



## **GREECE - 8N/9D - ATHENS, CRETE, RHODES**



### **ITINERARY**

#### **Day 1 - Athens:**

Welcome to Athens! Upon arrival at Eleftherios Venizelos International Airport, you will be greeted by our representative, who will drive you to your hotel. Enjoy the remainder of your day exploring Athens. You might stroll the old neighborhoods of Plaka, which mingle old & new Athens or explore the vibrant neighborhoods of Monastiraki and Kolonaki. Be sure to try our amazing restaurant recommendations sampling wonderful Greek cuisine.



#### **Day 2 - Athens (B)**

After breakfast, your day will begin with your private half day walking tour. Along with your English speaking licensed guide, you will visit the Acropolis and the awesome temples of the Parthenon, the Erechtheion and the Athena Nike. Your walk will continue to the Areopagus, or Hill of Mars. Finally, you pass the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, where you can still enjoy concerts and theatrical performances in the summer months. The tour will conclude with a visit to the Acropolis Museum exhibiting the glory of Ancient Athens.

#### **Day 3 - Athens / Crete (B)**

After breakfast, our representative, will pick you up from your hotel and drive you to the airport for your short flight to Crete. Your arrival will be in Heraklion, a city which is one of the most popular regions of Crete. Heraklion showcases some amazing archaeological sites while seducing you with picturesque villages and valleys of olive groves and great beaches. Spend the remainder of your day afternoon exploring the history and culture the island exudes. Enjoy dinner at one of fabulous restaurant recommendations sampling wonderful Cretan cuisine and wine.

#### Day 4 - Crete (B)

After breakfast, your day will begin with your private half day tour of Knossos. Along with your English speaking licensed guide, you will visit the Palace of Knossos, one of the main palaces of the Minoan Civilization. It is not the architecture that will impress you as much as the amazing wall paintings whose vivid colors still bear testament to how advanced the Minoan Civilization was. Your tour will continue with a visit to Archaeological Museum of Heraklion showcasing many artifacts of this influential civilization. As you explore Heraklion, you will experience areas like the Old Port and the Municipal Market with its quaint shops. Your afternoon and evening are at leisure to visit one of the local beaches for an afternoon swim.

#### Day 5 - Crete (B)

It's your last day in Crete. If you decide to explore further east, a day trip to the areas of Agios Nikolaos, a fishing village or the world renowned beaches of Elounda would be a great trip. If you decide to head further West, you can visit the magnificent village of Chania, with its 16th and 17th Century Venetian Influences. Consider hiking Samaria Gorge, one of the deepest gorges in Europe or roam through the city within the castle walls where the cobblestone paths paint a picture of what daily life is like for Cretans of the region.

#### Day 6 - Crete / Rhodes (B)

Today your journey will begin as you arrive to the historic island of Rhodes. Upon arrival, you will be welcomed and driven to your hotel. Rhodes is famous for the medieval influence of the Old Town and of important venues such as the Acropolis of Lindos and the Valley of Butterflies. Rhodes completes the experience with magnificent beaches and picturesque villages. Enjoy the remainder of the day wandering the alleys of the Old Town or enjoying one of our fabulous restaurant recommendations.

#### Day 7 - Rhodes (B)

After breakfast, consider exploring the island today. You can begin by visiting the Acropolis of Lindos. Visiting the Temple of Athena as it sits above Lindos. As you continue, you can stop by the Valley of Butterflies and continue on to the center of Rhodes. Your journey will continue to the Palace of Masters and its museum as well as the Archaeological Museum. After a day of taking in the sites, enjoy a relaxing afternoon trying some local Greek mezedes (appetizers) at some of the islands best seaside tavernas.

#### Day 8 - Rhodes (B)

It's your last day in Rhodes. Enjoy some of the islands great beaches like Tsambika, Saint Paul's Bay and Kalithea. If watersports and windsurfing interest you, you might consider the beach of Prasonisi. If the urge to explore continues, hop on an hour ferry and visit the neighboring island of Symi where you can visit the Monastery of Panormitis. End the day with a dinner in the Old Town experiencing the setting for one last time before getting ready to head home.

#### Day 9 - Rhodes / Athens /Home

Our representative will drive you to the airport for your short flight to Athens connecting to your flight home.