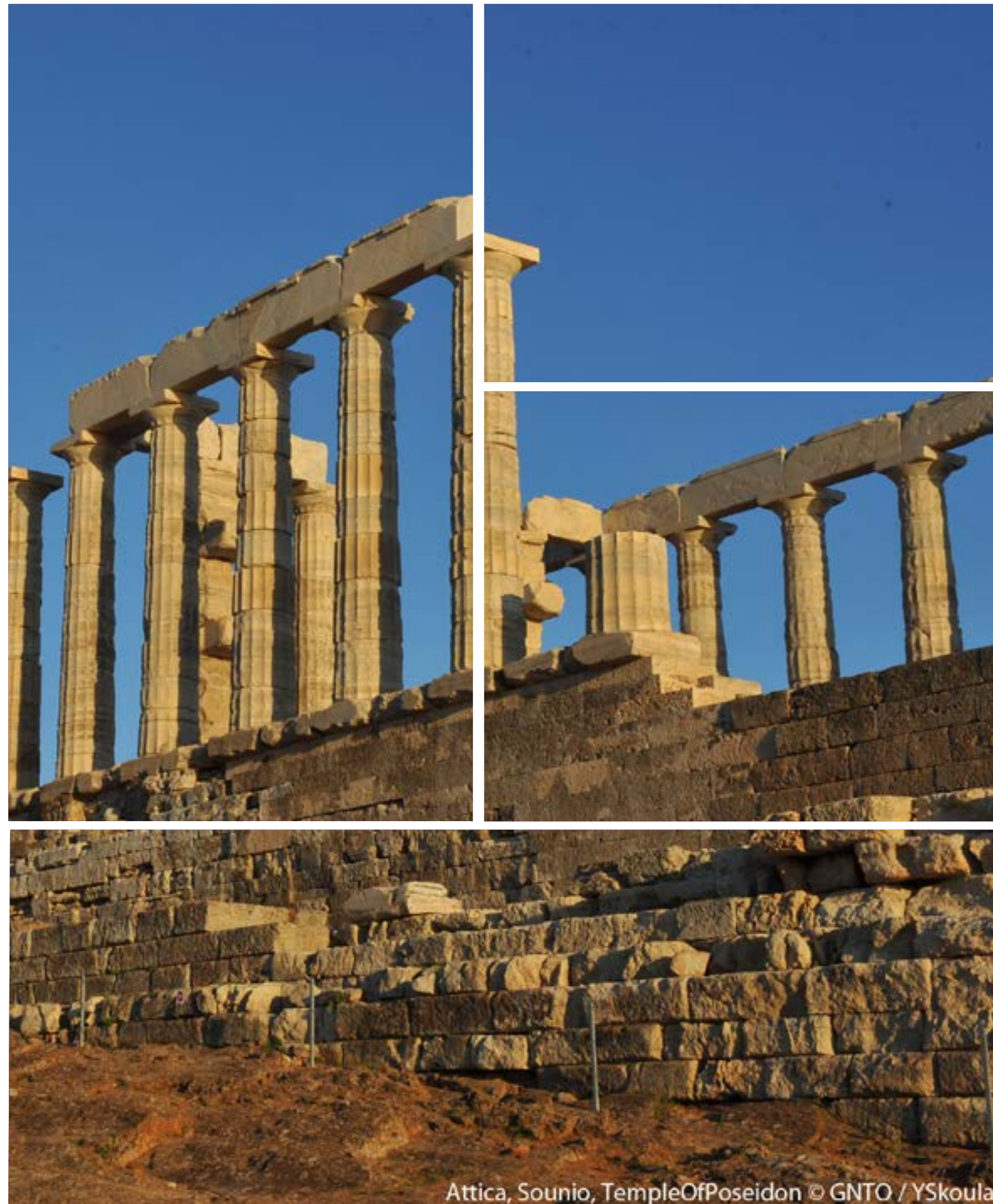
Visitors have the luxury to admire the ultimate combination tour: Nature and Antiquity, Sea and Kitchen, Enjoyment and Sun. The route to Sounio is only 60 km, but enough to take you to breathtaking landscapes. The Homecoming to Athens gives you the chance to repeat the enjoyment of the journey. It is a lifetime experience.

Tour Duration: 5^{1/2} - 6 hours

Tour price: € 180

FUN FACTS

CONTINUOUSLY INHABITED FOR OVER 7,000 YEARS, ATHENS IS ONE OF THE OLDEST CITIES IN EUROPE.



Attica, Sounio, TempleOfPoseidon © GNT0 / YSkoulas

Must See OR Do...

The temple of Poseidon, the ancient Greek god of the sea, dominates the southernmost tip of Attica, where the horizon meets the Aegean Sea. Perched on the craggy rocks of Cape Sounio, the temple is enveloped in myth and historic facts dated from antiquity until the present times.

Between myth and history

There are stories about the ship of King Menelaus who stopped briefly at Sounio on his way back from Troy; or about the unfortunate King Aegeus who drowned himself on that spot and the Aegean Sea got named after him; or about the people who built a temple using local marble to honour the god of the sea and safeguard the profits from the neighbouring Lavrio mines.

Decorative elements

The unknown architect is probably the same one who built Theseion in the Ancient Agora of Athens. He decorated the temple with sculptures made of Parian marble (i.e. from Paros Island), which depicted the labours of Theseus as well as battles with Centaurs and Giants (Gigantes). The remaining sculptures are showcased in the Lavrio Museum whereas the impressive kouroi [male youths] that once stood in the temple yard are now on display in the National Archaeological Museum of Athens.

Notice the Doric columns, count their flutes and you will see that they are less in number than those on other temples of the same period (mid 5th c. BC). This feature is also found in other seaside ancient temples, for instance in the Temple of Aphaea in Aegina etc.

What to do

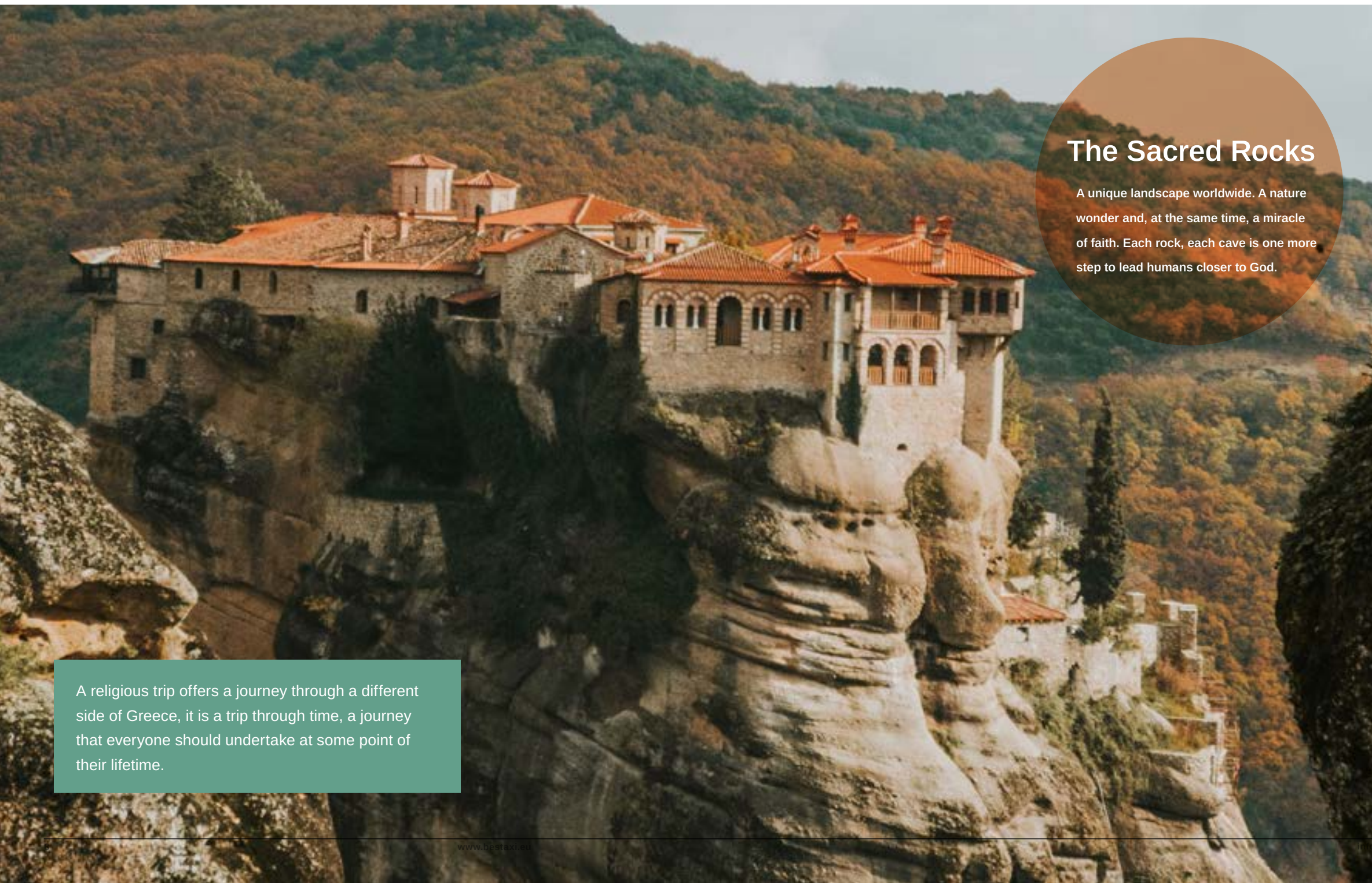
Make the most of your trip by indulging in a refreshing swim in the small beach by the foot of the temple of Poseidon or in any one of the neighbouring beaches in Legrena or Lavrio! Treat yourselves to some fresh fish and seafood in the local tavernas. Drink in the lovely sunset view next to your better half – in one of Attica's best locations – having the ancient temple as a backdrop and facing the deep blue sea!

Meteora Full Day Tour



Must see or do

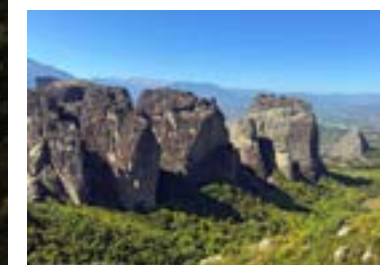
In the heart of mainland Greece, massive rocks, created millions of years ago, suddenly emerge before the visitor's eyes. Meteora is a unique geological phenomenon. At this unearthly beauty, one of the biggest monastic communities in the Orthodox history, has been flourishing and bearing fruit. During the 14th century, Saint Athanasios of Meteora founded the first monastery there, the Great Meteoron. Historical accounts show that there were 30 monasteries of Meteora total.



The Sacred Rocks

A unique landscape worldwide. A nature wonder and, at the same time, a miracle of faith. Each rock, each cave is one more step to lead humans closer to God.

A religious trip offers a journey through a different side of Greece, it is a trip through time, a journey that everyone should undertake at some point of their lifetime.

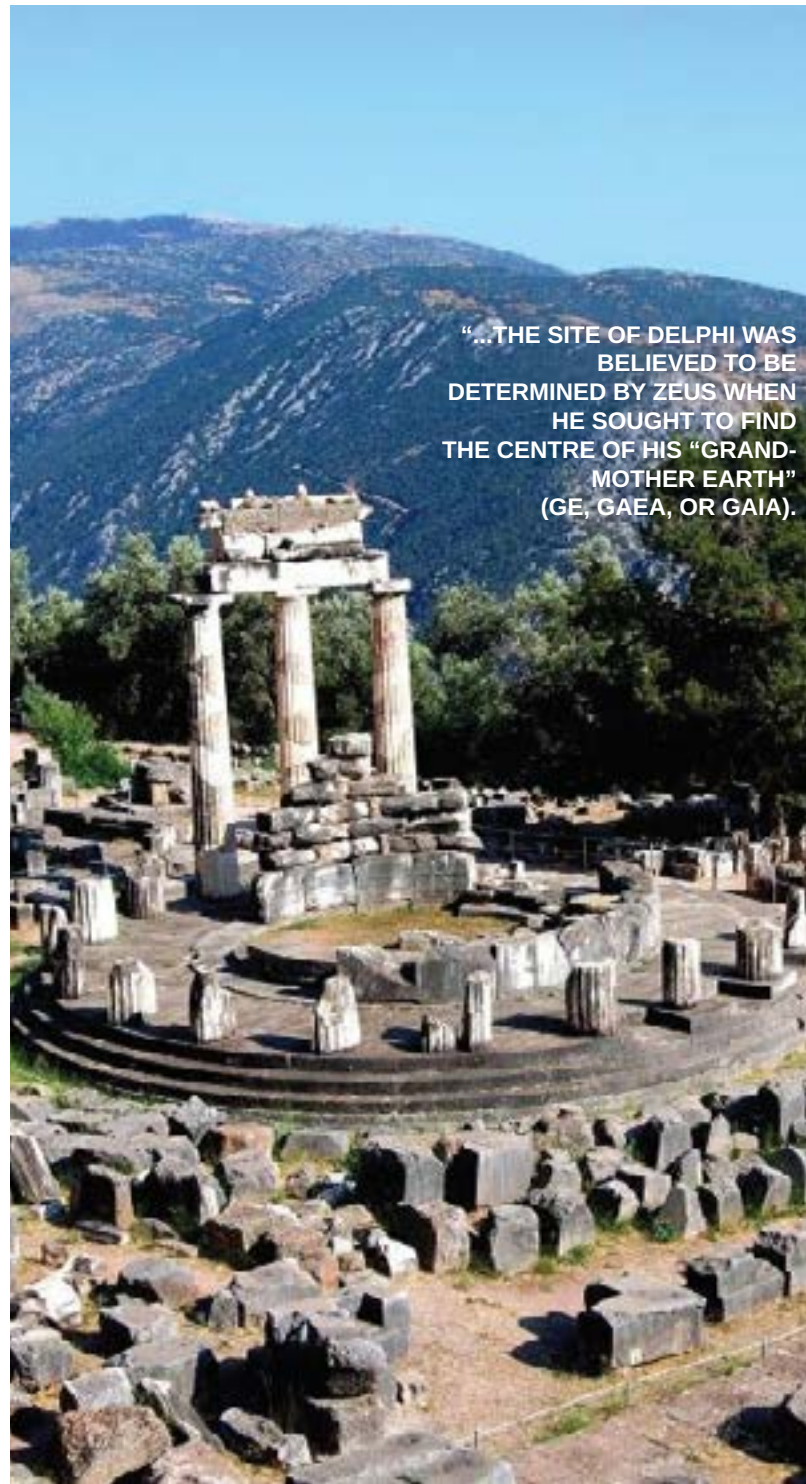


Today, six monasteries are visitable at Meteora; adorned with exquisite art hagiographies, unique libraries, significant monastery and church embroideries and many objects, utensils and heirlooms of the monastic art and life, which the devout visitor is there to see and experience, respecting the place as a place of prayer, devoutness, worship and communication with God. First stop is at Thermopylae. This is the famous place where the 300 of Leonidas, the king of Sparta, wrote in gold letters the battle of Thermopylae with their unsurpassed heroism. Meteora is one of the most popular parts of central Greece. Literally meaning "middle of the sky", "suspended in the air" or "in the heavens above" is one of the largest and most important complexes of Greek Orthodox monasteries in Greece. The area includes monasteries, of which 6 are visitable. We leave Meteora and we move on to Kalambaka for lunch. You cannot miss this opportunity to eat after such a long, but exciting path.

Tour Duration: 12 hours

Tour price: € 500

Delphi & Arachova Full Day Tour



“...THE SITE OF DELPHI WAS BELIEVED TO BE DETERMINED BY ZEUS WHEN HE SOUGHT TO FIND THE CENTRE OF HIS “GRAND-MOTHER EARTH” (GE, GAEA, OR GAIA).



Arachova Village, Near Delphi

Trip to the Navel of the Earth

Ancient Greeks believed that Delphi was the Navel of the Earth, a place seen as a spiritual focal point for all Greeks; it included many sanctuaries and the most prestigious oracle in all of ancient Greece. This is where Pythia, the high priestess, uttered the divine advice of god Apollo to mortals who travelled from across the world to seek a prophecy. Apart from Greeks, the Oracle was visited also by foreign leaders and dignitaries who were anxious to know the will of Apollo on important state affairs.

At a stone's throw from the archaeological site, you can visit present-day Delphi town, lying at the foot of Mt. Parnassus, near Arachova town. Choose the area for your winter holidays as it is close to Parnassus ski centre, or visit it any other time of the year and explore the beauty of nature and the nearby beaches. It's situated at a conveniently short distance from the mountain, the woods, the archaeological sites that are famous the world over, and some beautiful beaches.



A voyage to the history of Delphi

At the foot of Mount Parnassos, within the angle formed by the twin rocks of the Phaedriades, lies the Pan-Hellenic sanctuary of Delphi, which had the most famous oracle of ancient Greece. Delphi was regarded as the centre of the world.

According to mythology, it is here that the two eagles sent out by Zeus from the ends of the universe to find the navel of the world met. The sanctuary of Delphi, set within a most spectacular landscape, was for many centuries the cultural and religious centre and symbol of unity for the Hellenic world.

The earliest finds in the area of Delphi, which date to the Neolithic period (4000 BC), come from the Korykeion Andron, a cave on Parnassos, where the first rituals took place.

The remains of a Mycenaean settlement and cemetery were discovered within the sanctuary, but traces of occupation are rare and very fragmentary until the eighth century BC, when the cult of Apollo was established and the development of the sanctuary and the oracle began. The first stone temples of Apollo and Athena, who was also officially venerated under the name of “Pronaia” or “Pronoia” and had her own sanctuary, were built towards the end of the seventh century BC.

The sanctuary was the centre of the Amphictyonic League, an association of twelve tribes of Thessaly and the Sterea (south-central Greece), with religious and later political significance.

Between the sixth and fourth centuries BC, the Delphic oracle, which was regarded as the most trustworthy, was at its peak. It was delivered by the Pythia, the priestess, and interpret-

ed by the priests of Apollo. Cities, rulers and ordinary individuals alike consulted the oracle, expressing their gratitude with great gifts and spreading its fame around the world.

The oracle was thought to have existed since the dawn of time. Indeed, it was believed to have successfully predicted events related to the cataclysm of Deukalion, the Argonaut's expedition and the Trojan War; more certain are the consultations over the founding of the Greek colonies. It was the oracle's fame and prestige that caused two Sacred Wars in the middle of the fifth and fourth centuries BC. In the third century BC, the sanctuary was conquered by the Aetolians, who were driven out by the Romans in 191 BC. In Roman times, the sanctuary was favoured by some emperors and plundered by others, including Sulla in 86 BC.

Tour Duration: 8 - 9 1/2 hours

Tour price: € 330

Argolis, Epidaurus, Mycenae Full Day Tour



Ancient Corinth and Acrocorinth, Peloponnese

FUN FACTS

700 PLANT SPECIES OF GREECE ARE ENDEMIC, MEANING THAT THEY MAY BE FOUND ONLY IN GREECE; APPROXIMATELY 20% OF THOSE ARE AROMATIC OR MEDICINAL PLANTS..



Peloponnese, Epidaurus © GNT0/K. Vergas

Epidaurus: The seductive Siren of the Saronic Gulf

For many people, this word brings to mind the town's Ancient Theatre (c. 340-330 B.C.), a renowned monument included in UNESCO's World Heritage Site list as part of the Sanctuary of Asclepius, the god of medicine for the ancient Greeks. The dramatic performances staged in this theatre were watched by the god's patients, during their stay at the healing centre.

Since the 1950s, ancient theatre plays have been performed here every summer, as per the Athens & Epidaurus Festival programme. The Epidaurus area is in the Argolida region, in East Peloponnese, where you'll find beautiful seaside destinations with great beaches shaded by pine trees. Dive in crystal clear waters, go snorkelling & scuba diving, and discover a sunken ancient city; go hiking in the country and follow the paths that pass through ancient ruins, orange and olive groves; and visit traditional tavernas serving fresh fish & seafood from the nearby Saronic Gulf area, as well as other local dishes.

Tour Duration: 8 1/2 - 9 1/2 hours

Tour price: € 350

Where to go, What to do

Discover the land of Asclepius

Visit the popular Palaia Epidavros [Old Epidaurus] and enjoy a stroll along the picturesque quay and the seafront. Visit the area's gem, the Small Theatre of Epidaurus, where music performances take place in July. Book your accommodation here and try the delicious fish dishes served in the local tavernas.

Visit the remnants of the ancient Acropolis and the Roman Walls, the ruins of a palace and houses, the Doric-style columns of a temple, and the remains of Mycenaean graves, against the backdrop of the Saronic Gulf.

Stop by Lygourio, a small village with traditional coffee houses, quaint little shops and a beautiful slab-paved square. It's a must to eat here after you've watched an ancient theatre performance! Visit the Kotsiomiti Museum of Natural History.

Visit Agnountos Nunnery, which is a Byzantine monastery built in the 11th c. The main church is dedicated to the Dormition of Theotokos [the Assumption] and a feast is held each year on August 15th with hundreds of visitors coming from all over Greece. The nuns will offer you tasty loukoumi as a treat (a soft sweet that looks a bit like thick fruit jelly rolled in caster sugar).

Don't miss:

Diving in the 'sunken city' area, it's considered to be the local Atlantis. You'll get a clear view of Mycenaean graves, amphorae and walls, even with the naked eye. In some parts, you can see the remains of the ancient pier. Swim over this very special seabed, as colourful fishes pass you by. Make sure you wear water shoes or flippers, as there are sea urchins on the seabed. It'll be a fantastic experience!



Ancient Olympia

Full Day Tour

In the western Peloponnese, in the beautiful valley of the Alpheios river, lies the most celebrated sanctuary of ancient Greece.

Dedicated to Zeus, the father of the gods, it lies on the southwest foot of Mount Kronios, at the confluence of the Alpheios and the Kladeos rivers, in a lush green landscape. Although secluded near the west coast of the Peloponnese, Olympia became the most important religious and athletic centre in Greece.

Its fame rests upon the Olympic Games, the greatest national festival and a highly prestigious one world-wide, which was held every

four years to honour Zeus. The origin of the festival goes back centuries. Local myths concerning the famous Pelops, the first ruler of the region, and the river Alpheios, betray the close ties between the sanctuary and both the East and West. According to UNESCO's World Heritage website, there is probably no ancient archaeological site anywhere in the world more relevant in today's world than Olympia.

The stadium of Olympia, where the ancient Olympic Games were held, and the massive temple of Zeus, the largest temple in the Peloponnese, are the site's most significant attractions.



Ancient Greek Olympics

For a thousand years from 776 BC, every four years, people from all over the Greek-speaking world traveled to the site of Olympia to celebrate the ancient Olympic Games. Here athletes representing city-states across Greece and its colonies would compete in sports from boxing to chariot racing. Those who succeeded in this ultimate test of physical prowess would be treated as local heroes for centuries to come.

Walking around the archaeological Site of Olympia

The archaeological site of Olympia includes the sanctuary of Zeus and the various buildings erected around it, such as athletic premises used for the preparation and celebration of the Olympic Games, administrative buildings as well as other buildings and monuments.

The Altis, the sacred enclosure and core of the sanctuary, with its temples, cult buildings and treasuries, occupies the centre of the site. It is surrounded by a peribolos, or enclosure wall, which in the late fourth century BC had three gates on its west side and two on the south, and is bordered on the east by the Echo Stoa, which separates the sacred precinct from the stadium.

The Classical Temple of Zeus and the earlier Temple of Hera dominate the Altis. East of the Heraion is the Metroon, a temple dedicated to the mother of the gods, Cybele, and behind it, on the foot of Mount Kronios, a row of treasures that were offered by Greek cities and colonies. To their west lies the Nymphaion, a fountain dedicated by Herodes Atticus. South of the Heraion and over the remains of the prehistoric settlement of Olympia is the Pelopion, a funerary monument commemorating the hero Pelops. Within the Altis are the Prytaneion, the see of the sanctuary officials, and the Philippeion, an elegant circular building dedicated by Philip II, king of Macedon. Southeast of the Heraion was the great altar of Zeus, a most important monument entirely made of ashes and therefore now completely lost. The remaining space inside the Altis was filled with numerous altars and statues of gods, heroes and Olympic winners dedicated by Greek cities or wealthy individuals, such as the Nike of Paionios, that you can admire today at the Archaeological Museum of Olympia.

Outside the sacred precinct of the Altis, to its south, are the Bouleuterion and the South Stoa, the southernmost building of the greater sanctuary and its main entrance from the south. West of the Altis and separated from it by the Sacred Road is a series of buildings for the sanctuary personnel, the athletes and the distinguished visitors: the gymnasium and palaestra, exercise grounds, the Workshop of Pheidias, which in Late Antiquity was transformed into a Christian church, the Greek baths with their swimming pool, the Roman hot baths, the Theokoleion or priests' residence, the Leonidaion or officials' quarters, and the Roman hostels.

East of the Altis lies the stadium where the Olympic Games were held. South of the stadium was the hippodrome, of which no trace remains as it was swept away by the Alpheios river. South of the hippodrome is a group of mansions and baths, including the famous House of Nero, built by the emperor for his stay at Olympia during his participation in the games.

Tour Duration: 11 - 12 hours

Tour price: € 500

Ancient Corinth Half Day Tour

The prefecture's capital is the region's prominent administrative, commercial, financial and cultural centre. The city centre has wide roads, parks, squares and a picturesque port with fishing boats. Beautiful pedestrian walkways entice the visitors for a stroll, a coffee and shopping, with monuments, museums and historical sites surrounding the city.

Around the City. The settlement dating to 5000 B.C that was discovered in the Korakos region is testament to Korinthos' habitation since the Neolithic Age. In antiquity Korinthos was one of the largest and most important cities in Greece. It played a significant part during the Peloponnesian War and after 200 B.C it became the capital of the Achaean Confederation. Under Julius Caesar it was elevated to the capital of the Achaia province.

During the middle Ages it was associated with its impressive fortifications at Akrokorinthos (aka Akrocorinth). A powerful earthquake destroyed the city in 1858, which was rebuilt with good earthquake resistant specifications on a good town plan, 9 km to the north of the ancient city. The charming town of Palaia Korinthos is situated on the site of Ancient Korinthos. Korinthos is 84 km to the west of Athens.

FUN FACTS

THE FIRST PHILOSOPHER IS CONSIDERED TO BE THALES OF MILETUS (C. 624 – 425 B.C.). HE IS CREDITED AS GIVING THE FIRST EXPLANATION FOR THE ORIGIN OF THE WORLD THAT WAS NOT MYTHOLOGICAL



Corinth Canal, Peloponnese



The Route of Apostle Paul in Corinth, Peloponnese



Ancient City of AcroCorinth, Peloponnese



City of Corinth, Peloponnese

Must See...

The settlement dating to 5000 B.C. that was discovered in the Korakos region is testament to Korinthos' habitation since the Neolithic Age. In antiquity Korinthos was one of the largest and most important cities in Greece. It played a significant part during the Peloponnesian War and after 200 B.C it became the capital of the Achaean Confederation. Under Julius Caesar it was elevated to the capital of the Achaia province. During the middle Ages it was associated with its impressive fortifications at Akrokorinthos. A powerful earthquake destroyed the city in 1858, which was rebuilt with good earthquake resistant specifications on a good town plan, 9 km to the north of the ancient city. The charming town of Palaia Korinthos is situated on the site of Ancient Korinthos. Korinthos is 84 km to the west of Athens.

The archaeological site of Ancient Korinthos (aka Ancient Corinth) is 9 km NW of the modern city. You can see the ruins at Pirini fountain, the courtyard of Apollo, the foundations of a significant Roman basilica, the temple of the goddess Tyche (Fortune) or Apollo Klarios, the stores in the agora, the temple of Apollo, the ruins of the theatre and the Lerna fountain. The town of Akrokorinthos, at whose foot the ancient city was built, dates to circa 4000 B.C. The Archaeological Museum operates at the archaeological site (built in 1931-32) with an exhibition collection dating from the Prehistoric Period through to the Roman and Byzantine Period.

Akrokorinthos (the residence of the Sun God!). 3.5 km south of Ancient Korinthos, at the peak of a 575 m high hill, has always been the fortified acropolis of Korinthos. It is the oldest, largest and most impressive castle in the Peloponnese, whose walls were built during the middle Ages. It is worth seeing the ruins at the temple of Aphrodite, and the relics of the Christian Churches and the Turkish buildings, on the peak of the hill.

The Corinthian Canal. The idea for the canal, which connects the Saronic to the Corinthian gulf, was conceived by Periander (6th century B.C.); however, the canal was finally opened after Greece's independence, during the period 1882-1893. It has a length of 6,346 metres, a width of 24.6 metres at sea level and a depth of 8 metres.

Tour Duration: 5 - 5 1/2

Tour price: € 180

Your Travel Guide

Tour Guide to Destinations Around Greece • 2025 Edition



Creative Design - Desktop Publishing +30 6947801381 © 2022 © loukatos@gmail.com



Mob.: +30 694 665 6908 • www.bestaxi.eu • info@bestaxi.eu

