

FREE TRAVEL ITINERARY · ETRAVELS EVERYWHERE

10-Day *Greece* Athens & Santorini

Athens → Delphi → Santorini (Fira & Oia) → Caldera → Home · Full morning, afternoon & evening breakdown

10 DAYS **2** CITIES **3** RELAXATION DAYS **FREE** DOWNLOAD

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OVERVIEW

Your Greece Trip at a Glance

Greece is the most requested European destination from Etravels Everywhere clients — and this 10-day Athens to Santorini itinerary is our most popular European trip design. You will spend 4 nights in Athens exploring ancient history and incredible food, then ferry to Santorini for 5 nights of caldera sunsets, volcanic beaches, and world-class Greek wine. Top hotel recommendations:

Hotel Grande Bretagne (Athens, luxury — one of Europe's finest hotels), **Electra Metropolis** (Athens, boutique with Acropolis views), and **Canaves Oia Epitome** or **Grace Hotel Santorini** (Santorini — both have iconic caldera infinity pools).

ATHENS HOTELS

Hotel Grande Bretagne • Electra Metropolis

SANTORINI HOTELS

Canaves Oia Epitome • Grace Hotel Santorini

DAY 1 Athens Arrival & First Impressions

MORNING

Most US flights arrive in Athens in the morning after an overnight transatlantic flight. Check into your hotel, freshen up, and resist the urge to nap — staying awake helps you adjust to the 7-hour time difference faster. If your room is not ready, store your luggage and walk directly to **Monastiraki Square**, 10 minutes from most central hotels.

AFTERNOON

A gentle first afternoon is ideal after a long flight. Walk through the **Plaka neighborhood** — Athens' oldest district, with narrow marble streets, bougainvillea-draped houses, and outdoor tavernas on every corner. Have your first Greek lunch: order the grilled octopus, tzatziki, and a Greek salad with proper feta. Browse the antique shops along **Adrianou Street**. The energy here is unlike anywhere in Europe.

EVENING

Dinner at a rooftop restaurant with an Acropolis view — the lit-up Parthenon at night above the city is extraordinary on your first evening. **Strofi** or **Orizontes** restaurant both offer this exact experience. Order the lamb chops, the moussaka, and a carafe of house wine. You are in Greece. Tonight is perfect.

Advisor Tip: Buy the **Athens Combination Ticket** (€30) at any archaeological site. It covers the Acropolis, Ancient Agora, Roman Agora, Kerameikos, and five other sites — saving you €50 or more over individual entries.

DAYS 2 & 3 Athens — Acropolis, History & the City

MORNING — DAY 2

The **Acropolis** is the most important archaeological site in the Western world. Arrive at opening time (8:00am) — the morning light on the Parthenon is magnificent and the crowds are manageable before 10:00am. Walk the sacred path up to the plateau and stand in front of the Parthenon. Allow 2 full hours. On the way down, visit the **Acropolis Museum** (one of Europe's best museums) directly below the hill — the marble friezes and sculptures are extraordinary. Allocate 90 minutes.

AFTERNOON — DAY 2

Explore the **Ancient Agora** — the marketplace where Socrates walked and democracy was born. The reconstructed **Stoa of Attalos** is remarkably intact and the shaded garden walkway through the ruins is perfect on a warm afternoon. Have lunch at **Avocado** restaurant in Monastiraki for excellent modern Greek food. Browse **Monastiraki Flea Market** for vintage finds, Greek icons, and local ceramics.

MORNING — DAY 3

Day trip to **Delphi** — a 2.5-hour bus or private car journey through the Greek countryside to the ancient sanctuary of Apollo perched dramatically on Mount Parnassus. This is where the ancient Greeks consulted the Oracle. The mountain setting, the **Temple of Apollo**, the ancient theater, and the stadium above the clouds are deeply moving. Allow 3 to 4 hours at the site.

AFTERNOON — DAY 3

Return to Athens by early evening. **Ermou Street** shopping for last-minute Athens souvenirs. Greek olive oil, Mastiha products from Chios, and Macedonian wine make excellent gifts. Final Athens dinner tonight in **Kolonaki** neighborhood — the most upscale dining district in the city. Try **Spondi** (two Michelin stars) for a truly extraordinary final Athens evening.

DAY 4 Ferry to Santorini — Arrival in Paradise

MORNING

Early morning taxi to **Piraeus Port** for the high-speed ferry to Santorini. The **SeaJets** or **Hellenic Seaways** fast ferry takes approximately 5 hours. Book business class seats if available — the upper deck lounge has better seating and views. Pack a light breakfast to eat onboard as you watch the Cyclades islands appear and disappear through the ferry windows.

AFTERNOON

Arrive at **Athinios Port** in Santorini and take a taxi up the winding cliff road to **Fira**, the island's capital. Check in to your hotel and see the **caldera** for the first time — the vast volcanic crater filled with deep blue Aegean Sea, the cliffs of the island surrounding it, and the iconic white buildings

cascading down the cliff face. This is one of the most spectacular views on earth. Take a moment. Let it settle.

EVENING

Walk the caldera-edge path from Fira toward **Imerovigli** — the highest point on the island. Watch your first Santorini sunset over the caldera with a glass of Assyrtiko white wine from **Santo Wines** winery or any of the caldera-edge bars. Dinner at a cave restaurant carved directly into the volcanic cliff — **Kapari Wine Restaurant** or **Roka Restaurant** both offer outstanding food with caldera panoramas.

DAY 5 Oia Village & The Iconic Sunset

MORNING

Wake before sunrise and walk (or take a taxi) to **Oia** — the most photographed village in Greece. The narrow marble paths, blue-domed churches, cave homes, and boutique galleries are best experienced before 10:00am when the cruise ship crowds arrive. Explore every winding alley, photograph the famous **Three Bells of Fira** church, and browse the art galleries and jewelry workshops that line the caldera path.

AFTERNOON

Book a **catamaran sailing tour** of the caldera — the most popular activity on the island and deservedly so. You sail to the active **Nea Kameni volcanic island**, swim in the hot springs, snorkel in crystal-clear Aegean water, and eat a full Greek lunch onboard. The view of Santorini's cliffs from the water is even more spectacular than from land. Most tours run 4 to 5 hours.

EVENING

Return to Oia for the world-famous **Oia sunset**. Arrive at **Oia Castle viewpoint** at least 45 minutes before sunset to secure a good spot — hundreds of people gather here every evening. When the sun touches the caldera horizon and turns the entire sky orange and pink behind the white buildings — it is one of those rare moments that justifies every hour of travel. Dinner at **1800 Restaurant** in Oia immediately after sunset.

Advisor Tip: The Oia sunset is magnificent but crowded. An equally beautiful and far more private sunset experience is from your hotel's terrace or infinity pool with a glass of wine — especially if you are staying at a caldera-view property.

DAYS 6 & 7 Santorini Beaches, Wine & Relaxation

MORNING — DAY 6

Visit **Red Beach** — Santorini's most dramatic beach, surrounded by towering volcanic red cliffs. The contrast of the red rock against the deep blue Aegean is extraordinary. The beach is accessed via a short 10-minute hike along the cliff path. Bring snorkeling gear — the underwater volcanic rock formations are remarkable. Nearby **White Beach** and **Mesa Pigadia** are even more secluded for those willing to walk further.

AFTERNOON — DAY 6

Wine tasting at **Santo Wines** — the island's most celebrated winery, perched on the caldera cliff with panoramic views. Santorini's volcanic soil produces **Assyrtiko**, one of Greece's finest white wines, with a crisp mineral quality unlike any other wine in the world. The tasting includes five wines paired with local cheese and cured meats. Alternatively, **Venetsanos Winery** is more intimate and equally spectacular.

MORNING — DAY 7

Perissa and Perivolos beach day — **Perissa** is Santorini's longest beach, lined with beach bars, tavernas, and parasols. The black volcanic sand is unique and the water is warm and clear. Rent a sunbed and umbrella, order a Greek coffee and fresh bread with local honey, and spend the morning at a level of relaxation that only the Greek islands can provide.

MORNING — DAY 7

Last full evening on Santorini. Splurge on dinner at **Kastro Restaurant** in Oia or **Ambrosia Restaurant** in Fira — both have caldera terraces and exceptional Greek seafood. Order the fresh sea bream, the grilled calamari, and the baklava to finish. Then sit with your wine and watch the last Santorini night sky appear.

Santorini is not a place to rush. The most memorable moments happen when you slow down — a long lunch that turns into three hours, a sunset glass of wine that becomes four, a morning swim that you forget to end. Let Greece change your pace.

DAYS 8 & 9 Optional Extension — Mykonos or Return Home

MORNING — DAY 8

For travelers who want more: take a short ferry from Santorini to **Mykonos** (2 to 3 hours) for 2 nights. Mykonos offers a completely different energy — cosmopolitan beach clubs, Little Venice waterfront, windmills, and one of the most vibrant nightlife scenes in Europe. **Paradise Beach** and **Super Paradise Beach** are world famous. Or fly directly home from **Santorini Airport (JTR)** — the airport is small, arrive 2 hours early.

DAY 10 — DEPARTURE

Fly home from Santorini or Athens. Most US-bound flights connect through Athens International (ATH) or a major European hub. Allow sufficient connection time — Greek domestic flights can run 30 minutes late. Carry Santorini wine, local honey, and saffron from nearby Kozani as gifts. And begin planning your return.

WHAT TO PACK

- Comfortable walking shoes (marble streets)
- Light layers — evenings can be cool
- Smart casual outfits for fine dining
- Reef-safe sunscreen
- Universal power adapter (EU plug)
- Camera — bring your best one
- Cash Euros for small shops and taxis

GREECE TRAVEL TIPS

- No visa required for US passport holders
- Currency is Euro — ATMs widely available
- Book Santorini hotels 6+ months in advance
- Ferry tickets book up — reserve early
- Tipping 10% is customary in restaurants
- Most sites close on Mondays — plan ahead
- Travel insurance strongly recommended

Ready to Book Your Greece Vacation?

We design custom Greece itineraries that fit your exact budget, travel style, and travel dates — including hotel bookings at Canaves Oia, Grace Hotel, and Grande Bretagne. Free consultation, no obligation.

