

# HELLENIC DELIGHT

15 DAYS / 13 NIGHTS – ATHENS / SANTORINI / CRETE / ISTANBUL



## YOUR TOUR INCLUDES:

- All inter-island transportation (air and sea)
- 2 nights hotel accommodations in Athens
- 4 nights hotel accommodations in Santorini
- 4 nights hotel accommodations in Crete
- 3 nights hotel accommodations in Istanbul
- All round trip transfers from airport to hotel
- A half day guided sightseeing tour of Athens including Acropolis and its new museum
- A sunset sailing cruise of Santorini including cocktails, a gourmet dinner and round trip transfers
- A full day escorted sightseeing tour of the Samaria Gorge (on selected days)
- A 4-day car rental in Crete including all service charges, taxes and fees
- A full day classic tour of Istanbul including lunch
- A full day tour of the Bosphorus and Asia Tour including lunch
- All service charges, taxes, CDW Insurance and fees
- All hotel taxes and service fees
- All admission fees for your guided tour
- All airfare taxes and fuel surcharges

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## ITINERARY DETAILS



### DAY 1

Departure from USA to Athens, Greece.

### DAY 2 – ATHENS

Upon arrival in the Greek capital you will be welcomed at the airport and transferred to your hotel.

### DAY 3 – ATHENS

After breakfast, your day will begin in this ancient city as the knowledge and guidance of a licensed guide will assist you with a sightseeing tour of Athens. You will be visiting the Acropolis, the awesome Parthenon, the Propylea, the Temple of Athena Nike as well as the Temple of Zeus, and the Panathinaikon Stadium. The tour will conclude with a visit to the new Acropolis museum. Your afternoon is at leisure.

### DAY 4 – SANTORINI

After a short flight to Santorini, you will be transferred to your hotel overlooking the majestic caldera. Perched on a cliff with breathtaking views of the sunsets and the sea below creates a perfect setting for the next few days.

### DAY 5 – SANTORINI

While in Santorini there are a few things you simply must do, sample the wine, visit the black sand beaches or visit the volcano. Wine connoisseurs should enjoy a journey down the Santorini wine circuit. However if hiking is your passion, the wonderful landscapes through the villages of Kamari and Perissa will entice you with their natural beauty.

### DAY 6 – SANTORINI

After breakfast, your morning is at leisure. In the early afternoon, you will be transferred to the port of Vlihada, where you will embark on your semi private sunset sailing cruise. One of three gleaming catamarans will sail you to the Red and Black sand beaches, sail past the volcano and hot springs. You will explore private bays for swimming and snorkeling. All of this exploration leaves one hungry, so a lavish steak and seafood barbecue with many appetizers and salads will further enhance the experience.



### DAY 7 – SANTORINI

Your day is at leisure.

### DAY 8 – SANTORINI / CRETE

Your day is at leisure. In the early afternoon, you will be transferred to the port for your high speed ferry ride to Heraklion, Crete where the next facet of your vacation will begin. Upon arrival in the capital city of Crete, you will be welcomed at the port and transferred to your hotel. Spend the next few days seeing the diversity that Crete has to offer. It is romantic with its wonderful sea views and plateaus and historically significant as you will uncover the development one of the most important civilizations on earth, the Minoan Civilization.

### DAY 9 – CRETE

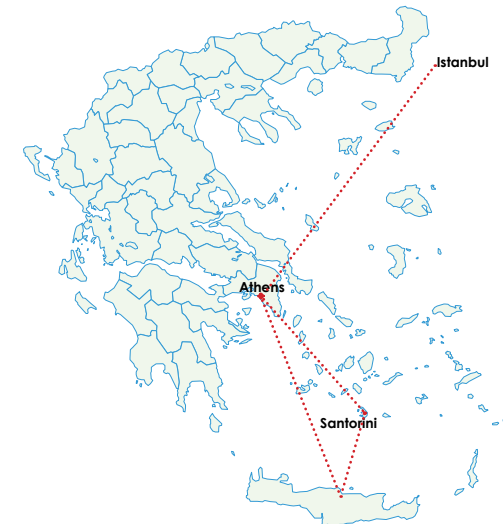
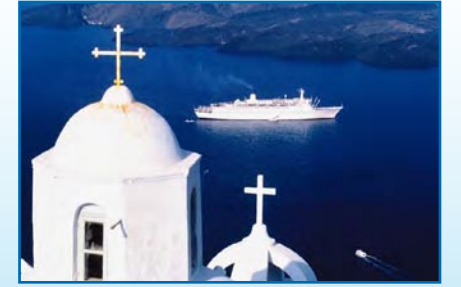
After breakfast, you may begin your exploration of Heraklion and the archeological site of Knossos and its museum. The palace is one of the major must-see archaeological sites in Greece. If you enjoy wine, you must visit the Boutari winery, one of the biggest in Greece, for a guided tour and wine tasting.

### DAY 10 – CRETE

After breakfast, you will begin your journey to the historical and culturally diverse city of Chania. Spend your day exploring this charming city and relishing the rich history of the island through its cobble-stoned streets and its four diverse neighborhoods of Venetian, Turkish, Jewish and aristocratic influence.

### DAY 11 – CRETE

After breakfast, you will begin your journey through the plateau of Omalos on your way to one of the longest and most impressive of Europe's limestone gorges. Your hike will last approximately 6 hours and will take you along a breathtaking and constantly changing landscape down to Agia Roumeli, a fishing village by the South Coast accessible only by boat. At the base of the gorge you can enjoy a refreshing swim as well as lunch at one of the local tavernas. After a one hour sail you will be transferred back to Chania.



### DAY 12 – CRETE/ATHENS/ISTANBUL

An early flight will take you back to Athens to meet your connecting flight to Istanbul. Upon arrival, you will be welcomed at the airport and transferred to your hotel.

### DAY 13 – ISTANBUL

After breakfast, your day will begin with visits to the Agia Sophia Church, the pride and glory of the Byzantine; the Blue Mosque famous for its blue tiles; and the Grand Bazaar, the world's largest covered bazaar with 4000 shops. After lunch you will visit the Topkapi Palace, the famous residence of the Sultans.

### DAY 14 – ISTANBUL

After breakfast, your journey will begin by crossing the Bosphorus by driving through the Intercontinental Suspension Bridge to go over to the Asian side of Istanbul. You will visit Beylerbeyi Palace, the white marble summer residence of the Ottoman Sultans used in the 19th century. After lunch, a cruise by boat on the Bosphorus, the unique winding strait separating the two continents will conclude your stay.

### DAY 15 – ISTANBUL / USA

After breakfast, you will be transferred to Istanbul airport for your flight back home.

