

American Celebration of Music in Greece

Suggested Tour #2 (6 nights / 8 days)

Day 1

Depart via scheduled air service. The destination is Athens, Greece

Day 2

Athens

(D)

Arrive in Athens

Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for a transfer to the hotel via orientation tour of Athens' highlights en route, including Constitution Square and Kendriki Agora (Central Market)

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

The stunning sight, the brilliant light, the beauty of the ancient monuments and the quality of the museums all contribute to the pleasure of visiting Athens, the city of Athena, the cradle of European civilization. During the 5th and 6th Centuries BC and especially during the Golden Age of Pericles, Athens became the center of art, learning, discourse, philosophy, teaching, architecture for the whole civilized world

Day 3

Athens

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Participate in a tour of Athens, including a visit to the Acropolis (Parthenon). This religious center of ancient Athens, which received its classical form in the time of Pericles, thus reflected the humane values of Greek culture and thoughts which have retained their power down to our own day. In spite of the destruction wrought by many centuries, most notably the devastating explosion in 1687, when a Venetian grenade blew up a Turkish powder magazine which had been housed in the Parthenon and made the 2,000-year-old temple a ruin, the surviving remains still convey something of the splendor of the age of Pericles

Lunch on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Greece

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 4

Athens

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Enjoy a morning walking tour in Old Town Plaka. Plaka is the historic heart of Athens. Even though only a few houses date back further than the Ottoman period, it remains the oldest continuously inhabited area of the city. Despite the many churches, shops and museums, Plaka still retains the feel of a residential neighborhood

Lunch on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Greece

Evening dinner and overnight



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Day 5 **Athens / Argolis Region** **(B,D)**

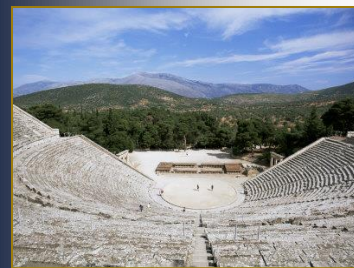
Breakfast at the hotel
Full-day tour of the Argolis region
Visit Corinth where you can see the famous Corinth Canal
Continue to Epidaurus. At the heart of the gentle Argolis hills set about with pine trees and oleanders, lay the ruins of the famous sanctuary of the hero Asklepios, the god of medicine, where people from all over ancient Greece would come to consult the oracle. The most famous site here is the theatre, the most outstanding in the ancient world, known for its beauty, its magnificent lines, harmonious proportions and incredible acoustics

For choirs only: Impromptu recital in the theatre

Lunch on own

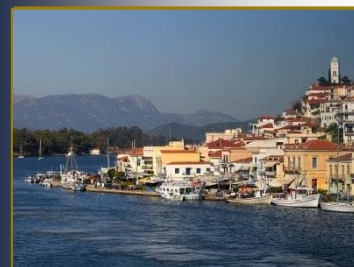
Then it is off to visit the ancient city of Mycenae home to the kingdom of mythical Agamemnon. You will see the Atreus Tomb, the Mycenaean citadel with the Cyclopean Walls and the Lionesses Gate

Return to Athens for dinner and overnight



Day 6 **Athens / Hydra / Poros / Aegina** **(B,L,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel
Full-day sightseeing includes a 3-island cruise to Hydra, Poros and Aegina. Leave Athens in the morning by coach to Trocadero Harbor. Sail for the island of Aegina. Cruise through the straits to Poros (visit). Then on to Hydra for time at leisure for shopping or swimming. Sail back to Trocadero Harbor and transfer by coach to Athens. Buffet lunch is served on the boat, and you'll enjoy entertainment and Greek Dancing while at sea
Evening dinner and overnight



Day 7 **Athens** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel
Today visit the New Acropolis Museum. A walk through the New Museum's galleries is a walk through history – between the masterpieces of the Archaic and Classical periods, but also in the ancient neighborhoods of Athens. The museum has over 14,000 square meters of exhibition spaces

Lunch on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Greece

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

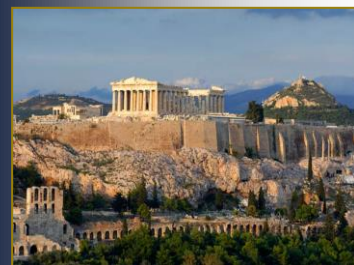


Day 8 **Depart for home** **(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel
Transfer to Athens airport for return flight

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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