

# Historical Highlights of Greece

8 Days | Starts/Ends: Athens



*Discover ancient history and classical architecture on this 8-day group tour of mainland Greece. Enjoy a guided tour of Athens, visit the legendary Acropolis, impressive Meteora and the Delphi Sanctuary. Discover the northern province of Macedonia, Greece's second city of Thessaloniki and Thermopylae, where the Spartan King Leonidas made his heroic last stand against the Persians.*

## HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

### Trip Highlights

- Athens - Discover some of the world's most famous architecture, from the Panathenaic Stadium to the legendary Acropolis
- Macedonia - Explore the ancient capital of Pella, visit Aristotle's School and see the beautiful waterfalls of Edessa
- Meteora - Marvel at the magical and sacred cliff-top monasteries in one of the most beautiful regions of Greece
- Delphi - Follow in the footsteps of ancient pilgrims along the Sacred Way and admire the Temple of Apollo

- Thessaloniki - Enjoy a half day tour of the Byzantine churches and monuments in Greece's charming second city
- Thermopylae - Visit the site where King Leonidas made his infamous final stand against the Persians in 480BC

### What's Included

- 7 breakfasts and 4 dinners
- 7 nights 4 star hotels
- One Airport arrival on Day 1 and one departure transfer on day 8 per booking
- Guided sightseeing in Athens, Delphi, Meteora, Thessaloniki and Macedonia
- Services of an English-speaking tour guide for all scheduled sightseeing
- Entrance fees for all included sites
- All transfers and transportation in modern air conditioned vehicles
- Note: Touring is operated in conjunction with other tourist groups, not solely On The Go. You will join travellers who booked through other operators for sightseeing each day, some staying in different hotels, and spend your evenings at leisure. The group can vary in size from 20 - 45 persons. Guiding may be in an additional language to English

### What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture

- A hotel tax of €3.00 per room per night to be paid directly to the hotel at time of check in. Please budget Euro 21, for the duration of the tour. See Trip Notes for details.

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 : Welcome to Athens!

Welcome to Greece! On arrival in Athens, you will be met and transferred to our hotel. The rest of the day is free to head out and explore the city, an incredible contrast of the ancient and the modern. **Overnight - Athens**

### Day 2 : Athens City Tour



Today we embark on a guided coach tour of Athens. We take in important highlights of the city including the Temple of Olympian Zeus, the Zappeion and the Panathenaic Stadium, which is the only stadium in the world built entirely from marble. We also see the Greek Parliament and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

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This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

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Later we head to Athens' most iconic attraction - the legendary Acropolis. The Acropolis is an ancient citadel built atop a rock overlooking the city. As well as the amazing view, we take in the highlights of the site, including the Temple of Athena Nike, the Propylae and the most famous of all ancient Greek architecture, the Parthenon. We visit the Acropolis Museum and the afternoon is at leisure to wander the streets of the picturesque Plaka district. **Overnight - Athens (B)**

## Day 3 : The Delphi Sanctuary



Athens - Delphi - Kalambaka. Leaving Athens, we head north towards Delphi, which was once one of the world's most sacred sites and an important pilgrimage destination. We admire the UNESCO-listed Sanctuary of Apollo and follow the footsteps of ancient Greeks on the Sacred Way. Admire the remains of the Temple of Apollo, home of the legendary Pythian Oracle.

We then explore the local museum, which is home to the famous bronze statue of the Charioteer. After our visit, we cross the mountains of Central Greece to Kalambaka. **Overnight - Kalambaka (B, D)**

## Day 4 : Meteora & Thessaloniki



Kalambaka - Meteora - Thessaloniki. Today we visit Meteora, where tiny sacred monasteries perch atop incredible towering rock formations. Meteora is considered one of the most beautiful regions in the whole of Greece and the view from the cliffs is breathtaking.

After our visit to Meteora, we continue our drive north. Pass through the striking plain of Thessaly and the Valley of Tempi. Our drive leads under mighty Mount Olympus, home of the twelve Gods in Greek mythology. We arrive in the northern city of Thessaloniki for the night. **Overnight - Thessaloniki (B, D)**

## Day 5 : Exploring Thessaloniki



We spend this morning exploring Thessaloniki, taking in its most important landmarks and monuments, embracing the glorious Byzantine history of the city. See beautifully decorated churches and visit the Museum of Byzantine Culture. After our tour, the afternoon is at leisure. **Overnight - Thessaloniki (B, D)**

## Day 6 : Historical Macedonia

Today we explore the Greek province of Macedonia, not to be confused with the country of North Macedonia which is located just across the border. Our first stop is Edessa,

where we marvel at the city's picturesque waterfalls. We then visit Aristotle's School, where a young Alexander the Great was taught the doctrines of morals and politics by the famed philosopher.

We also take in the Royal Tombs of Macedonia at Vergina. The father of Alexander the Great, King Phillip II is buried here. The final stop of today is Veria, home to the ancient Bema of St Paul. We also browse the colourful market and take in the Jewish neighbourhood before returning to Thessaloniki. **Overnight - Thessaloniki (B, D)**

## Day 7 : Pella, Dion & Thermopylae



Thessaloniki - Athens. Today we begin our journey back to the Greek capital. On the way, we stop at the ancient city of Pella, which was once the capital of Macedonia, and the birthplace of Alexander the Great. Admire the exquisite floor mosaics of the site and explore the new local museum.

We then take in the famous archaeological park of Dion, an ancient Macedonian sanctuary at the foot of Mount Olympus. Our final stop of the day is Thermopylae, where the Spartan King Leonidas made his heroic final stand against the Persians in 480BC. On arrival in Athens, your final night in Greece is at leisure. **Overnight - Athens (B)**

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## Day 8 : Athens



Today marks the end of our Greek adventure. Enjoy a final breakfast in the hotel before check out. An airport transfer will be provided.  
(B)

### PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 persons. Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' is compulsory for solo travellers or if your booking party cannot reach the minimum of 2 persons in a room and the amount needs to be added to the per person price. The single supplement offers the comfort of your own room and is also available to any other person wanting their own room.

### PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
01 Apr	USD 1,945	USD 2,755