

# ATHENIAN GOLDEN AGE GROUP TOUR

Daily 10/1/2013-4/30/2014, 10/1/2014-12/31/2014

## DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

**Day 1:** Arrival at Athens International airport. Welcome and short briefing by our representative; private transfer to your hotel in Athens. Afternoon at leisure to explore one of the most cosmopolitan capitals of Europe. Walk through the narrow streets of Plaka and enjoy a sip of ouzo in one of the local tavernas. Overnight in Athens

**Day 2:** After breakfast you will be picked up for a private, guided Athens sightseeing tour. Our expert, state licensed guides take you to see the center of the city, Constitution Square (Syntagma), the House of Parliament, the Memorial to the Unknown Soldier and the National Library. Driving down Herod Atticus Street, you will see the Evzones in their picturesque uniform and the Presidential Palace. On your way to the Acropolis you will see the Hadrian's Arch, visit the Temple of Olympian Zeus and you will make a short stop at the Panathenaic Stadium where the first Olympic Games of the modern era were held in 1896. On the Acropolis visit the architectural masterpieces of the Golden Age of Athens: the Propylaea, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion and finally "the harmony between material and spirit", the monument that "puts order in the mind", the Parthenon. Continue to visit the new, magnificent Museum of Acropolis, voted as one of the 3 best museums in the world

**Day 3:** Enjoy your breakfast and then relax. Take your time to explore the numerous sites in Athens and find out all about Plaka, Monastiraki and the Roman Agora.

For those interested, today we have an optional, full-day, guided tour to the ancient Oracle of Delphi, the center of Ancient World - the "Omphalos" (Navel of Earth) - whose prestige extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic World. On the slopes of Mount Parnassus, in a landscape of unparalleled beauty and majesty, lie the ruins of the Sanctuary of Apollo Pythios. Visit the Treasury of the Athenians, the Temple of Apollo and the Museum exhibiting masterpieces of Ancient Greek sculpture as the bronze Charioteer and the famous athlete Aghias. Enjoy lunch in Delphi. Please let us know if you wish to join

**Day 4:** After breakfast you have your own time to enjoy coffee in one of the numerous coffee shops at the center of Athens near Syntagma Square. In the afternoon enjoy a private, guided tour to Cape Sounion to visit the Temple of Poseidon. Drive along the coastal road, passing the wonderful beaches of Glyfada, Vouliagmeni and Varkiza to the most Southern point of Attica, Cape Sounion, where the white marble pillars of the Temple of Poseidon stand. On the way, you have a splendid view of the Saronic Gulf and the little islands offshore. After visiting the Temple of Poseidon, you have time to walk at leisure on the rocky promontory of Sounion where on a clear day one can see the first Cycladic islands in the horizon

**Day 5:** One more day in Athens. An ideal opportunity for shopping in Ermou street, in one of Europe's most cosmopolitan capitals.

For those who wish another excellent tour, today we offer an optional, full-day, guided tour to the land of Trojan War heroes, Mycenae and Epidaurus in Argolis. Pass the Corinth Canal, which connects the Aegean Sea with the Ionian Sea, (short stop). Drive on to Mycenae, the Homeric city of Atreides, the city "rich in gold" of the ancient poets. Visit the Lionesses's Gate, the Cyclopean Walls, and the Royal Tombs. Depart for Nauplion through the fertile plain of Argolis, the picturesque town nestling at the foot of a cliff crowned by the mighty ramparts of the Palamidi Fortress (short photo stop), leave for Epidaurus, to visit the Theatre (4th century B.C.) famous for its astonishing acoustics. Enjoy lunch in Mycenae. Please let us know if you wish to join

**Day 6:** After breakfast you will be transferred to the port of Flisvos to embark the full-day cruise to the Saronic gulf islands of Aegina, Poros and Hydra. At 08:15 the ship sails for Hydra. Here you have free time for a walk or a swim. Embarkation and sail for Poros, the smallest of the three islands, separated from the Peloponnese by a narrow strait and offering a most enchanting view of Poros Town. Your time at

leisure in Poros will be about 60 minutes. Lunch will be served during the voyage. Time will fly quickly....and after a two hour trip we shall arrive to our last port of call, the island of Aegina. Where you have time for a swim. Optional excursion, by bus, to the fine preserved Temple of Athena Aphaea. Embarkation for the voyage of return to the port. We'll arrive to the port of Piraeus, late in the afternoon. The bus will be waiting to transfer you back to your hotel

**Day 7:** We reached the end of this tour. Enjoy a private transfer from your hotel to Athens International airport for departure

**Extensions on either FIT or group basis can be arranged.**

### **SERVICES INCLUDED**

- Arrival at Athens Int'l airport. Our representative will welcome you and brief you on your itinerary. Private transfer from Athens Int'l airport to your hotel in Athens
- Accommodation in Athens for 6 nights in a selected 3-star hotel sharing double occupancy in standard double room on bed and breakfast basis
- Private, guided, Athens sightseeing tour visiting the most important sites of the city, the Acropolis and the new, magnificent Acropolis Museum
- **Optional, private, guided tour to the ancient Oracle of Delphi. Lunch will be included**
- Private tour to Cape Sounion to visit the Temple of Poseidon
- **Optional, private, guided tour to the ancient lands of Trojan War heroes, Mycenae and Epidaurus in Argolis. Lunch will be included**
- Full-day cruise to the Saronic Gulf islands of Aegina, Poros and Hydra. Lunch on board is included
- Private transfer from your hotel to Athens Int'l airport
- Breakfast daily
- All entrance fees for the tours included as per the itinerary
- Professional, state licensed, English speaking guide for the guided tours included
- All service fees and local taxes
- VAT
- 24-hour assistance telephone service
- Not included: anything not explicitly mentioned in the services included above

**SELECTED HOTELS: Athens** - Crystal City or Best Western Museum or similar

Contact us for our Terms and Conditions