



GREECE

CLASSICAL GREECE WITH METEORA (TOUR CODE: 15843)

STARTS AND ENDS

in Athens

TRAVEL PERIODS

04 Apr 26 - 26 Oct 26

EXPERIENCE

Escorted
Cultural

TRAVEL STYLE

Escorted Group Tour

Discover Classical Greece on a captivating journey from ancient sanctuaries and legendary cities to the dramatic monasteries of Meteora. Explore Epidaurus, Mycenae, Olympia and Delphi, where mythology, history and breathtaking landscapes come together seamlessly.

Highlights

- Admire the engineering feat and stunning views of strategic waterway, the **Corinth Canal**, linking the Aegean and Ionian Seas
- Experience the exceptional acoustics and timeless beauty of **Epidaurus Theatre**, with its well-preserved ancient Greek theatre
- Walk through the **kingdom of Agamemnon** and uncover the **treasures of the Mycenaean civilisation**
- Explore the sacred sanctuary, oracle, and museum at the foot of **Mount Parnassos**, a hub of ancient culture
- Be awed by the **Meteora monasteries** perched atop towering rock formations, a UNESCO World Heritage site suspended in the sky

Journey through the heart of Classical Greece on a richly layered exploration of legendary sanctuaries, ancient cities and dramatic landscapes. From the Corinth Canal and the masterpieces of Epidaurus and Mycenae to the birthplace of the Olympic Games in Olympia, discover the foundations of Western civilisation. Stand at the sacred centre of the ancient world in Delphi before travelling north to Kalambaka, where the awe-inspiring monasteries of Meteora rise impossibly above the plains. This unforgettable itinerary blends mythology, history and natural beauty.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

INCLUSIONS

- 1 night in Olympia at Amalia Hotel Olympia - 4* or similar
- 1 night in Delphi at Amalia Hotel Delphi - 4* or similar
- 1 night in Kalambaka at Amalia Hotel Kalambaka - 4* or similar
- Transportation by air-conditioned deluxe coach
- Breakfast and dinner at the hotel
- Guided visit to the archaeological site and museum of Olympia and Delphi
- Visit to the ancient theatre of Epidaurus and the archaeological site of Mycenae
- Visits to the Corinth Canal and Thermopylae (photo stop)
- Entrance fees to archaeological sites and museums as per the itinerary (Epidaurus, Mycenae, Olympia, Delphi, Meteora monasteries)
- Free Wi-Fi on the bus and at the hotel
- English-Speaking Only Tour Director throughout the journey

ITINERARY

Day 1 Athens Nauplia Olympia

Starting from **Athens** we drive westwards along the scenic coast, until we reach the **Corinth Canal** with its breathtaking views (short stop). The Corinth Canal is a junction of international sea transport and serves ships coming from the western Mediterranean and Adriatic en route to eastern Mediterranean and black sea ports and vice-versa.

Continue along the coastal road of the **Saronic Gulf** to and a visit to **Epidaurus**. On the headland called "Nesi" at Palaia Epidaurus, the theatre of the ancient city is quite well-preserved, in the shape it acquired during the latter years of its function. Apart from a few rows of seats, the cavea is made of limestone with poros staircases. The theatre is marveled for its exceptional acoustics, which permit almost perfect intelligibility of unamplified spoken word from the proscenium or scene to all 12,000 spectators, regardless of their seating.

Then depart for **Nauplia**, first capital of Greece in 1829 (short stop), drive to **Mycenae** for a visit. "Mycenae 'Rich in Gold', the kingdom of mythical Agamemnon, first sung by Homer in his epics, is the most important and richest palatial centre of the Late Bronze Age in Greece. Its name was given to one of the greatest civilisations of Greek prehistory, the Mycenaean civilisation."

In the afternoon depart for **Olympia**. Enjoy dinner at the hotel and the rest of the night is at your disposal.

Overnight stay in Olympia at **Amalia Hotel Olympia** or similar.

Dinner



Day 2

Olympia Delphi

Olympia the most celebrated sanctuary of ancient Greece. Dedicated to Zeus, the father of the gods, it sprawls over 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.

Visit the **archaeological site & the museum** and then drive via **Patrasto Rion**, across the channel to Antirion on the “State of the Art” new suspended bridge considered to be the longest and most modern in Europe.

Drive through **Nafpaktos** then continue to **Delphi**. Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight stay in Delphi at **Amalia Hotel Delphi** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day 3

Delphi Kalambaka

Situated 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 and seat of the Pythian Games, the second most important games in Greece after the Olympics, which were held every four years.

Visit of the **archaeological site** and the **museum** where one can see among other archeological treasures, the unique **bronze statue of the Charioteer dedicated to Apollo** by Polyzalos, the tyrant of Gela, in 478 B.C. when he won the chariot-race at the Pythian Games. This incomparable statue is a representative example of the "severe" Attic style, certainly the work of a major artist.

After visits depart for Kalambaka. Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight stay in Kalambaka at **Amalia Hotel Kalambaka** or similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **4**

Kalambaka Meteora Athens

Today we will see one of the most amazing places in Greece - **Meteora**, meaning 'suspended in air'.

The name Meteora soon came to encompass the entire rock community of 24 monasteries, the biggest and most important group of monasteries in Greece after those in Mount Athos. There were no steps and the main access to the monasteries was by means of a net that was hitched over a hook and hoisted up by rope and a hand cranked windlass to winch towers overhanging the chasm. Monks descended in the nets or on retractable wooden ladders up to 40m long to the fertile valleys below to grow grapes, corn and potatoes. Each community developed its own resources and by the end of the 14th century, the Grand Meteoron emerged as the dominant community. The rock monasteries have been characterized by UNESCO as a unique phenomenon of cultural heritage.

After visits start the drive back to **Athens** passing through **Thermopylae** for a photo stop.

End of services.

Breakfast



ACCOMMODATION

Amalia Hotel Olympia

Olympia

Surrounded by nature and close to ancient sites, this welcoming hotel offers a peaceful retreat with easy access to cultural attractions and outdoor activities. Guests can enjoy comfortable rooms, lush gardens, a large swimming pool, a restaurant, and a marble lobby with cosy fireplace corners.



Amalia Hotel Delphi

Delphi

Amalia Hotel Delphi is situated in an ideal location where you can have the best of both worlds: a calming place to recharge as well as a convenient location that allows you to explore the famous archaeological attractions and museums of the area, fun outdoor activities and interesting towns nearby. Comfortable rooms, a large swimming pool, extensive gardens, the main restaurant, a cozy café-bar and a lobby lounge with a fireplace will result in the best holiday getaway!



Amalia Hotel Kalambaka

Kalambaka

Amalia Hotel Kalambaka, a 4-star hotel, is situated in a privileged location, just minutes away from the town of Kalambaka. The hotel extends on 14 acres of greenery and has been built with traditional materials to match its surroundings. This hotel is one of the best hotels to stay in Kalambaka due to its excellent location, incredible facilities and comfortable rooms. You can enjoy the best of both worlds: a comfortable and pleasant environment as well as the ideal location where you can explore the monasteries, museums and fun activities that will make your stay very memorable! Beautiful rooms, extensive gardens, a large swimming pool, a restaurant serving all kinds of treats and a spacious lobby with cosy corners around a fireplace, will afford the most relaxing and carefree getaway.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Greek

LOCAL CURRENCY

Euro(€)

Block out dates:

- 11 Apr 26
- 23 Apr 26

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package