

GREECE

A Lifetime Performance!

September 1-12, 2023



Dear Friends,

I have been waiting a lifetime to lead this trip of a lifetime to Greece, the birthplace of theatre. We will experience standing on the same stage as the world's first actors and perform a scene from a Greek play.

In addition to these amazing theatres, we'll bask in a country where "birthplace" is around every corner. We'll visit the Acropolis where democracy began, Nafplion where medicine began, Marathon where marathons began, and Olympia where the Olympics began.

And that's just the beginning of our tour! The magnificent historical pageant continues with the Temple of Poseidon, Temple of Delphi, the 10th century church of Saint Theodora, and the hillside monasteries of Meteora.

We'll sample contemporary Greek life too, with lunch at an olive press, an Ouzo (the traditional celebratory drink) tasting, and plenty of free time to shop and immerse yourself in the local culture.

On to Skopelos where, in addition to Mediterranean beach time and sightseeing, we'll take a Mamma Mia tour as this beautiful island was the location of the hit movie. This sunny island is the perfect relaxation spot.

We'll have a panoramic view of the Parthenon on Acropolis hill as we dine from the roof garden of our Athens hotel. This will be an exceptional finale to our trip.

The best way to see Greece is with theatre people!

Joyfully,
Morrie Enders
Executive Director, Lincoln Community Playhouse



Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.

Old Town, Athens



September 1, 2023 - Friday Traveling to Greece

Our lifetime performance begins as we take an overnight flight to Athens, Greece. Enjoy in-flight entertainment and meal service as you start your dream vacation.

September 2, 2023 - Saturday Athens

Welcome to Athens! Upon arrival, we meet our private tour guide, who will be with us during the entire trip. We are off to experience some of the most incredible sights in history. Our first stop is at the nearby Marathon, where the Ancient Marathon race originates. Around the corner, we find the Thorikos Theater, the first theatre in the world. Let your imagination wander as we take a closer look at this magical site! We continue to Cape Sounion with the impressive Temple of Poseidon rising above the Aegean Sea. A seaside lunch is served before we reach Athens in the afternoon. Athens is one of the oldest cities in the world, full of myths, mysteries, and legends. The city is home to many sacred ancient sites, monuments, and landmarks - a fusion of old and new and a buzzing cosmopolitan metropolis. Check in to our hotel for an evening at leisure to relax and unwind. If you are still awake, take an evening stroll by the Acropolis, it's right next door. B (during flight) | L

September 3, 2023 - Sunday Athens

After a delightful breakfast, we head out to discover Athens, the cradle of western civilization as we know it today. Founded seven thousand years ago, the city flourished in the fifth century BC when Athenian democracy was practiced in the Bouleterion (council chamber) and open discussion was encouraged in the Agora (marketplace). A short distance by foot takes us to the Acropolis. Dominated by the Parthenon and built as a temple to Athena in

Nafplion



the 5th century BC. From the top of the hill, you will see the Agora, where Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle strolled. We will take a closer look at the Theatre of Dionysus, dating back to the 6th century BC. The origins of Greek theater lie in the festivities of the followers of Dionysus, the god of fertility and wine, and the cult around Dionysus has some interesting stories to tell. Lunch is served at a local restaurant before we continue by motorcoach through the city to see the House of Parliament at Syntagma Square, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Public Library, the University, and the Panathenaic Stadium, where the first Olympics of the modern era were held. The late afternoon and evening are yours to enjoy more of the city. Don't miss old town "Plaka" with its numerous shops (open till late!), enjoy people-watching, or take a stroll around the Acropolis hill at sunset. B | L

September 4, 2023 - Monday Epidauros Theater - Nafplion

After a hearty breakfast, we board our motorcoach and drive towards Peloponnese. We will stop to admire the canal that connects the Gulf of Corinth with the Saronic Gulf in the Aegean Sea. It's showtime, folks! We arrive at the Ancient Theatre of Epidauros, a 2,300-year-old stage with legendary acoustics from ancient times. This place will make a special impression on all of us as it also hosts the roots of all medicine and the cult of the God of Medicine, Asclepius. If you recall the snake wrapped around the physician staff, today's symbol of the medical profession, this is where it all began. We will visit the museum to discover and learn all about it! Lunch is served under the open skies at a local olive oil press; it doesn't get much better than this! We arrive at Nafplion, one of the prettiest cities in Greece. You will love with the local shops, cafes, and taverns. A local Ouzo tasting is arranged tonight; cheers to our great group, and a good night's rest! B | L | T

Ancient Theatre of Messini



September 5, 2023 - Tuesday

Saint Theodora - Anc. Messini - Olympia

We continue our journey to experience a unique phenomenon; the church of Saint Theodora. This is an architectural paradox with seventeen large trees growing out of the roof. Still today, it is quite a mystery how this little 10th-century church, apparently without foundation, manages to withstand the weight of the trees. Lunch is served at a local tavern before we arrive in Messini. The Ancient Theatre of Messini reopened in 2013 after 1,700 years of silence. This theatre plays one of the most significant roles in the Greek world of performances and is one of the highlights of this journey. In the late afternoon, we reach Ancient Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games. The Athletes met here for the first time in 776 BC, and this is where the Olympic Torch is lit every 4th year. This place has an exceptional aura. The evening is yours to enjoy and relax. B | L

September 6, 2023 - Wednesday Ancient Olympia - Delphi

Breakfast is enjoyed, and we are off to the stadium, where it all took place. Listen to the stories of athletic heroes and ancient Gods. We board our motorcoach and cross the impressive Rio-Antrio bridge, the world's longest multi-span cable bridge, to mainland Greece. We arrive at the Pan-Hellenic sanctuary of Delphi, set at the foot of Mount Parnassos in a spectacular landscape. Considered for many centuries the cultural and religious center of the Hellenic world, it is also home to the "Oracle" and Apollo's Sanctuary, one of the seven wonders of the ancient Greek world. The Ancient Theatre of Delphi provided audiences with a great view of the entire sanctuary and the above olive tree valley. Dating back to the 4th century B.C., the theatre was constructed using the limestone of Mount Parnassus. The 35 rows of the theatre could seat nearly 5000 people. The theatre went through many reformations.

Meteora



However, it has kept its basic structures: the stone seats, a round-shaped stage, and an orchestra. Today it hosts many ancient plays and other cultural events, mostly in summer. Our evening is spent at the picturesque neighboring village, Arachova. What a day! B | L

September 7, 2023 - Thursday

Meteora

Enjoy breakfast at our wonderful hotel. Get ready to explore Meteora, the second-biggest and most important group of monasteries in Greece, after those in Mount Athos (which can be visited by men only). The first mention of their history is traced back to the 11th century when the first hermits settled here. UNESCO has characterized the rock monasteries as a unique phenomenon of cultural heritage. The monasteries have formed the backdrop to parts of "Games of Thrones," and the James Bond movie "For Your Eyes Only" was filmed here. Lunch is served by Kyria (Mrs.) Ketty. This is the best Greek food you will ever taste! Enjoy the view of the cliffs by night from the courtyard of our hotels. B | L

September 8, 2023 - Friday

Skopelos

We are off to Mamma-Mia island! Today's journey takes us to the port of Volos, from where we will take the ferry to Skopelos. Skopelos is home to incredible beaches, and it is worth spending some time beach-hopping and relaxing, taking in the gorgeous surrounding views. One of the most famous beaches on Skopelos Island is Kastani Beach, which is renowned for its use as a filming location in the film Mamma Mia. We will reach our hotel in the afternoon. It is located in the center of Skopelos town and just a short walk from the nearest beach. Skopelos is love at first sight, guaranteed. Enjoy strolling through the quaint village, while a local restaurant prepares our dinner.

Delphi



Greece is a slow-food nation, and we have all the time in the world to savor our home-cooked meal. It doesn't get any better than this! B | D

September 9, 2023 - Saturday

Skopelos - Mamma Mia Tour

After a relaxed breakfast, we follow in the footsteps of the "Mamma Mia" movie. Pack your beach attire; today includes an opportunity of a great swim, if you like. We head towards island's west coast to visit the Chapel of St. John (Ioannis), also known as the Mamma Mia wedding church. Once we arrive, we will take our time and climb the 199 steps to the top to enjoy the stunning views and the cooling sea breeze from the top of the rock. The second stop is at Kastani beach for more in-depth film information and relaxation at the new Kastani beach bar. We will see the place where major filming took place for more than ten days and admire this beautiful beach which proved to be the perfect film location. The last stop is at Agnontas beach for a swim in the crystal-clear waters or, if you prefer, hang out at the local tavern where lunch is served, it's right next to the beach. We return to our hotel in the early afternoon for a leisurely evening. B | L

September 10, 2023 - Sunday

Skopelos

Breakfast and a day at your own pace. Enjoy the best Skopelos has to offer; stroll, swim, relax, shop for unique souvenirs, or, if you're a wildlife lover, you can take a day trip to Alonissos, the next-door island, to experience the Marine Park. You will be sold just on the roll call of species found in the reserve. More than 80 types of birds (from tiny warblers to cormorants, gulls, and eagles) and 300 species of fish reside here, along with reptiles and other animals. And the increasingly rare Mediterranean Monk Seal (so-called because of its love of

Skopelos Town



isolation), for which the park is best known. B

September 11, 2023 - Monday

Athens

After a hearty breakfast, we will begin our trip back to Athens. We will cross by ferry to the island of Evia, and from there, cross the bridge from Chalkis to mainland Greece. We will reach Athens in the early afternoon. Tonight's farewell dinner is served at the roof garden of our hotel with a panoramic view of the Acropolis hill and the Parthenon. B | D

September 12, 2023 - Tuesday

Traveling home

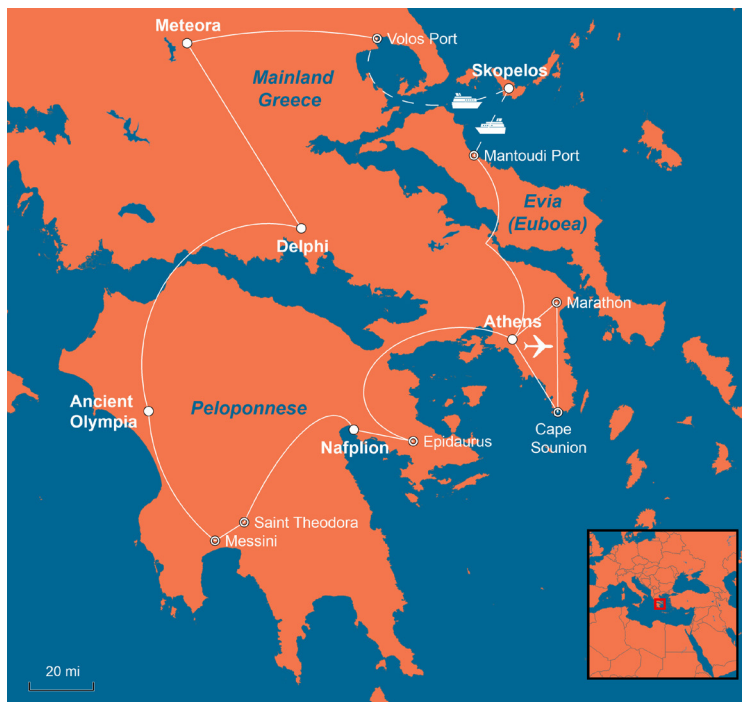
All too soon, our journey has come to an end. Transfer to Athens airport in plenty of time to check in for our flight and to clear security. You may do some last-minute shopping at the duty-free stores before boarding and flying west across The Atlantic Ocean back to the United States. B | Meals during flights

Itinerary subject to change.

**B = Breakfast, L = Lunch,
T = Tasting, D = Dinner**



Greek Treats!



To register contact:

ExecutiveTravel

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Phone: 402-435-8888 (ask for Group Department)

Fax: 402-435-2735

GroupDepartment@executivetravel.com

www.executivetravel.com

ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://fs28.formsite.com/vLu8mE/LCPGR23/>

Package Price:

Per person in a shared double room: \$3,595
Per person in a single room: \$4,395

Limited number of single rooms available.

Triple rooms are not available on this trip.

We offer "Pair & Share" service. Ask us to assist in finding your roommate if you would like to share a room!

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required upon registration. The deposit can be paid by cash, check, or credit card. The balance is due on June 1, 2023, is non-refundable, and can be paid by cash or check. Credit card payment (any payments after the deposit) will access a 3.5% processing fee.

Travel Insurance:

We recommend travel insurance to help protect you and your trip investment against the unexpected. For your convenience, we offer a plan provided by Travelex Insurance Services. For rates and plan highlights, please ask us.

Travelex Insurance Services, Inc. CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company; NAIC #22276.

Group airfare:

Group airfare will be available by mid-February. Estimate \$1,400-\$1,500 per person, including taxes and fees.

Tour Activity Level: LEVEL 1 2 3+ 4

This tour involves an extensive amount of walking, stairs, longer periods of standing, outdoor activities, and steep areas within the places visited. Expect to walk up to 4 miles a day. This trip is **not** recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Comfortable, sturdy shoes/boots are recommended.

Hotel Accommodation:

Athens: Hotel Royal Olympic or similar

Nafplion: Hotel Marianna or similar

Olympia: Hotel Europa or similar

Meteora/Kalambaka: Hotel Grand Meteora or similar

Skopelos: Hotel Aeolos or similar

This tour will be materialized with a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 25 travelers. Should the number fall below 15, all funds paid to Executive Travel will be refunded 90 days prior to departure.

Included:

- 10 nights during the tour at local 3+ and 4-star hotels
- 10 x breakfast
- 7 x lunch
- 2 x dinner
- All transportation as per tour program
- Admissions to all sites mentioned in the tour program
- English-speaking professional tour guide during all days in Greece
- Baggage handling at hotels (one piece per person)
- Headphones where required
- Host, Morrie Enders, September 1-12, 2023
- Detailed travel documents, handed out three weeks prior to departure (hard-copy and electronic)
- All local taxes and fees as per December 2, 2022

Hotel Accommodation:

Final accommodations are confirmed with the delivery of your travel documents, 30 days prior to departure.

Not Included:

- Airfare, estimate \$1,400-\$1,500 per person, incl. taxes & fees
- Airline baggage fees for your second checked bag. Your first checked piece up to 50 lbs is free
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses
- Meals and beverages other than mentioned in the tour program
- Entrances to monuments and/or museums other than mentioned
- Gratuities to guides and drivers (estimate at total of \$12-15 per day)
- Professional fee, \$75 per person, due at time of registration
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions

ExecutiveTravel

Forwarding registration and deposit signifies that you agree to the terms and conditions found on our website at executivetravel.com/eti-home/vacation/escorted-tours

Call Executive Travel's Group Department today at 402-435-8888. Space is limited.

12/30/2022

JOIN OUR GROUP AIRFARE!

We offer group airfare with Delta Airlines:

September 1, 2023	Omaha* - Atlanta	2:50 PM - 6:00 PM
September 1, 2023	Atlanta - Paris	8:05 PM - 10:35 AM (September 2)
September 2, 2023	Paris - Athens	12:15 PM - 4:25 PM
September 12, 2023	Athens - Paris	12:20 PM - 2:50 PM
September 12, 2023	Paris - Detroit	4:05 PM - 6:35 PM
September 12, 2023	Detroit - Omaha*	7:55 PM - 9:03 PM

\$1,550 per person including taxes and fees, economy class.

*We are happy to assist with airfare from a different airport than Omaha.
Please reach out to us to assist you. A small supplement may occur.

Group airfare comes with seat assignments 30 days prior to departure. Premium seating upgrades are not available when traveling on a group air contract. If you have frequent flyer miles (SkyMiles), please note those cannot be used to upgrade to Delta Comfort Plus but only be used for upgrades to business or first class when traveling on a group air contract. Contact us if you have any questions about this and kindly note that certain exceptions may exist.

Mileage credit for individuals on group air contracts is not guaranteed and is subject to the rules of the airline under contract.

All taxes, fuel charges and security fees are subject to change.
Air schedules may be subject to change at the discretion of the airline.

SECURE YOUR AIRFARE WHEN SIGNING UP!

