

CULTURAL PACKAGE

15 Days

Athens, Paros, Santorini, Naxos, Amorgos



We invite you to organize a trip to Greece, a combination of vacation with visits to the famous monuments of Athens and the Cycladic islands: Paros, Santorini, Naxos and Amorgos.

THE PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Two (2) nights' accommodation in 4* hotel in Athens
 - Sightseeing tour of Athens, Acropolis and Acropolis Museum
 - One (1) night accommodation in 4* hotel in Paros island
 - Tour and visit of the most important sites of the island
 - Three (3) nights' accommodation in 4* hotel in Santorini island
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- Tour and visit of the most important sites of the island
- Two (2) nights' accommodation in 4* hotel in Naxos island
- Tour and visit of the most important sites of the island
- Six (6) nights' accommodation in 4* Aegialis Hotel & Spa on Amorgos island
- Free use of all spa facilities (sauna, hamam, jacuzzi, indoors sea water pool and gym).
- Tour and visit of the most important sites of the island
- Daily buffet breakfast in all hotels
- Lunch or Dinner daily
- Entrance fees of the monuments sites
- All transfers and tours with luxury buses in Athens and the islands.
- All ferry tickets
- Local guides

PROGRAM

Day 1

Landing at Athens airport. Transfer from the airport to the hotel in the centre of Athens. Visit to the Acropolis and the new Acropolis Museum. Dinner.

Day 2

Breakfast. Departure for the port of Piraeus, to take the ferry to Paros. Arrival at Paros. Transfer to the hotel.

Visit the Church of Ekatonpiliiani (Our Lady of the Hundred Gates), the large place of worship that overlooks the capital town, Parikia. The interior of the church contains splendid ecclesiastical artwork. We'll also visit in Parikia, the Frankish Castle, the Sanctuary of Asklipios, the Delion Sanctuary, the Ancient Cemetery and the Archaeological Museum.

Visit to the beautiful butterfly valley of Psychopiana, an area of rare natural beauty. In Naoussa, the Venetian Castle and the Church of Agios Nikolaos, both situated in the charming fishing port of the settlement. Crossing to Antiparos island and, in 8km distance and 350m altitude, on the hill of St. John, visit the famous cave of Antiparos with impressive stalactites and stalagmites known since antiquity. At the entrance of the cave is the church of St John Spiliotis (18th century).

Return to the hotel. Dinner.

Day 3

Breakfast. Departure from the port of Paros to take the ferry to Santorini. Arrival at Santorini, transfer to the hotel. Visit to Oia. Here you will indulge in the magic of nature. The view to the sea, the magnificent architecture, the unique Oia sunset, which immerses visitors in colours of violet, well known around the world,

are the reasons that have brought here the most famous names of the international jet set. Dinner.

Day 4

Breakfast. Visit to the archaeological site of Thera from the 8th century BC. On this site, the Spartans built Thera, giving her the name of their leader. Apart from the historical significance of the place, you will enjoy the spectacular views. You will see the market, the mosque of Artemidorus, the royal portico, the Temple of Dionysus, the Temple of Apollo Karneios, the cemeteries of ancient Thera and the theater. All testify to the magnificent culture that flourished on the island. Visit to Perissa, where you'll see remnants of the Byzantine period, Agia Irini (Santa Irini) from which the name of Santorini came, the temple of the Holy Cross and the Museum of Minerals and Fossils with excellent exhibits. Return to the hotel. Dinner.

Day 5

Breakfast. Visit to Fira, the busiest point of the island. The amazing position over the caldera gave the town a huge tourism boost, making it currently the most densely built part of Santorini. Take a look at the square Theotokopoulou, the meeting point with cafes filled with visitors and go to the Buddhi, to admire the caldera. The view is unique, as are the happenings that take place there. Visit to Archaeological Museum of Thera, with collections of sculptures and inscriptions from the Archaic to the Roman period and vases from the Geometric to the Hellenistic period. The top Prehistoric Museum of Hunting will immerse you in the spirit of civilization developed at Akrotiri prior to the massive volcano eruption of 1,600 BC; admire frescoes that remained intact beneath the lava. It is located in an amazing location and includes wonderful paintings in the caldera, curated by painter Christopher Asimis, since it was rebuilt after the earthquake of 1956. The Catholic cathedral will impress you with its architecture and its bell tower, as well as the Catholic convent. Dinner.

Day 6

Breakfast. Departure to the port of Santorini. Ferry to Naxos. Transfer to the hotel in Naxos. Free afternoon to wander around the old city and castle in Chora of Naxos, the columns of "Portara" and do some shopping. Dinner.

Day 7

Breakfast. Visit to the Archaeological Museum where excavation finds, works of art and everyday life from the prehistoric period to the early Byzantine period (4th millennium BC - 6th century AD.) are exposed. The museum is housed in the former Commercial School (built in the 17th century), located within the castle. Continue with the archaeological site Grotta, beneath the Metropolis square, where some of the Mycenaean city of Naxos (1300 BC) has been revealed. Visit the sanctuary of Iria, 10 km south of Hora, at Livadi, which was the official sanctuary of the urban center of Naxos and was dedicated to Dionysus. Visit the famous monasteries of Panagia Drosiani and Agios Georgios Diasoritis. Return to the hotel. Dinner.

Day 8

Breakfast. Visit to the village Engares, 8 km northeast of Chora, a beautiful green village in the eastern side of the valley. It is worth visiting the tower and the monastery of Faneromeni. Two artificial dams have been created in the wider area, the dam of Engares and the dam under construction that has been revealed. Between the village and the beach of Felli rises the tower-monastery of Ypsiloteria, which was used as a base and refuge for local farmers during the Frankish occupation. Departure to the port of Naxos to take the ferry to Amorgos. Transfer to "Aegialis Hotel & Spa" hotel. Dinner.

Day 9

Breakfast . Introductory meeting for the history of Amorgos. A tour to "Lalon Idor Spa". Transfer to the port of Aegiali for acquaintance with the nearby area. Swimming at the beautiful sandy beach of Aegiali. Dinner.

Day 10

Breakfast. Full day bus tour to visit the 1000-year old Monastery of Panagia Chozoviotissa, built in a rock cliff, renovated by the emperor Alexios Komninos back in 1088. Visit to the Monastery of Ag. Georgios Valsamitis, built on the ruins of an ancient water oracle dedicated to Apollo. Stop at the beach of Agios Pavlos for swimming. Free afternoon to enjoy special treatments and therapies in the Spa. Cooking demonstration of traditional Amorgian recipes and wine tasting. Dinner.

Day 11

Breakfast. Half day tour of Aegiali villages. Visit to the beautiful church of St.Anargiri and the Byzantine museum in Tholaria. Transfer to Lagada village. Walk to the church of Panagia Epanochoriani, 20 minute walking distance from the village through the old donkey path, with great vegetation and fantastic views. Visit to the church of Agia Sophia and Agia Kyriaki and to the distillery of essential oils from Amorgos herbs. Return to the hotel. Enjoy the Spa. After dinner, watch the film "Big Blue" directed by Luc Besson, which made Amorgos famous worldwide.

Day 12

Breakfast. Guided hiking tour through a traditional path and olive groves, enjoying amazing landscape, full of the world famous Amorgian herbs. Lunch at a traditional taverna. In the evening, Greek dance lessons. Dinner with traditional Amorgian dishes and live traditional music by violin and lute.

Day 13

Breakfast. Visit Chora, the capital of the island, declared from the visitors as the most beautiful capital of Cyclades. There are 40 churches and the archeological museum of the island. Visit to Katapola, the second port of Amorgos, where the historical churches of Agios Georgios and Panagia Katapoliani are found. Return to the hotel. In the afternoon, massage with Amorgian essential oils, and facial treatment with local herbs. Dinner. Screening of the movie "Ariadni", filmed on Amorgos, at Aegialis Hotel.

Day 14

Early breakfast. Transfer to the port to take the ferry to Piraeus. Transfer from Piraeus to the hotel in the centre of Athens. Free evening. Dinner.

Day 15

Breakfast. Transfer from the hotel to Athens airport to catch the flight back home.

COST: \$3692 per person sharing double room.

Note:

- Above prices are effective from November 1st 2017 to May 31st 2018, for minimum 2 persons
- Additional charge for single use of room 475 € per person.
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- For the period 16 of May to 15 of June and from 16 September to 31 Oct. 2018
- **COST: \$4190 per person sharing double room.**
- Additional charge for single use of room 595 € per person.
- The duration and length of the program may change according to your wishes with relevant cost change.
- The sequence of islands may change, depending on boat schedules.
- Prices will change in case of different period of year.
- The prices will fluctuate with the currency
