

Sacred Sites Journeys

A Division of Lapis, Ltd. LLC

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Spiritual Odyssey to GREECE Sacred Sites and Ancient Oracles April 23 - May 1, 2027



GREECE CALLS YOUR SOUL HOME
through ancient mystery school teachings, timeless myths,
and sacred sites where you reawaken to its forgotten parts!

Walk where the Gods, Goddesses, and great philosophers once shaped our deepest **HUMAN TRUTHS** and gave us their **WISDOM TEACHINGS** that are still very pertinent for our lives today.

Feel the heartbeat of timeless stories that are the **LIVING MYTHS**
inside your own everyday life and mind.

Walk this sacred pilgrimage to holy sites and ancient oracles to awaken your soul,
quiet the noise of the modern world, & step into a profound
INNER RETURN to meet your deepest, **TRUEST SELF!**



SPECIAL OFFERINGS from Andrea Mikana-Pinkham

Director of Sacred Sites Journeys, Tour Leader, Speaker & Meditation Facilitator!



Group Meditations & Sacred Ceremonies

to assist you to connect with the-still-palpable energies at the ancient sacred sites
& the Gods and Goddesses they were dedicated to.

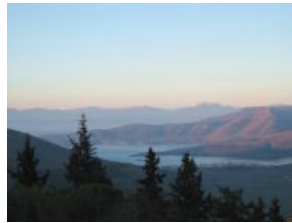
Wisdom Teachings

from the Mystery School Traditions of Ancient Greece



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS!

The beauty and majesty of the Greek countryside pulls at your heartstrings!



Greek food awaits your exploring palate, a plethora of different tastes, textures & aromas
that enlivens all our senses - the essence of the good life!



And for a fun-filled evening at a local taverna, you too can be Zorba, dancing and singing
and smashing the plates...full of the passion and love for life!

Find your Inner Greek! Ooopah!

*Just kidding! It's optional to dance, sing & smash plates, but the stellar performances
will at least make ya wanna tap your feet!*





During our 1st week on the Greek Mainland we'll explore and experience the still powerfully-transformative ancient temples dedicated to various Greek Gods & Goddesses.



Athena

ATHENS: City Tour, including the Acropolis and Parthenon, dedicated to Athena

LEVADIA: The Dream Oracle of Trophonius

DELPHI: Temple of Apollo, site of the world-famous Oracle of Delphi & the Sanctuary of Athena

OLYMPIA: The Temples of Hera & Zeus; the ancient Stadium, the Bouleuterion, Phidias' Workshop

EPIDAUROS: Sanctuary of Asklepios & the Theater of Epidauros

MYCAENAE: The Treasury of Atreus, the Citadel, the Lion Gate,
& the Archaeological Museum, with a replica of the Gold Mask of Agamemnon

VRAVRONA: The Temple of Artemis & Museum

ELEUSIS: Site of the Eleusinian Mystery School of Demeter, the Earth Mother Goddess,
and Persephone, Goddess of the Underworld, Death, and Regeneration



During the optional post-tour excursion on CRETE
we'll explore and experience more ancient sacred sites!



Palace of Knossos

CRETE

Heraklion Archaeological Museum

Palace of Knossos, the political and ceremonial center of the ancient Minoan civilization

Idean Cave, the main site for the worship of Zeus

Gortyn, famous for housing the Gortyn Law Code,
the oldest and most complete surviving ancient law code in Europe

Malia, 3rd largest Minoan Palace on Crete

Dictean Cave, the birthplace of Zeus

Eleutherna: the Necropolis, the Acropolis, Hellenistic bridge, and on-site Museum of Ancient Eleutherna



Continue on from Crete to SANTORINI to explore and experience more ancient sacred sites!

Akrotiri, an exceptionally preserved prehistoric Minoan Bronze Age city
buried by the local volcanic eruption of around 1613 BCE

City of Thera, including the Agora, Theater, Sanctuary of Artemidoros & the Roman Baths

Spiritual Odyssey to GREECE

ITINERARY: Sacred Sites and Ancient Oracles

April 23 – May 1, 2027

(B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner)



Athens – The Acropolis

Day 1. Friday, April 23. Arrive Greece; Group Meeting & Welcome Dinner (D)

Arrive Athens on your own; you're responsible to book your roundtrip international flights. We suggest you book a flight that arrives in the morning so that you have time to go to the hotel and rest a bit before our evening dinner. Clear Immigration, claim your bags, clear customs. Meet Sacred Sites Journeys' local tour representative in the Arrivals Hall for your private transfer to the group hotel in Athens. *The meet/greet and transfer from the airport to*

the hotel is included in your sacred travel package.

Check in at the hotel. Free time. Lunch is on your own.

6:30PM Group Meeting at the hotel. Location to be announced.

7:30PM Welcome Dinner at the hotel's rooftop restaurant if the weather is warm enough; if not then at the restaurant at the Herodion Hotel across the street.

Overnight Athens. Philippos Hotel <https://www.philipposhotel.gr/en>



L to R: Athens – The Acropolis: The Parthenon, The Erechtheon, Caryatids on the Porch of The Erechtheon

Day 2. Saturday, April 24. Group Meeting; Athens City Tour; Free Time (B/D)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM

9:00AM – We depart to enjoy an **Athens City Tour** with a local guide, including the **Olympic Stadium**, the **Acropolis**, including the world-famous **Parthenon**, and more.

Our visit includes the **Acropolis**, the original site of Athens, a limestone plateau overlooking the city and supporting the Parthenon, the all-marble temple dedicated to **Athena**, Goddess of Wisdom, War, and Crafts. Born full-grown from the brow of her father Zeus, **Athena** represents the power of the mind, and thus sometimes may appear cold or purely mental, separated from more feminine attributes such as tenderness and maternal love. But She is not cold. She was chosen as the Patroness of Athens, over Poseidon, god of the sea, because she gave the sustaining olive tree to the Greeks. She was not only a warrior Goddess, but also ruled over domestic crafts: the spindle, the loom, the cooking pot, as well as all arts of civilization. She is the Goddess of the City of Athens, of community and democracy. With her owl companion, Athena sees far with the gray eyes of perspective and clarity. She does not act rashly, but wisely considers Her strategies. Athena symbolizes the ability to conquer fear with intelligence and vision.

Long a religious shrine and high fortress for the Athenian people, today the **Acropolis** is a UNESCO World Heritage Site which honors the universal symbols of the classical spirit and civilization. Its monuments form the greatest architectural and artistic complex bequeathed by Greek Antiquity to the world. In the second half of the fifth century BCE, Athens, following the victory against the Persians and the establishment of democracy, took a leading position amongst the other city-states of the ancient world. In the age that followed, as thought and art flourished, an exceptional group of artists put into effect the ambitious plans of Athenian statesman Pericles and, under the inspired guidance of the sculptor Pheidias, transformed the rocky hill into a unique monument of thought and the arts. The most important monuments were built during that time: the **Parthenon**, the **Erechtheon**, the Propylaea, the monumental entrance to the Acropolis, and the small temple Athena Nike. We'll explore those open to the public.

The **Erechtheon**, built between 421 and 406 BCE, is located on the north side of the Acropolis and was dedicated to both **Athena** and **Poseidon**. The **Caryatids** are on the south porch. Caryatid is the name given to an architectural column which takes the form of a standing female figure. These are the most famous in all of Greek architecture. The Greek term karyatides means "maidens of Karyai", an ancient town of Peloponnese. Karyai had a famous temple dedicated to the goddess Artemis in her aspect of Artemis Karyatis. She rejoiced in the dances of the nut-tree village of Karyai and the dancing Karyatides carried on their heads baskets of live reeds.

Time and circumstances allowing, at some point while we're on the Acropolis Andrea will offer a **Group Meditation** to connect with Athena. If this isn't possible, then we'll take some time for **individual reflection and meditation**.

1:00PM Return to the hotel. Lunch on your own.

You have free time this afternoon to explore on your own. Perhaps you'd like to visit some of the various **museums**:

- 1) The **National Archaeological Museum** ranks among the top ten museums in the world. Its impressive collection, housed in a beautiful neoclassic building, includes ancient Greek sculpture, jewelry, pottery, and the 2000 year old computer found in the shipwreck off the island of Antikithera.
- 2) The nearby **Acropolis Museum** is dedicated to the archaeological findings discovered strictly on the Acropolis site itself, featuring original sculptures, artifacts from the Parthenon, and transparent glass floors overlooking active excavations.
- 3) The **Benaki Museum** offers a better understanding of the country which is modern Greece.
- 4) The **Museum of Greek Folk Art** has a collection of embroideries, wood carvings, jewelry, and other traditional folk art. It's not-to-be-missed collection of ceramics is housed in a beautifully renovated former mosque.
- 5) The National Historical Museum is worth a visit if you're interested in the Greek War of Independence and its artifacts.
- 6) The **Museum of Popular Musical Instruments** offers you the opportunity to listen to different instruments and styles of music through headphones at each exhibit of the various instruments.
- 7) At the **Byzantine Museum** you can view a collection of Byzantine Icons, mosaics, sculptures, garments and more.

The **National Gallery** houses a permanent collection of modern Greek painters and international contemporary artists, and also includes large-scale sculptures.

And there's always retail therapy/shopping available in the nearby **Plaka District!** It's just a short walk of about 5 to 10 minutes from the hotel.

7:00PM Group Dinner with Folklore Show at Tavern Kalokerinos. <https://kalokerinos.gr/>
Overnight Athens. Philippos Hotel.



L to R: Levadia: Hercyna River, Cave of the Dream Oracle of Trophonius; Delphi: Temple of Apollo, Temple of Athena Pronaia

Day 3. Sunday, April 25. To Levadia: Oracle of Trophonius; To Delphi: Temple of Apollo & Temple of Athena Pronaia (B)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM

8:30AM We check out of the hotel and depart on our 1.5 - 2 hour drive north of Athens to Levadia.

10:30AM We arrive in Levadia and visit the includes the **Dream Oracle of Triphonius** site on our own. This ancient sacred site is named after this **Greek hero** with a rich mythological tradition, whose name means "to nourish". The Oracle overlooks the **Hercyna River** which bubbles up from the springs of Lethe (forgetfulness) and Mnemosyne (remembrance).

In the river is the sculpture of **Hercyna** (also spelled Erkyna), the daughter of Trophonios. Local sculptor Spyros Gourgiotis created and donated the modern bust, which appears to emerge directly from the flowing water at the springs. Hercyna was the **Naiad**, a type of female water spirit or nymph of the small river. Her name means "Guard Dog" or "She who Wards off." She's a divinity of the lower world and a secondary deity of the chthonic Oracle of Trophonios.

The Myth of Hercyna: Ancient mythology says Hercyna was a childhood companion of Persephone. The two girls played near the sacred grove with a goose. The goose hid in a cave under a heavy stone. When Persephone or Hercyna moved the stone, water gushed out from the earth to form the spring and river. Pilgrims washed in these waters before they entered the terrifying nearby Oracle of Trophonios.

Trophonios was a son of **King Eriginus**. According to **Pausanias**, the Greek traveler and geographer of the 2nd century CE, he and his brother **Agamedes** built a **treasure chamber** for King Hyprieus of Boeotia with a **secret entrance** that only they knew about. They used the secret entrance to then steal his fortune. The King laid a trap to catch the thieves, and Agamedes was trapped. Trophonios cut off his brother's head so Hyprieus wouldn't know who the body was, and then fled into the cave at Levadia and disappeared forever.

Later, when the Levadians suffered from a **plague**, they consulted the **Oracle of Delphi**, who advised them that an **unnamed hero was angry at being neglected**, and that they should **find his grave** and **worship him** in order to stop the plague. Several unsuccessful searches followed. The plague continued until a **shepherd boy** followed a trail of bees into a hole in the ground. Instead of honey, he found the **ghost of the dead Trophonios**. He became a **popular oracle for the people**. In addition, he was a proponent of sound Pythagorean doctrines and also related dreams concerning the cosmos and the afterlife.

Lunch on your own at the small café near the site.

Andrea will offer a **Group Meditation** to connect with the profound **knowledge & wisdom** of this ancient **Oracle**.

12:30PM After lunch we continue to Delphi, an approximately 1 hour drive.

1:30PM We arrive and meet our local guide for our visit to the world-famous **UNESCO World Heritage site of Delphi**, including the **Sanctuary or Temple of Apollo, Theater, and Stadium**, as well as the nearby **Sanctuary of Athena Pronaia**. Located in a spectacular mountain setting, it's famous for the magnificent **Temple of Apollo, dedicated to the ancient Greek Olympian god of music, prophecy, healing, and light**.

The **Oracle of Delphi**, the most prestigious oracle in the Graeco-Roman world for 2,000 years, was located here until it was closed by the Christian emperor Theodosius I (346?-395CE).

Prophetic messages and words of **counsel from Python**, the wise serpent son of the Mother Goddess Delphyne, or from the Moon Goddess **Artemis**, were relayed through their priestess daughters, the Pythonesses or **Pythia**.

Myths: One myth states that Apollo murdered Delphyne, a monstrous female dragon or she-serpent (drakaina) appointed by the earth goddess Gaia to guard the sacred oracle at Delphi. Another myth states that he imprisoned the serpent seer in the recesses of a cave beneath the temple. Either way, he claimed the shrine and the Pythia for himself!

Who Was Pythia? While most of the priests at Delphi were men, the one who actually channeled Apollo was a woman, an ordinary woman chosen when necessary at the Festival of the Stepteria from the village of Delphi by the Amphictyonic League (an association of neighboring states). The Pythia served for life and remained chaste throughout her service.

On the day when visitors came to get her advice, the priests (hosia) would lead the current Pythia from her secluded home to the Castalia spring, where she would purify herself, and then she would slowly ascend to the temple. At the entrance, the hosia offered her a cup of holy water from the spring, then she entered and descended

to the adyton and took a seat on the tripod.

The Pythia breathed in the sweet and aromatic gasses (pneuma), and achieved a trance-like state. The head priest relayed questions from the visitors, and the Pythia responded in an altered voice, sometimes chanting, sometimes singing, sometimes in wordplay. The priest-interpreters (prophetai) then deciphered her words and provided them to the visitors in hexameter poetry.

Achieving an Altered Consciousness The Roman historian **Plutarch** (45–120 CE) acted as the head priest at Delphi and he reported that during her readings, the Pythia was ecstatic, sometimes considerably agitated, bounding and leaping about, speaking in a harsh voice, and intensely salivating. Sometimes she fainted, and sometimes she died. Modern geologists investigating the fissures in Delphi have measured the substances emanating from the crack as a potent combination of ethane, methane, ethylene, and benzene.

Other possible hallucinogenic substances that might have helped the Pythia achieve her trance have been suggested by various scholars, such as laurel leaves (probably oleander); and fermented honey. Whatever created her connection to Apollo, the Pythia was consulted by anyone, rulers to common people, anyone who could make the journey, provide the necessary monetary and sacrificial offerings, and perform the required rituals.

Plutarch described how the oracle worked. Ritual Preparation and Purification

1) Fasting and Cleansing: Before giving prophecies, the Pythia purified herself by bathing in the located sacred Castalian Spring, drinking holy water, and fasting.

2) Laurel Leaves: She burned the leaves and held the shoots of the laurel plant that was sacred to Apollo.

3) The Tripod Seat: She took her place sitting on a high, three-legged bronze stool (tripod) positioned over a cleft or opening in the rock floor inside the inner sanctum.

The Geological Vapors

1) Ancient Belief: Legend claimed intoxicating sweet-smelling vapors rose from a fissure in the earth where the god Apollo had slain the serpent Python, allowing the god's spirit to possess the priestess.

2) Modern Science: Geologists discovered that the temple sits directly atop the intersection of two major underground fault lines. Tectonic friction along these faults can release trapped hydrocarbon gases, including ethylene, which is known to have a sweet smell and can induce a floating, trance-like state and light euphoria when inhaled.

Delivering the Prophecy

1) Ecstatic Trance: Under the combined influence of the mind-altering vapors, psychological preparation, and deep religious devotion, the priestess fell into an altered, ecstatic state.

2) Translation by Priests: In this trance, she uttered chaotic or cryptic sounds and phrases. Surrounding temple priests translated and shaped her words into ambiguous, poetic verses for the waiting kings and pilgrims.

Then we'll visit the **Sanctuary of Athena Pronaia** (meaning "before the temple"), which sits on a lower terrace on the slopes below the main road, a bit southeast of the main Temple of Apollo. It was dedicated to **Athena**, the goddess of wisdom, strategic warfare, and crafts.

Her Sanctuary was the first major sacred area **travelers and pilgrims** coming from the east encountered before reaching the main Temple of Apollo. Visitors seeking an oracle from the Pythia traditionally stopped here first to **offer sacrifices and prayers to Athena**, who at Delphi was viewed as **a guardian protecting her half-brother Apollo**.

The most famous structure in the sanctuary is the **Tholos**, a graceful circular marble temple built around 380–360 BCE. It originally featured 20 Doric columns, three of which have been restored. Its exact purpose remains unknown. The site includes the foundations of multiple older temples dedicated to Athena built across different periods, dating from the Archaic era through the 4th century BCE.

We'll take some time here for **individual reflection and meditation**.

5:30PM Check in at hotel. Free time.

Dinner on your own tonight. There are many excellent restaurants in the area.

Overnight Delphi. The Parnassos Hotel or similar.



L to R: Delphi Museum: Entrance, Frieze of 12 Olympian Gods, Omphalos from the Oracle; Rio-Antirrio Suspension Bridge

Day 4. Monday, April 26. Delphi Museum; To Olympia (B/L)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM

9:00AM Check out and visit the Delphi Archaeological Museum with a local guide. It's one of the principal museums of Greece and one of the most visited. Operated by the Greek Ministry of Culture, it was founded in 1903, and houses the discoveries made at the Panhellenic sanctuary of Delphi, which date from the Late Helladic (Mycenean) period to the early Byzantine era. There are fourteen rooms on two levels, displaying mostly statues, including the famous Charioteer of Delphi, architectural elements, like the frieze of the Siphnian Treasury and ex votos dedicated to the sanctuary of Pythian Apollo, like the Sphinx of Naxos.

11:30AM Depart to Olympia. Our approximately 4 to 5 hour drive takes us south toward the Corinthian Gulf, crossing over the famous Rio-Antirrio suspension bridge, and heading southwest across the Peloponnese peninsula.

1:30PM Light lunch with the group along the way.

2:30PM Continue to Olympia.

5:00PM Arrive in Olympia. Check in at hotel. Free time.

Dinner on your own tonight.

Overnight Olympia. Europa Hotel. <https://www.hoteleuropa.gr/>



L to R: Olympia – Entrance to Stadium; Stadium Track; Temple of Hera

Day 5. Tuesday, April 27. Olympia: Statue of Zeus, Stadium, Temple of Hera, Bouleuterion & Workshop of Phidias; Continue to Epidaurus (B/Box Lunch)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM

9:00AM We check out and visit the **museum** and **archaeological site** at **Olympia** with a local guide, where the **Statue of Zeus** (King of the Gods of Mt. Olympus), one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, was housed.

In about 450 BCE, the city of Olympia built a temple to honor Zeus. Athenian sculptor Phidias created an ivory **Statue of Zeus** seated on a throne, draped in a gold robe. He had a wreath around his head, held a figure of his messenger Nike in his right hand, and a scepter in his left. The circumstances of the statue's eventual destruction are a source of debate: some scholars argue that it perished with the temple in the 5th century CE; others argue that it was carried off to Constantinople, where it was destroyed in the great fire of the Lauseion. Little is left of the temple, though, except a few columns. Of the statue, which was perhaps the most wonderful work at Olympia, all is now gone. The energy still remains though if you tune in and open yourself to it!

Today the stadium, where the **first Olympic Games** were held in 776 BCE, has been restored. We'll enter the stadium through the arched stone passageway, used exclusively by ancient athletes and judges and stand at the preserved stone blocks that mark the ancient starting and finishing lines. We'll then have the unique chance to walk on the 650 ft. long and roughly 112 ft. wide 2,500-year-old dirt track where ancient athletes competed in the **original Olympic Games** and where the natural grassy slopes once held up to 40,000 roaring spectators!

The **Temple of Hera**, dedicated to the Queen of the Greek Gods of the Olympian pantheon is the oldest temple at Olympia, and one of the most venerable in all of Greece. It's at the altar of this east-west oriented temple that the **Olympic flame** was lit and carried to all parts of the known world at that time. To this day, the torch of the Olympic flame is still lit here! The temple was built in ca. 580 BCE, but was destroyed by an earthquake in the early 4th century CE.

The **Bouleuterion** will offer us a compelling look at the administrative and moral heart of the ancient Olympic Games. At the **Council House** we'll see the stone foundations where the Elean Senate and umpires met to manage the sanctuary and organize the games. At the **Sacred Oath Yard** we'll stand in the open courtyard where athletes and judges made **solemn oaths** before Zeus Horkios (the Guardian of Oaths) to follow the rules.

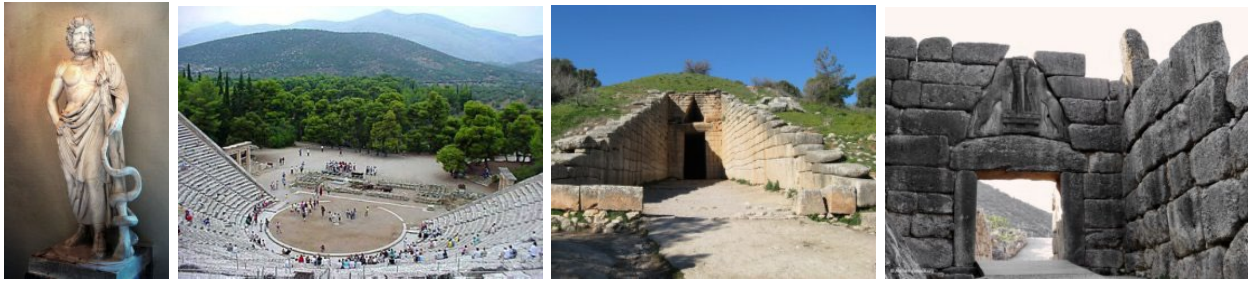
The **Workshop of Phidias** is the exact site where the master sculptor crafted the colossal chryselephantine (gold and ivory) **Statue of Zeus**. One of the most fascinating aspects is the physical size of the building. The workshop's dimensions (approximately 105 ft. long by 47 ft wide) were built to exactly match the sacred inner chamber of the Temple of Zeus. Phidias designed it this way so he could construct and view the massive 41-foot-tall statue in its exact spatial constraints before it was moved across the path to its final home. Unlike many of the surrounding ruins that survive only at foundation level, the workshop features remarkably high-standing stone walls, making it one of the most structurally visually striking buildings to walk past on the site.

During our visit to the **Archaeological Museum** we'll view several masterpieces of sculpture and world-renowned artifacts, including the original marble **statue of Hermes** by Praxiteles and the soaring **Nike of Paionios**.

1:00PM We depart to Epidaurus. Enjoy your Box Lunch during our approximately 3 hour drive as we move eastward across the Peloponnese. Our route skirts past Tripoli to reach the Argolid region, home to the famous ancient Theater of Epidaurus.

4:00PM Arrive and check in at the hotel. Free Time.
Dinner on your own tonight.

Overnight Tolo, near Epidaurus. Superior 3* *Hotel to Be Announced.*



L to R: Sanctuary of Asclepius – Statue of Asclepius, Theatre of Epidauros; Mycenae: Treasury of Atreus, Lion's Gate

Day 6. Wednesday, April 28. Sanctuary of Asclepius, with Theater of Epidauros; Mycenae; Continue to Vravra (B/Box L)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

8:30AM Check out and depart to Epidauros.

9:00AM Arrive and visit the archaeological site of Epidauros, named after the hero who was the son of the god Apollo, with a local guide.

The entire area, known as the **Sanctuary of Asclepius**, features a vast 370-acre archaeological landscape filled with ancient healing ruins, monumental architecture, and a world-famous classical theater. People traveled from all over the Mediterranean region seeking physical and mental cures

The **Theater of Epidauros** was built right into the hills of the site. Made of marble, it was world-renowned because of its amazing acoustics. The symmetrical, harmonious proportions were designed by Polykleitos the Younger in the late 4th century BCE. It was used in ancient times to host music, singing, and dramatic contests dedicated to Asclepius, the ancient Greek God of Healing and Medicine; it accommodated 13,000 to 14,000 spectators for these large-scale artistic performances. As well, it was used as a therapeutic space where patients watched performances to improve their mental and physical health.

Like many thousands of visitors who come here, today we can test the legendary sound clarity of the mind-blowing acoustics, where a whisper in the central circular orchestra can be heard clearly in the top row of the 15,000 limestone seats! Amazing!

The 4th-century BC Doric **Temple of Asclepius**: Though mostly in foundations and scattered architectural fragments today, it once housed the famed gold-and-ivory cult statue of Asclepius. The Tholos, a magnificent circular subterranean building features intricate floor patterns and exquisite ornamental carving. Its precise ritual purpose remains debated, though it was a masterpiece of classical Greek design. The Abaton was the designated sleeping portico where patients underwent sacred dream incubation, to be visited and cured by Asclepius in their sleep.

Andrea will offer a **Group Meditation** to connect with **our own inner healing powers**.

11:30AM Depart on our 1-hour drive to Mycenae. Enjoy your Box Lunch along the way.

12:30PM Arrive and visit the archaeological site of **Mycenae & the museum** with a local guide, our auspicious opportunity to explore and experience the legendary **Bronze Age capital of Agamemnon**, the legendary king of Mycenae and the supreme commander of the Greek forces during the Trojan War. Despite the legends, there is no direct historical or textual record proving that a specific King Agamemnon actually existed.

The **Mycenaean civilization** was one of the greatest civilizations of Greek prehistory and was famous for its majestic architecture and monuments with a grand and impressive appearance. Mycenae, one of Greece's most significant archaeological sites, was where the Mycenaean civilization originated.

Our first stop is at the **Treasury of Atreus**. When early modern travelers and explorers rediscovered the monumental underground structure in the 18th and 19th centuries, its grand scale, sophisticated architecture, and massive stone lintel led them to believe it was a storehouse for royal wealth or a treasure vault, rather than a tomb. Early visitors linked the impressive monument to Atreus, the legendary king of Mycenae and father of Agamemnon from Greek mythology. Despite the name, archaeologists have confirmed that the structure is actually a tholos (a monumental, beehive-shaped Bronze Age tomb) built around 1250 BCE for royal or aristocratic burials, not a treasury.

The Treasury is also known as the **Tomb of Agamemnon**. It lies outside the main citadel, and is famous for its gigantic lintels and tholos tomb with a massive corbeled stone dome. A small path leads to the entrance of the tomb, which has a triangular lintel stone above the doorway, weighing about 120 tons. When Heinrich Schliemann (1822-1890) came to Mycenae in 1879, the grave had already been looted centuries ago.

The iconic entrance to the archaeological site is through the famous **Lion Gate Relief**. Built around 1250 BCE, this portal features two rampant lionesses carved in limestone flanking a central Minoan-style column. It stands as **Europe's oldest monumental sculpture**. The gateway is framed by massive limestone blocks weighing several tons. Built without mortar, the structure relies entirely on precise fitting and gravity. The triangular slab above the lintel ingeniously shifts the immense weight of the wall away from the horizontal stone block below.

Inside the Fortified Citadel is **Grave Circle A**. Located immediately to the right past the entrance, this royal burial ground contained six deep shaft graves where Heinrich Schliemann discovered golden treasures and funerary masks. A path leads uphill to the summit to view the remains of the royal throne room and central hearth courtyard of the Palace Megaron. The high citadel summit provides sweeping views across the Argolid plain, highlighting the strategic military advantage of the hilltop location.

Our last stop is at the on-site **Archaeological Museum**, a modern one that bridges the gap between bare stone ruins and daily Bronze Age life. Browse local pottery, cooking vessels, tools, and bronze weapons recovered from the citadel and surrounding cemeteries. Examine Linear B clay tablets, delicate carved ivory pieces, fresco fragments from palace walls, and the replica of the **Gold Mask of Agamemnon** and others. (The original gold artifacts are housed in the National Archaeological Museum in Athens). Heinrich Schliemann discovered a famous 16th-century BCE gold funeral mask at Mycenae and named it the "Mask of Agamemnon". However, modern archaeology shows the mask dates back roughly 300 to 400 years before the era when the Trojan War allegedly took place.

3:00PM Depart to **Vravrona**. During our 2.5 hours of continuous driving the route takes us from the Peloponnese across the Corinth Canal, bypassing the northern suburbs of Athens, and heading southeast to the coast of East Attica.

5:30PM Arrive Vravrona. Check in at hotel

Dinner on your own tonight.

Overnight Vavrona. NHL Mati Seafront Hotel or similar. <https://www.nlh.gr/hotels/athens-mati/>



L to R: Temple of Artemis, Museum Artemis with Family Bringing Goat for Sacrifice

Day 7. Thursday, April 29. Vravrona: Artemis Temple & Museum; Free Time (B)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM

9:00AM We're off to visit the **Artemis Temple** and its on-site **museum** in the tranquil nearby countryside with a local guide.

Artemis as the daughter of Zeus and Leto, and the sister of Apollo. This Greek Goddess of the hunt and the moon, is not easily categorized. She is the deity of wild places, groves and ponds and the Protectress of Animals. She was "whole without a man," and was thus immune to falling in love. Artemis is the magic of freedom, the woman who cannot be defined, for she is continually reinventing herself, as the moon changes from night to night. She is also known as a healer, a midwife, a champion of those set upon by circumstances that seem overwhelming. Artemis is the spirit of the wild forest and the quiet glade, and her magic is in being true to the self, a true "woman who runs with the wolves". She was renamed Diana, Queen of Heaven, by the Romans.

One legend relates that **Iphigeneia**, the daughter of the famous Mycenaean King Agamemnon, lived at this ancient site as a priestess of Artemis. She brought with her a wooden statue of the goddess which was enshrined here for many years. Other stories say her father sacrificed her to Artemis so that his ships could sail to Troy, while the local legend relates that instead, she was "sacrificed" to a life in the temple and lived here until she died. There is a broken, roofless cave that is said to be the remains of her tomb. As well a small temple dedicated to Her worship also stood here. At other temples to Artemis there were only priestesses. However, at this site boys were allowed to study. Thus in the museum we see their statues along with their female classmates. It's also possible that boy-girl twins were permitted in acknowledgement of the relationship between Artemis and her own twin brother, Apollo; or for Iphigeneia and her own brother, Orestes, who are credited with founding the site in some tales.

The **Sanctuary of Artemis temple complex** is also known as "The Parthenon of the Bear Maidens". Children who once studied at the temple were known as Artemis' "little bears". They danced for their goddess in sacred processions, trying to make her happy after the death of one of her pet bears.

The 5th-century BCE **Temple of Artemis** was built to honor the goddess of nature and the hunt.

At the Stoa, or the **Parthenon of the Bears** is a large, Pi-shaped covered colonnade where young Athenian girls stayed during the Arkteia ritual. Stone dining couches are still visible here.

Cross one of the best-preserved **classical-era stone bridges** in Greece, featuring ancient wagon-wheel tracks cut into the stone!

View the small **Byzantine-era Christian church**, the Chapel of Agios Georgios, that was built directly into the historic landscape.

Enjoy some time for reflection at the natural spring where the earliest cult worship of Artemis began. Here Andrea will offer a **Group Meditation** to reflect upon Artemis and call in Her qualities of decisiveness and self-esteem. Connect with Her confidence to inspire you to manifest your dreams!

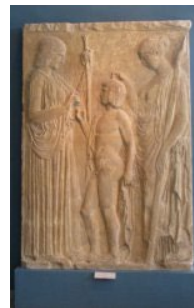
Afterwards we visit the small top-tier on-site museum. View terracotta figurines, small carved bears, mirrors, and jewelry dedicated by women and children. See charming marble sculptures of young Athenian children (arktoi), Bear Children, who participated in rituals dedicating their youth to Artemis.

1:00PM Return to the hotel. Lunch is on your own.

You have free time this afternoon. Maybe take advantage of the delightful outdoor, fresh water swimming pool with direct access to the beach below and communication with the resort's main restaurant, the perfect place to soak in the sun and enjoy a slower mode of being after our many days of visits to sacred sites.

Dinner is on your own tonight.

Overnight Vavrona. NHL Mati Seafront Hotel or similar.



L to R: Eleusis – Plutonian Cave, Telesterion, Bust of Caryatid From Lesser Propylaea, Relief of Demeter and Persephone

Day 8. Friday, April 30. Elefsina/Eleusis; To Airport in Athens; Farewell Dinner (B/D)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM

9:30AM Check out and drive to Elefsina. It's 55 to 70 minutes and covers a driving distance of approximately 39 miles, primarily utilizing the Attiki Odos (A6) toll highway which bypasses central Athens traffic.

10:30AM Arrive and visit the archaeological site of Eleusis and museum with a local guide. The ancient sacred site and its newly renovated museum offer us a fascinating look into the famous ancient **Eleusinian Mysteries** dedicated to **Demeter** and **Persephone** that were held here each year. They were observed regularly from c. 1600 BCE - 392 CE. These mystery school rites were so important to the Greeks that, until the arrival of the Romans, **The Sacred Way** (the 14-mile long road from Athens to Eleusis) was the only real road, not a goat path, in all of central Greece.

The rituals were **based on a symbolic reading of the story of Demeter and Persephone** and **provided initiates with a vision of the afterlife so powerful that it changed the way they saw the world and their place in it**. Participants were **freed from a fear of death** through the recognition that they were **immortal souls** temporarily in mortal bodies. In the same way that Persephone went down to the land of the dead and returned to that of the living each year, so would every human being die only to live again on another plane of existence or in another body. This belief in reincarnation was central to the vision of the Mysteries, which provided people with a sense of peace in that they would have another chance, many other chances, to experience life on earth in other forms. Since the **initiated were sworn to secrecy** on pain of death as to the details of the ritual, we don't know what form this celebration took.

The Mysteries could have been **influenced by Egyptian religious beliefs** which understood death as a transition to another phase of existence, not the end of one's life. The Egyptians had maintained this belief since at least the Early Dynastic Period (c. 3150-c.2613 BCE) and, since there was contact between the two cultures through trade, it is probable that this Egyptian understanding contributed to the deeper interpretation of the Demeter and Persephone story and the vision of the Mysteries.

The most important building of the Sanctuary was the **Telesterion**, the massive **Hall of Initiation** where the secret ancient rites took place, featuring rock-cut steps that once seated up to 3,000 initiates. The architectural remains that are visible today relate mainly to the Telesterion of the classical times (5th century BCE), which was planned by the architect of the Parthenon, Ictinos.

The **monumental gateways** serving as the entrance to the sanctuary, including the Lesser and Greater Propylaea. The **Lesser Propylaea** was the monumental Gateway east of Ploutonion, built in the place where in earlier times stood the Peisistratēan North Pylon, the main entrance to the Sanctuary, before the latter was extended further to

the north. The **Greater Propylaea** was the imposing gateway to the Sanctuary in Roman imperial times. It was built over the old North Pylon (Gate), the unadorned fort entrance of Cimon's time (first half of 5th cent. BCE). The building was oriented toward Athens and was an almost exact copy of the central part of the Propylaea on the Acropolis.

The **Plutonian Cave** was the sacred cavern associated with **Pluto**, the god of the underworld. To the west of the Lesser Propylaea, at the northeast foot of the acropolis hill, two successive shallow caves are formed in the rock, which probably constituted the core of the primordial cult. In front of the largest cave lie the poros foundations of a relatively small temple, which was dedicated to Pluto.

Andrea will offer a **Group Meditation**. Open up to receive your initiation into the esoteric mysteries of the Great Mother Goddess. She will bless your spiritual growth, as you look inside, let go, and let Her fill the void.

Then it's off for a visit to the **on-site museum** where the Eleusinian Mysteries are one of the main themes of the museum's displays. There is a collection of objects dating from the 5th century BC, when the reputation of the temple was Panhellenic, and the number of believers who moved there in order to attend the ceremonies of the Eleusinian Mysteries had increased significantly.

Many of the findings are associated with these ceremonies. The **Votive piglet** reminds the sacrifice of these animals for the purgation of the believers at Phaleron, which took place in some of the preparatory stages of the ceremonies, and the **kernos, a ceremonial vessel** which was used at the sacrifices and at the offerings made to the altars and the temples, during the return of the sacred symbols through the Holy Road from the Ancient Agora back again to the Sanctuary for the final initiation.

Among the **most important exhibits** of the museum are included: the monumental protoattic amphora from the middle of the 7th century BC, with the depiction of Medusa's beheading by Perseus, the famous "fleeing kore" from the archaic period, that probably comes from the architectural design of the Sacred House, the large headless statue of the goddess Demeter, probably the work of Agorakrito's school - a student of Pheidias-, and the Caryatid from the roof of the small Propylaea, bringing on her head the ciste, the container holding the sacred articles of the ceremony, with a relief appearance of the symbols of the Eleusinian cult, which are: the ear of grain, the poppies, the rosettes and the *kernos*.

12:30PM Depart to Athens International Airport, a 55 to 70 minute drive via the Attiki Odos toll highway.

1:30PM Arrive and check in at the airport hotel.

Lunch is on your own.

You have free time this afternoon. Rest, relax, pack or re-pack.

7:00PM Farewell to Greece Group Dinner at the hotel's restaurant.

Overnight Athens Airport. Holiday Inn. <https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/gb/en/athens/athea/hoteldetail>

Day 9. Saturday, May 1. Depart Greece (B) OR Come with us on the Post-Tour Excursion to CRETE & SANTORINI

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

The tour ends after breakfast.

Use the free hotel shuttle to transfer to the airport terminal to check in for your international departure. It's a 10 to 15-minute drive (approx. 8.4 miles) from Eleftherios Venizelos International Airport (ATH).

OR, Continue on with us for the optional post-tour Excursion to the Islands of CRETE & SANTORINI!

This itinerary is subject to change due to conditions beyond our control.

Spiritual Odyssey to GREECE
ITINERARY: Sacred Sites on CRETE
May 1 – 7, 2027



L to R: Andrea with Phaistos Disc at Heraklion Archaeological Museum; Palace of Knossos; Altar in Cave

Day 9. Saturday, May 1. To CRETE: Free Time; Welcome to Crete Dinner (B/D)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

Time To Be Announced Check out of the hotel and transfer to airport terminal.

Time To Be Announced Flight to Heraklion, Crete

Time To Be Announced Arrival, claim our checked luggage and transfer via our private bus to the hotel and check in. Lunch on your own. Free time to explore on your own.

7:00PM Group Welcome Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight Heraklion. Requested 3* Atrion Hotel or 5* Aquila Atlantis Hotel or similar a similar.

Day 10. Sunday, May 2. CRETE: Heraklion Archaeological Museum; Palace of Knossos (B)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

9:00AM Depart to visit the **Heraklion Archaeological Museum** with a local guide.

11:30AM Depart to visit the **Minoan Palace of Knossos**

Noon Light Lunch on your own with the group at a nearby local restaurant

1:00AM Visit **the archaeological site of the Minoan Palace of Knossos** etc. with a local guide

4:00PM Depart back to hotel

4:30PM Arrive hotel. Free time.

7:30PM Dinner on your own this evening.

Overnight Heraklion. Requested 3* Atrion Hotel or 5* Aquila Atlantis Hotel or similar a similar.

Day 11. Monday, May 3. CRETE: Idean Cave of Zeus; Gortyn (B)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

9:00AM Depart to the Idean Cave

10:30AM Arrive and visit the **Idean Cave** with a local guide

1:00PM Light Lunch on your own with the group at a local restaurant.

2:00PM Depart to **Gortyn**

3:30PM Arrive and visit **the archaeological site of Gortyn** with a local guide

5:30PM Depart back to Athens

6:30PM Arrive at the hotel. Free time. Dinner on your own.

Overnight in Heraklion. Requested 3* Atrion Hotel or 5* Aquila Atlantis Hotel or similar a similar.

Day 12. Tuesday, May 4. CRETE: Malia; Dictean Cave (B)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

9:30AM Depart to Malia

10:30AM Arrive and visit **the archaeological site of Malia** with a local guide

12:30PM Depart for Lunch on your own with the group at a restaurant near Malia

1:30PM Depart to the Dictean Cave

2:30PM Visit to **the archaeological site of the** Dictean Cave with a local guide

4:30PM Depart to Heraklion.

5:30PM Arrive at hotel. Free time. Dinner on your own.

Overnight Heraklion. Requested 3* Atrion Hotel or 5* Aquila Atlantis Hotel or similar a similar.

Day 13. Wednesday, May 5. CRETE: Eleutherna (B/D)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

9:30AM Depart to Eleutherna.

11:00PM Arrive and visit **the archaeological site of the** Eleutherna, including the museum with a local guide.

1:30PM Depart to lunch on your own with the group.

3:00PM Depart to Heraklion

4:30PM Arrive at hotel. Free time.

7:30PM Group Dinner at **Peskesi Restaurant**, winner of 2025 Best Organic Restaurant in Europe.

<https://peskesicrete.gr/en/restaurant-heraklion-crete>

Overnight Heraklion. Requested 3* Atrion Hotel or 5* Aquila Atlantis Hotel or similar a similar.

Day 14. Thursday, May 6. Depart to Athens (B)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

Morning at leisure. Lunch on your own.

Time To Be Announced Check out of the hotel and transfer to airport terminal.

Time To Be Announced Flight to Athens

Time To Be Announced Arrival, claim our checked luggage and transfer via our private bus to the hotel and check in at airport hotel. Dinner on your own.

Overnight Athens International Airport. Requested Holiday Inn.

<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/gb/en/athens/athea/hoteldetail>

Day 15. Friday, May 7. Depart Greece (B)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM. The tour ends after breakfast.

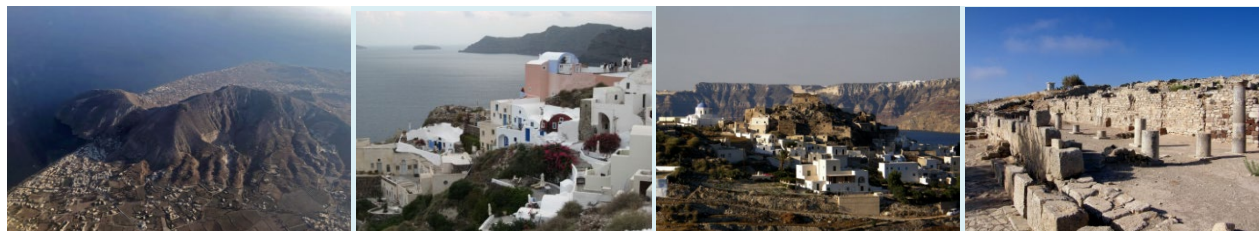
Use the free hotel shuttle to transfer to the airport terminal to check in for your international departure. It's a 10 to 15-minute drive (approx. 8.4 miles) from Eleftherios Venizelos International Airport (ATH).

This itinerary is subject to change due to conditions beyond our control.

Spiritual Odyssey to GREECE ITINERARY: Sacred Sites on SANTORINI May 6 – 9, 2027

NOTE: Andrea will not be going on this Extension.

Those who participate will be with our local SSJ representatives.



L to R: Aerial View; Hillside Village of Oia; Akrotiri; Stoa Basilica at Thera

Day 14. Thursday, May 6. To Island of SANTORINI: Akrotiri & Thera (B)

Time To Be Announced for a quick early breakfast this morning.

7:15 AM Check out and depart to ferry terminal

8:00 AM Depart Heraklion on the high-speed Seajets Champions League Jet 2 ferry to Santorini

9:35 AM Arrive and meet SSJs local tour representative – location to be announced

10:00AM Guided visit of archaeological site of the city of **Akrotiri**.

Continue to ancient site of **Thera**, including the **Agora, Theater, Sanctuary of Artemidoros & the Roman Baths**

1:30 PM Depart for lunch

2:00 PM Lunch on your own with the group at a local restaurant

3:00 PM Check in at hotel. Free time. Dinner on your own.

Overnight Santorini. Requested 3* White Pearl Lokasti Hotel in Oia.

Day 15. Friday, May 7. SANTORINI: Full day at leisure; Farewell Dinner (B/D)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

You have the entire day at your leisure!

Lunch on your own.

7:30PM Farewell to Greece Group Dinner at the hotel or at a local restaurant within walking distance.

Overnight Santorini. Requested 3* White Pearl Lokasti Hotel in Oia.

Day 16. Saturday, May 8. Depart to Athens (B)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM.

Morning at leisure. Lunch on your own.

Time To Be Announced Check out of the hotel and transfer to airport terminal.

Time To Be Announced Flight to Athens

Time To Be Announced Arrival, claim our checked luggage and transfer via our private bus to the hotel and check in at airport hotel. Dinner on your own.

Overnight Athens International Airport. Requested Holiday Inn.

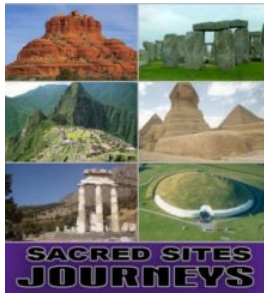
<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/gb/en/athens/athea/hoteldetail>

Day 17. Sunday, May 9. Depart Greece (B)

Breakfast at your leisure. Begins at 7:00AM. The tour ends after breakfast.

Use the free hotel shuttle to transfer to the airport terminal to check in for your international departure. It's a 10 to 15-minute drive (approx. 8.4 miles) from Eleftherios Venizelos International Airport (ATH).

This itinerary is subject to change due to conditions beyond our control.



Sacred Sites Journeys

A Division of Lapis, Ltd. LLC

Andrea Mikana-Pinkham, Director

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Andrea Cell: 928 814-0773

SacredSitesJourneys@gmail.com

www.SacredSitesJourneys.com

Spiritual Odyssey to GREECE: Sacred Sites and Ancient Oracles & Optional Post Tour Extensions to CRETE & SANTORINI

TOUR PRICING

MAIN TOUR (April 23 – May 1, 2027) Land ONLY, per person double occupancy

(For a group of 15) **\$4,319.00** via check, Zelle or bank wire OR **\$4,535.00** via PayPal

* **Single Room Supplement: \$1,319.00** via check, Zelle or bank wire OR **\$1,385.00** via PayPal

The additional amount if you choose to have your own private room throughout the journey.

Roommates: *If you're not traveling with anyone you know, Sacred Sites Journeys will try to match you up with a suitable roommate. Per our Terms and Conditions, we will hold the event registration open until 30 days or later before the tour begins in order to try to match you with someone. If by that time we have not been able to do so, you will be responsible to pay the single supplement. If you would like to be matched with a roommate, please register early.*

CRETE Extension (May 1 – 7, 2027) per person double occupancy

(For a group of 10) **\$3,199.00** via check, Zelle or bank wire OR **\$3,359.00** via PayPal

* **Single Room Supplement: \$990.00** via check, Zelle or bank wire OR **\$1,040.00** via PayPal

SANTORINI Extension (May 6 – 9, 2027) per person double occupancy

(For a group of 6) **\$1,779.00** via check, Zelle or bank wire OR **\$1,868.00** via PayPal

* **Single Room Supplement: \$594.00** via check, Zelle or bank wire OR **\$624.00** via PayPal

Domestic Flights in GREECE:

Option 1 - Athens/Crete/Athens (CRETE Only): \$435.00 per ticket via check, Zelle or bank wire OR **\$457.00** via PayPal

May 1st: Athens to Crete, 11:25 AM and May 6th: Crete to Athens, 9:30 AM

Flex Fare, including handbag, carry-on, and a 50 lb. suitcase.

Option 2 - Athens/Crete & Santorini/Athens (CRETE & SANTORINI): \$572.00 per ticket

via check, Zelle or bank wire OR **\$601.00** via PayPal

May 1st: Athens to Crete, 11:25 AM and May 8th: Santorini to Athens, 11:35 AM

Flex Fare, including handbag, carry-on, and a 50 lb. suitcase.

Please note these are estimates at the time of calculating costs, not the exact fares. We cannot confirm the final ticket price until the group minimum of 10 people for CRETE and 6 people for SANTORINI has been reached and the group(s) is/are called a "Go". At that time the tickets will be issued. The actual fare could be higher or lower. Should the price for the flight tickets increase, that additional amount will be passed on to the passenger. Should the price decrease, the savings will be passed back to the passenger. ***Please register as soon as possible in order to keep the current price for the tickets.***

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Spiritual Odyssey to GREECE: Sacred Sites and Ancient Oracles

MAIN TOUR: April 23 - May 1, 2027

CRETE Extension: May 1 – 7, 2027

SANTORINI Extension: May 6 – 9, 2027

REGISTRATION FORM

_____ I am registering for the MAIN TOUR Only

_____ I am registering for the MAIN TOUR and the CRETE Extension

_____ I am registering for the MAIN TOUR, the CRETE & the SANTORINI Extensions

**Please complete, sign this form and mail it to the address above
with a check for your deposit or payment in full.**

You may also email your completed form to Andrea at SacredSitesJourneys@gmail.com

Additionally, you may also email a photo from your phone.

DEPOSIT(S):

\$1,000.00 per person for the MAIN TOUR

\$800.00 per person for the CRETE Extension

\$200.00 per person for the SANTORINI Extension

Price for Domestic Airline Ticket for Crete Only Extension OR Crete & Santorini Extensions

FINAL PAYMENT is due February 15, 2027.

PAYMENT VIA CHECK:

IMPORTANT: Please make checks payable to “Lapis Ltd, LLC”

(This is the LLC that is **the Administrator of Sacred Sites Journeys**)

*Checks not made out in this name will not be accepted by our bank & will be returned to you to replace,
and could thus jeopardize your reservations.*

IMPORTANT For registrations via check from outside the USA:

We can only accept personal checks or bank cashier's checks.

Checks must be drawn in US Dollars and on a bank that has an affiliate bank in the US,
and the name of the affiliate bank must appear on the check.

PAYMENT VIA ZELLE: You may send funds to our Lapis Ltd, LLC bank account via Zelle.

(Details to be provided through email; please contact Andrea at sacredsitesjourneys@gmail.com.)

PAYMENT VIA BANK WIRE: You may wire funds to our Lapis Ltd, LLC bank account.

(Details to be provided through email; please contact Andrea at sacredsitesjourneys@gmail.com.)

PAYMENT VIA CREDIT CARD at PayPal.com:

Please go to www.PayPal.com & pay the PayPal pricing listed above into the account of sevenrayorder@gmail.com

Please provide a note with your payment stating “Sacred Sites Journeys Greece 2027” as the tour you’re sending funds for.

Passport Name: _____

IMPORTANT: 1) The name you use must be exactly as it appears, or will appear, on your passport. If you do not have a passport at the time you are registering, please complete this form and send it to SSJ. You can provide your passport information when you receive your new or renewed passport.

Name You Want on Your Name Tag: _____

Passport number _____ **Country of Issue** _____

Issue Date _____ **Exp. Date** _____

Date of Birth _____ **Country of Birth** _____ **Profession** _____

Mailing Address: _____ **City** _____ **State** _____

Country _____ **Zip/Postal Code** _____

Phone (Work) _____ **Phone (Home)** _____

E-mail: _____

I would like **double occupancy**. My roommate is _____.

Roommate Contact Information: Phone (Home) _____

E-mail: _____

If your roommate is not sending in their registration with yours, when can we expect it? _____

_____ I would like **double occupancy, but do not have a roommate**. I understand that Sacred Sites Journeys will try to match me with a suitable roommate. I further understand that if by 30 days before the departure date, they have not been able to find me a roommate, that I will be responsible to pay the single supplement fee before the tour departure date.

_____ I would like **single occupancy**. I understand that I will be invoiced for the single supplement and that payment will be due with my final payment, 60 days before the tour departure date.

_____ I understand that Sacred Sites Journeys highly recommends purchase of **Trip Cancellation / Trip Interruption Insurance**, and information about this insurance will be provided to me with my registration confirmation.

_____ I do not have any **physical limitations** that require special attention. If you do, please attach details on a separate sheet. Most situations can be accommodated, but we must know beforehand in order to make arrangements. There may be additional costs.

_____ I require the following **special diet**:

I understand that some or all payments made may be forfeited, based on my cancellation of this program as detailed within the "Terms and Conditions" included with this Registration Form. My signature below affirms that I have read and completely understand the Tour Itinerary, as well as Information and Conditions as stated in the "Terms and Conditions" provided herein and agree to all of the contents therein.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

NOTE: Each traveler must submit a separate Registration form.

Sacred Sites Journeys

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Andrea Mikana-Pinkham, Director

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Office: 928 284-1429

Andrea Cell: 928 814-0773

SacredSitesJourneys@gmail.com

www.SacredSitesJourneys.com

TERMS & CONDITIONS

This form is for you to keep. No need to return it with your registration form.

Reservations and Payments: A non-refundable and non-transferable deposit of \$1,000.00 per person for the main tour, plus an additional \$800.00 per person for the post-tour extension to Crete & \$200.00 per person for the post-tour extension to Santorini is required for those paying via check, Zelle or bank wire. For those paying via PayPal, the deposit is \$1,050.00 for the main tour, plus an additional \$840.00 for the Crete extension and \$210.00 for the Santorini extension. Payment in full for the Domestic Air for the Crete Only Extension OR the Crete & Santorini Extensions is also required to register. *(See Note below about Air)* These payments, along with a completed and signed registration form must be submitted to confirm your reservations.

Final payment is due on February 15, 2027 for those paying via check, Zelle or bank wire. For final payments made via PayPal.com the due date is February 8, 2027.

Registrations submitted after final payment due date: If you would like to register for the journey after the date the final payment is due (February 8 or 15, 2027), SSJ will be happy to take your registration. All hotel accommodations and domestic flights in Greece will be on request and SSJ will notify you if space is available.

Cancellations and Refunds:

Days Prior to Departure

Registration Deposit

60 – 0 days before departure

Cancellation Fee

Non-refundable and non-transferable upon submission

Final payments are 100% non-refundable

SSJ highly recommends trip interruption/trip cancellation insurance. See **Insurance Protection Plan** section below.

Possible Tour Surcharge: The advertised cost for this Sacred Sites Journey is based on a group of 15 people for the main part of the tour, and a group of 10 people for the post-tour extension to Crete, and a group of 6 people for the post-tour extension to Santorini. If the final number traveling in the group falls below this number, in order to keep from having to cancel the journey, SSJ will issue a surcharge. This amount will merely be the difference in costs for the different group sizes, and no commissions for SSJ will be included in the amount. SSJ makes every effort not to have to enact a surcharge; but if we do, we keep it as small as possible. If assessed a surcharge, you will be notified of the amount as soon as the registration is closed. Payment is due upon notification, and must be received in our office immediately in order for your final documents to be emailed or mailed to you in a timely manner.

Note: Should the journey fail to achieve minimum participation, SSJ reserves the right to cancel it and will refund in full all payments received (with the exception of credit card fees and any non-refundable hotel deposits and/or domestic airline tickets booked for the flights in Greece on the post-tour excursion and international airline tickets booked by the passenger).

Possible Currency Exchange Rate Surcharge: Pricing is based on the exchange rate between Euros and US Dollars at the time of pricing of the tour. If this rate changes by the time final payment is due, there is a possibility that a surcharge will be issued to cover this difference.

Air: All airline tickets are subject to each carrier's Terms and Conditions as to passage and cancellation fees. Tours are sold in conjunction with the services of these approved carriers.

NOTE about Flight Tickets for Domestic Flights in Greece: A price of \$435.00 per person via check, Zelle or bank wire OR \$457.00 via PayPal for the domestic flights Athens-Heraklion-Athens OR A price of \$572.00 per person via check, Zelle or bank wire OR \$601.00 via PayPal for the domestic flights Athens-Heraklion-Santorini-Athens has been used to calculate the pricing. Please note these are estimates at the time of calculating costs, not the exact fares. We cannot confirm the final ticket price until the group minimum of 10 people for CRETE and 6 people for SANTORINI has been reached and the group(s) is/are called a "Go". At that time the tickets will be issued. The actual fare could be higher or lower. Should the price for the flight tickets increase, that additional amount will be passed on to the passenger. Should the price decrease, the savings will be passed back to the passenger. ***Please register as soon as possible in order to keep the current price for the tickets.***

Required Tour Documents: For US, UK, Australian and New Zealand Residents - A passport valid for six months after the date that the journey ends must be held by each passenger. **For Canadian Residents** - A passport valid for three months after the date that the journey ends must be held by each passenger. For citizens of other countries, here's a link to various requirements:

<https://www.worldtravelguide.net/guides/europe/greece/passport-visa/>

Accommodations: Based on twin-bedded rooms with bath or shower as indicated. You are assigned accommodations as the guest of the facility selected. The tour operator reserves the right to substitute hotels of similar category.

Meals: Meals will be provided as per the final itinerary. Any foods or beverages not included in the program and purchased by you will be at additional cost. Price includes only foods and beverages that are provided to the entire group. NOTE: Drinks provided at meals indicated, including bottled water, are an additional cost.

Sight-seeing: As specified in itinerary. Entrance fees are included.

Land transportation: As specified, by modern air-conditioned coaches.

Not Included: Items of a personal nature such as laundry, drinks, internet service, telephone calls, as well as any item that is not specifically detailed in the brochure or final conference or journey itinerary.

Consumer Disclosure Notice: SSJ and/or their agents act only in capacity as agents for the passenger in all matters in Greece connected with hotel accommodations, sight-seeing tours and transportation, whether by air, rail, bus, motorcar, boat or any other means and as agent holds itself free of responsibility for any damage occasioned by any cause. SSJ and or its agents will not be responsible for any damages, expenses or inconveniences caused by late departures or change of schedule, strikes or to their conditions, nor will be responsible for loss or damage to baggage or any of the passenger's belongings. All prices quoted are correct at time of website posting/flyer printing, include the cost of operation of the events and tours, and are subject to currency conversion rate and airfare price changes. SSJ, its parent corporation and affiliates, officers, employees, servants and agents shall not be responsible for personal injury, death or property damage as a result of force majeure or for any other losses or damages incurred by any person or tour participants caused by any delay or change of itinerary or arising out of any act, including, but not limited to, any act of negligence, any person acting for or on behalf of SSJ for transportation, accommodation or sight-seeing provider or any other person or entity rendering any of these services or accommodations being offered in connection with these events or tours. Any dispute arising out of these events or tours, must be submitted in writing within 30 days of the completion of the event or tour and will be settled by arbitration within the State of Arizona.

Insurance Protection Plan: We strongly recommend **TRAVEL INSURANCE** to protect against cancellation fees and additional travel expenses that may incur before, after or during the event or tour. With your reservation confirmation, will send details about an insurance program.