

## ***OPTIONAL SIGHTSEEING TOURS IN ATHENS & ISLANDS***

### ***Itinerary***

#### **ATHENS**

##### ***Athens by Night tour***



Your evening begins with a short panoramic drive through the city center and on the slopes of the sacred hill you will be able to see, admire and take photos of the illuminated Acropolis. Then a pleasant walk through the narrow picturesque streets of Plaka, the old city, will bring you at a Typical Greek Tavern where you will enjoy your dinner following a floor show with live music and Greek Folk Dances in traditional costumes.

##### ***Full day Shopping – Lunch – Cape Sounion tour***



Meet at the hotel lobby at 09:00 and proceed for Shopping in Mc Arthur Glen (discount shopping mall) for 3 hours. Then drive around 13:00 for lunch in Voskopoula Greek tavern for lunch

##### **Menu Lunch:**

Cold and Hot Appetizers (Tzatziki, fried Zucchini, fried Eggplant, potatoes) per 4

Salad per 4

Grilled Lamb / or lamb in the oven

Dessert per 4

1 Soft drink

Mineral Water

After lunch proceed for Cape Sounion tour



Drive along the coastal road, passing the wonderful beaches of Glyfada, Vouliagmeni & 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.

## MYKONOS

### *Delian Sunset Cruise*



Meeting time at the Ornos Bus station at 18.10 pm, departure at 18:30h. by the traditional Greek Kaiki.

The route takes us to Delos with a view to the ancient harbour and the ruins, then between Delos and the coast of Rhenia past the little islands "Ano and Kato Rematiaris" towards the South to the uninhabited islands "Prasonissia"

where we can enjoy the magic light of the sun setting over Delos.

On board there is a choice of drinks between sparkling wine, white wine, Gin 6 tonic, Ouzo, beer and soft drinks (max. 2 drinks per person) which is offered with small snacks.

Return to Ornos Bus station at 20.40 after experiencing a beautiful sunset.

### *Mykonos Island City tour*



Mykonos - Labyrinth and Landscape... A pearl in the Aegean Sea - blue sky, beautiful snow- white houses, lovely beaches everywhere...

Starting the City-and Island tour by walking the small and narrow streets, we have many possibilities to take nice photographs in the early morning, quiet city. We get orientation and information in the labyrinth of the old town as well as impressions of the small port and the churches in town. Of course we will see the famous wind-mills and find Petros The Pelecan, the mascot of Mykonos.

After this we are exploring the island with a bus, visiting some of the most famous beaches and the inner landscape. We see fishermen and kaikis, small private chapels and houses built in typical cycladic style.

In the second main village of Mykonos, Ano Mera, an idyllic place 6km from town, where the guests have enough free time for a stroll around the traditional square and they can visit the monk monastery Panagia Tourliani built in the 16th century.

Next stop is Kalafatis beach where there is time to relax a little and have a coffee or a refreshment (not included in the price), before going back to town and to reach a place with a fantastic view all over the town and neighbour islands.

## SANTORINI

### *Caldera Oia Sunset Cruise Tour*



The tour starts at 10:30 at our office in the central square of Fira, where our bus is waiting to take you to the new port of Athinios, where you'll board to start the sightseeing trip to the volcano, which is reached after about 15-20 minutes. You will have approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes to walk to visit the active craters. There is a path that reaches the top, where you can see the smoke coming from the craters, breathing the strong smell of sulfur. To follow this path it will take about 20-30 minutes each way. The boat tour will continue with destination Palea Kameni, for the Hot Springs. The boat will stop in the small bay of Agios Nikolaos, and with a ladder you can dive into the waters and swim for about 30 meters until you reach the famous thermal spas of Palaia Kameni, where the water temperature ranges from 30 to 35 degrees Celsius as it mixes continuously with the normal sea currents. The tour continues to the island of Thirassia where you will have 2 hours of free time to swim in the crystal clear waters of Korfos or to eat in the traditional taverns of the island. You will also have time to move on foot or riding donkeys to the village of Manolas, which is very picturesque, with narrow streets and a beautiful view of Santorini. After the pleasant break of two hours on the island of Thirassia, we will start returning to the new port passing close to the volcanic cliffs of Oia to photograph this unique setting. Once at the port of Athinios our bus will take you to the village of Oia, where you will have time for a nice stroll through the narrow streets of the center, to take pictures at this fascinating landscape and to admire the famous sunset of Oia. Immediately after sunset, our bus will take you back to your hotel

### *Akrotiri Bus Tour*



**Akrotiri's** excavations have uncovered one of the most important prehistoric settlements of the Aegean. The first habitation at the site dates from the Late Neolithic times.

In Acrotiri we can also visit the famous lighthouse that was built in 1892 by the French Company Lighthouses.

**Museum of prehistoric Thera in Fira** is one of the most important in Greece. The museum can be seen as an extension of the archaeological site of Akrotiri, once housed the frescoes and finds the urban center in this period of great prosperity (17th century BC.).

**Pyrgos** is an exceptional village with its own castle and precious stoned pathways.

The most perfect sunset in the world is in OIA. Walk through the village.

**Red Beach** is a picturesque beach, the most famous of the island. It took its name from the bright red color of the sand and rocks in the area.

**Black Beach (Perissa)** is one of Santorini's best beaches. Next to Emporio village, a long, dark, sandy, endless beach. A feature that makes Perissa unique is the fact that it's the best - protected beach from the summer Aegean winds.

## RHODES

### Full day tour LINDOS – 7 SPRINGS



**OVERVIEW:** The Rhodes Private Half Day Lindos & 7 Springs shore excursion includes everyone's favorite Rhodes destination, the "*Jewel of the Island*", Lindos Acropolis and village. This is followed with a lovely drive through the ever changing landscapes of Rhodes villages, river beds, and forests to the refreshing nature stop, the 7 Springs Oasis. The tour continues with a stop to Archangelos Village, where we will see a quick demo of the pottery techniques that have made Rhodes pottery famous and desired since ancient times.

**INCLUDED:** A/C vehicle, dependable driver, **English speaking** licensed guide

**NOT INCLUDED:** entrance fees

**HIGHLIGHTS:** *Lindos*, voted as the most attractive village on Rhodes with its breathtaking view of the green-blue Aegean sea, Blue Flag beach and 3,000 year

old Acropolis. Be amazed at the majesty of *the Great Stoa*, the remains of the massive *Temple of Athena Lindia*, the ancient theatre, and remains of *the Temple of Dionysus*. The beautiful artistic village of Lindos, at the base of the Acropolis, was once a village of 50,000, presently 400 residents. Before leaving Lindos we visit the 15th century *medieval church dedicated to the Virgin Mary* with its unusual belfry, carvings, and 17th century wall paintings. The Seven Springs Oasis is next with its magical peacock filled landscape of streams and waterfalls cascading through a forest of moss draped trees.

### Rhodes Private Half Day Tour



**OVERVIEW:** Rhodes is a treasure of diversity. On this private tour you will experience the 'paradise' setting of the Butterfly Valley, where thousands of butterflies accompany you on a forest walkway over waterfalls and streams.

You'll step back to Byzantine times at the Church of Kalopetra, and be in awe of the Grand Master Palace in the Medieval Old Town of Rhodes. To top it off is a wonderful city highlights drive past the ancient Rhodes Acropolis, *2nd century Ancient Sports Stadium and Theater* and the *D'Amboise Gate of the Medieval City*

**INCLUDED:** licensed guide (optional, request when booking) dependable driver, A/C vehicle

**NOT INCLUDED:** entrance fees

**HIGHLIGHTS:** In the shady, lush, enchanting oasis site of the *Valley of the Butterflies*, you will be followed by thousands of butterflies as you walk up the safe wooden walkway following the streams and waterfalls. Culminating your walk, at the top of the hill, is the beautiful Byzantine Monastery of the Virgin of Kalopetra, (built in 1784 on top of the ruins of the Temple of Athena from the 3rd century BC). You will be met by your driver/vehicle to continue your half day tour. (For those not wanting to walk up to the top, you may be driven to meet the others). We then continue with a *Panoramic Drive of City Highlights*: views from Monte Smith Hill, and the *Ancient Rhodes Acropolis*. You will disembark and on foot visit the *Grand Masters Palace* and the "*Street of the Knights*" which has remained unchanged for five hundred years and possesses a great deal of Gothic influence.

## CRETE

### Arkadi – Rethymno tour



Drive along the coastal road to the prefecture of Rethymnon. Visit the settlement of Arkadi where the homonymous monastery of great importance for Cretan people is located. Built on the edge of a fertile upland, the monastery bears a long time history. In 1866 during the Ottoman domination it became the symbol of freedom when monks, citizens and Cretan fighters locked inside burned it down to avoid enslavement. The museum hosted in its premises unfolds its history piece by piece. Next stop is the picturesque Mediterranean town of Rethymnon, characterised by its unique Renaissance architecture, the Venetian fortress Fortezza and the old harbour. Enjoy a city tour in the old town and relax in one of its various cafes by the sea. The seductive personality of Rethymnon will surely bewitch you. Afterwards free time for shopping.

### Knossos and City tour of Heraklion



A visit to Crete is incomplete without visiting the renowned Minoan Palace of Knossos! This fabulous site is dating back 4.000 ago. Two brilliant palaces built in Neolithic times... Visit the room of the throne and the frescoes depicting the Prince of Crete. Every single stone suggests that a great civilization was born in this very place. Dating from 2000 BC this site remains one of the wonders of the world. Afterwards you will discover the capital town of Crete, Heraklion. The town of Heraklion is the largest urban centre of Crete and the economic centre of the island. During the Minoan period the town of Heraklion served as a port to Knossos. Currently it's population is approximately 160.000. Since the Minoan period the town of Heraklion became the host of varied cultures and civilizations whose indelible marks are visible in the form of fountains, castles, walls, palaces, and other monuments. Heraklion is a heaven for architects and historians, as well as a cosmopolitan town, particularly during the summer period when thousands of visitors can be seen shopping in the market or visiting the museums. The city has a

lot to offer to those who are in search of culture and entertainment. After enjoying your free time the bus will pick you up at 17:00 to bring you back to the hotel.