



Greece

Athens & Crete

Inspiring Moments

- Uncover **authentic Greek life on Crete** within its charming villages, old Venetian harbors and timeless traditions.
- Feast on delicious **Greek olives, olive oil, wine and seafood.**
- Learn about the ancient Minoan civilization at the **archaeological sites of Knossos and Phaistos.**
- Stroll labyrinthine laneways in **Crete's centuries-old harbor towns** of Chania and Heraklion.
- Cruise to the uninhabited island of **Spinalonga**, an ancient Venetian fortress.
- Delight in a visit to the Cycladic island of **Santorini**, rising out of the Aegean Sea.
- Savor **Crete's delectable cuisine** during an interactive cooking class.
- Experience the glorious Acropolis, a **UNESCO World Heritage site.**



Itinerary

- Day 1** Depart gateway city ✈
- Day 2** Arrive in Athens and transfer 🚗 to hotel
- Day 3** Athens
- Day 4** Fly to Heraklion | Heraklion
- Day 5** Anogia
- Day 6** Matala | Phaistos
- Day 7** Santorini
- Day 8** Spinalonga Island | Arolithos
- Day 9** Chania
- Day 10** Vouves | Chania
- Day 11** Fly to Athens | Athens
- Day 12** Transfer 🚗 to airport and depart for gateway city ✈

Flights ✈ and transfers 🚗 provided for AHI FlexAir participants.
Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

Included Features

- Accommodations** (with baggage handling)
- **3 nights** in Athens, Greece, at the deluxe NJV Athens Plaza Hotel.
 - **5 nights** in Heraklion at the first-class Lato Boutique Hotel.
 - **2 nights** in Chania at the first-class Avra City Hotel.

- Transfers** (with baggage handling)
- All transfers in the Land Program: flights, ferries and deluxe motor coaches.

- Extensive Meal Program**
- 10 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners, including a Welcome Dinner; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

- Your One-of-a-Kind Journey**
- **Small group:** Sized just right at 28 guests.
 - **Enrichment by expert speakers** enhances your insight into the region.
 - **Engaging excursions** showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
 - **AHI Connects | Local immersion.**
 - **Free time** to pursue your individual interests.
 - Farewell Reception to mingle with fellow travelers.
 - **AHI Sustainability Promise |** Striving to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
 - A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
 - Tipping of guides and drivers.
 - Complimentary travel mementos.

Above: Ruins in Knossos



A World of Discovery

AHI Connects | Anogia Tour. Set off to this pretty mountain village on Mount Ida, or Psiloritis, Crete's highest mountain. Known for its handwoven textiles, Anogia offers a glimpse into traditional life on Crete. Take in the village's warm ambience, then head to a mountaintop where you'll see a recreation of a shepherd's house and enjoy lunch cooked over an open fire (*weather permitting*).

Athens City Tour. Explore the birthplace of democracy and Western philosophy, theater and architecture. See top sites including Athens Academy, the University of Athens and the National Library. Ascend the Acropolis and admire the classical lines of the Parthenon. At the Acropolis Museum, view splendid artifacts from the Acropolis' slopes and study the ruins of an ancient neighborhood through a glass floor. (*Active*)

Knossos. Gain insights on ancient Minoan life, which flourished during the Bronze Age, on a guided tour of the grand Knossos Palace and other ruins. Visit the Heraklion Archaeological Museum later and study the mysterious Phaistos Disk, a Minoan clay disk never fully decoded and much debated.

Heraklion Tour. Walk down the picturesque streets of the old town of Iraklio, passing taverns and historic churches, including Agios Titos, the city's oldest church. Admire the 16th-century Venetian Fortress of Koules at the entrance of the colorful harbor.

Southern Crete. Travel to Crete's serene south coast and hang out in Matala, a little beach town with a bohemian vibe. Spend free time exploring or enjoying a swim. Later, an expert guide leads you on a tour of the fascinating ruins of Phaistos, the most influential Minoan city in southern Crete.

Santorini. Board a high-speed ferry to the celebrated isle of Santorini. See the scenic village of Oia, perched on a volcanic caldera, and sample wines at an island winery.

Spinalonga Island. Cross Mirabello Bay by boat to Spinalonga Island. A military outpost during Venetian rule, it later served as a leper colony from 1903 to 1957. Delve into its poignant history on a private tour. (*Active*)

Arolithos. Tour a recreation of a traditional Cretan village before learning how to prepare authentic Cretan dishes at a cooking class. Then, it's time to dig into your tasty creations!

Chania Tour. After visiting the Chania Archaeological Museum, explore the life of Eleftherios Venizelos, a Cretan instrumental in the founding of modern Greece, at his former home, now a museum. Walk later in Chania's atmospheric old town lined with Venetian, Ottoman and traditional façades.

Ancient Olives & Olive Oil. Your exploration of western Crete takes you to Vouves village. Marvel at the gnarled trunk of one of the world's oldest olive trees, estimated to be over 3,000 years old. Explore the process of olive cultivation and olive oil production at the nearby Olive Tree Museum of Vouves.



Oia, Santorini

Enrichment

- Cretan Culture & Legends
- Contemporary Life on Crete
- History of Olives & Olive Oil

**UNESCO World Heritage
Acropolis, Athens**

Accommodations

NJV Athens Plaza Hotel | Athens



Lato Boutique Hotel | Heraklion



Avra City Hotel | Chania



Activity Level: We have rated all of our excursions with activity levels to help you assess this program's physical expectations. Please call or visit our website for full details.



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AHI Travel Expertise

For more than six decades, our dedicated team has helped travelers explore the world safely and securely.

Travel & Air Coordinators | Help with everything from arranging flights to fulfilling special requests.

Travel Director | Manages all details to ensure a safe and memorable trip.

Travel information | Prepares you fully for your journey.

Expert local guides and lecturers | Provide friendly, knowledgeable service and share their passion for the destination.

Let us arrange your flights!

AHI FlexAir | Our personalized air program features transfers, assistance and flexibility.

2025 Departures & Pricing

May 16-27, 2025

Full Price From \$5,545

Special Savings \$750

***Early Booking Special Price From \$4,795**

*Early Booking Special Price valid if booked by expiration date on website and paid in full at booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$250 per person. VAT & port tax supplement are an additional \$395 per person. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$1,095 (limited availability).