

CONCEPTOURS

THE DESTINATION & EVENTS MANAGEMENT COMPANY OF GREECE®

presents:

ATHENS TOURS & EXCURSIONS



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2. Athens City Tour feat. the Acropolis and the new Acropolis museum

duration 5 ½ hrs

Drive past the neo-classical buildings of the **Academy**, the **University**, and the **National Library**, and on to **Omonia Square** before moving on to **Syntagma** or “*Constitution Square*” (the heart of central Athens). Opposite is, the **Parliament** building, thus the square’s name, where the **National Guards** (Evzones) in their colourful uniform skirts and pompom shoes, guard the **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**.

See the **Pan-Athenian Stadium**, the all white marble stadium where history was made as the site of the first modern Olympic Games. Nearby, the **Temple of Zeus** is separated from modern Athens by the tall stone structure **Hadrian’s Arch**. Also view the **Pnyx** (*the meeting place for the Assembly of the ancient city of Athens*), the **Theseum** and the **Agora** with the reconstructed **Stoa of Attalos**. Then, on to the Acropolis, at the base of which stand the ancient theatres of **Dionysos**, and the still used **Odeon of Herodes Atticus**. Opposite is Philopapos Hill offering a magnificent panoramic view of Athens. The highlight is the visit to the **Acropolis**.

This comprehensive visit will reveal to you the splendour and timeless beauty of the **Parthenon** as well as its other monuments including the **Propylaea**, the **Temple of Wingless victory**, and the **Erectheum**.

This tour ends with a visit to the New Acropolis Museum

The Acropolis Museum holds more than 4,000 ancient works, including some of the best surviving classical sculptures that once adorned the Acropolis. The new facility, 21,000 square meters (226,000 square feet) of glass and concrete, was designed by the New York-based architect Bernard Tschumi. The new Acropolis Museum is one of the largest in Europe and houses the archaeological findings related to the Acropolis hill and the Parthenon.



3. Afternoon tour to Cape Sounion

duration 4 hrs

Take this opportunity to leave the hustle and bustle of Athens behind for a relaxing and scenic drive along the coast of the Saronic Gulf of the world famous Aegean. View the splendid beaches and seaside resorts of Glyfada, Vouliagmeni, Varkiza, Lagonissi and Anavissos as well as dozens of natural bays, to Sounion (a fashionable resort) to visit the Temple of Poseidon, ancient God of the Seas, perched high on the cliff. The peninsular on which the temple is situated offers a unique view of the Saronic Gulf. Being there at the right time will enable you to view one of the most breathtaking sunsets to be seen. This half day tour can be extended to include lunch or dinner by the Poseidon temple.



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5. Half day tour to Corinth and the Corinth canal

duration approx 4 ½ hrs



Corinth, is one of Greece's most important ancient cities is situated in the southern portion of Greece known as the Peloponnese. Corinth is the heart of one of the earliest city-states in ancient Greece. The city of Corinth is located on a strategically important spot, dominating the narrow strip of land that links northern and southern Greece. Human habitation around Corinth can be traced back as far as 3000 BC, and perhaps 5000 BC, the era when much of Greece was first being settled. The ancient city-state of Corinth was founded around 900 BC and reached its height around 700 BC, lasting until the Roman destruction of 146 BC.

The drive to Corinth will take you well out of Athens and indeed Attica travelling along the seaside highway viewing the isles of the Saronic Gulf. A short stop at the Corinth Canal will give you the opportunity to view and photograph its architectural splendor. This man made canal was built to join the Aegean with the Ionian seas. Indeed it was built on the same location that the ancient mariners dragged their ships across the land thus avoiding the lengthy trip around the Peloponnese. Then on for a visit of Ancient Corinth, the Temple of Apollo and the museum.

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6. Full day to Argolis (Corinth, Mycenae & Epidaurus) with lunch duration approx 10 hrs



The Peloponnese area of Greece is literally a treasure-trove of ancient monuments, archaeological sites, and historical milestones. Within the Peloponnese are located the ancient cities of Olympia, Sparta, Argos, Mycenae and Nauplia. Argolis occupies the north-east region of the Peloponnese. It's a mountainous area surrounded on three sides by coastline. The Argolis region houses the ancient cities of Argos, Mycenae Nauplia and Epidaurus. On throuleaving Athens, drive along the seaside highway past the Scaramanga ship-building yards viewing the isles of the Saronic Gulf to Corinth. A short photo stop to view the architectural splendour of the Corinth Canal then on for a visit of Ancient Corinth, which includes the Temple of Apollo and the museum. Continue on to Mycenae visiting the Lionesses Gate, the tombs of Agamemnon (leader of the Greeks in the Trojan war) and Clytemnistra, the Palace, etc. Four course lunch will be served at a taverna in Mycenae or Nauplia. After lunch drive to Argos, one of Greece's most important ancient cities and inhabited from prehistoric times. Continue to Nauplia, the beautiful waterfront city which became the capital of Greece for a short time after the War of Independence in the early 19th century, and then on to Epidaurus to visit the remains of the most important sanctuary erected in the 4th century BC as well as the world-famous ancient and best preserved theatre in Greece capable of seating some 15,000 people, and boasting amazing acoustics. A visit to the museum which exhibits many of the medical and surgical instruments as well as many inscriptions of prescriptions for medicines and descriptions of cures found on the archaeological site.

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7. Full Day to Delphi with Lunch

duration approx 10 hrs



Central Greece or “Sterea Ellada” to the Greeks, north-east of Attica and Athens, is one of the most mountainous. In winter locals and visitors alike head to one of its ski-resorts to enjoy not only the sport but the breathtaking scenery. It is in this region that Delphi is situated.

Drive along the National highway, past Thebes, Levadia and the typical village of Arachova, a mountain town with an intensely traditional flavour and picturesque houses. A short stop to enjoy this quaint town is included. Then on to Delphi. The ancient site here is one of the most popular spots for visitors to Greece. The sanctuary, one of the oldest in Greece became famous for its oracle. Here can be seen the remains of the stadium where the Pytheian Games were held, the Gymnasium, and the Temple of Apollo located at the end of the Sacred Way which was lined by elegant buildings such as Treasuries, Arcades and the Stoa of the Athenians. A visit to the museum to see finds excavated from the site is included. Exhibits include metopes and friezes from the Treasuries, and unique sculptures including the twins Kouri, and the famous charioteer statue.

Four course lunch will be served at a restaurant in or near Delphi.