



"Greeks don't fight like heroes, heroes fight like Greeks"

W. Churchill



A HEROIC JOURNEY...

In 1940 the Italians, under the dictator Benito Mussolini, issued an ultimatum to the Greeks demanding them to allow the Italian Army to cross into and occupy Greece. Greece responded with the famous "OHI" (meaning "NO") which marked the beginning of Greece's participation in WWII. This action was one of Greece's finest moments, inspiring the rest of the world.

October 28, 1940 was a date marked with the nation's courage and bravery.

Inspired by the heroism of Greeks and the events of that period, we designed a trip-to-remember. Starting from Athens, you will visit all the significant areas, villages, towns and monuments that have great stories to discover. Along the way you will meet story tellers and researchers with untold facts and stories to share.

Join this unforgettable journey and fill your suitcase with images from the present and knowledge from the past.



A HEROIC JOURNEY IN GREECE



- 1 Athens
- 2 Corinth Canal
- 3 Kalavrita
- 4 Ioannina
- 5 Kastoria
- 6 Thessaloniki
- 7 Chania
- 8 Rethymno
- 9 Heraklio





THE ITINERARY

Day 1

Arrivals day!

Our first meeting will be at the lobby of your hotel, late afternoon. This is the first time you will meet your fellow travelers and our team.

An authentic Greek dinner, will be organized, for your first night, followed by a brief introduction for the days to follow.

Day 2

The second day in Athens will start with an informative historical recall during a walk towards the [Athens War Museum](#), followed by a guided museum tour. Our VIP Coach will then transfer us to the [Acropolis Rock](#) and a light lunch at picturesque Plaka area will follow.

The afternoon and evening will be at leisure with the option for a visit at the Acropolis Museum.

Day program

Meet & greet at the hotel
To know us better dinner



Day program

Walk to the Athens War Museum & guided tour
Transfer via VIP coach to the Acropolis Rock & guided tour
Light lunch at Plaka area
Time at Leisure
Optional: Acropolis Museum tour



Athens War Museum

The museum offers a timeline of Greek history through military conflicts. The Greeks' heroic resistance mounted against the Nazis is presented with significant emphasis.



Day 3

We start our day with a visit at Kommandatur detention centre, right in heart of Athens. This is a spot virtually unknown and rarely visited. Following, you will visit the Naval Museum, the battleship "Averoff" with professional guidance before we head off to explore Pasalimani & Mikrolimano, two small harbours in Piraeus. Lunch by the sea, is a must. Afternoon is at leisure with an option to visit the Acropolis Museum.

Day 4

It is time to leave Athens. We hop in our VIP Coach with final destination the town of Ioannina. A few stops will precede! First stop at St. Patapios Monastery in Loutraki, where we will have a stunning view of the Corinth Canal and present the strategic location and battles. Upon departure from Loutraki, a stop over the Canal is a must, for photos and views, before we continue to Diakopto village. At Diakopto, we will take the "Odontotos" rack railway up to Kalavrita village where we will visit the Holocaust monument. Kalavrita is a very beautiful village and an ideal place for lunch and short walks before we continue the journey. Next stop is Ioannina just in time for dinner!

Day program

Visit at 4, Korai str. (Kommandatur detention centre)

Visit Museum ship Averoff

Stroll and lunch at Mikrolimano

Optional: Acropolis Museum tour



Averoff Battleship

"Georgios Averoff" is a modified Pisa-class armoured ship built in Italy for the Royal Hellenic Navy in the first decade of the 20th century. The ship served as the Greek flagship during the first half of the century. Today it serves as a floating Naval Museum.

Day program

Check out and departure from Athens via VIP coach.

Visits of St. Patapios Monastery, Loutraki and Corinth Canal

Pass through the Canal and arrival at Diakopto

Transfer to Kalavrita via Odontotos rack railway and visit of the Holocaust Monument

Lunch at leisure

Departure to Ioannina for check in and dinner



Holocaust of Kalavrita

The town of Kalavrita suffered a holocaust that is considered one of the crudest atrocities of WWII, in Europe. The German Operation at Kalavrita started in October 1943. Greek resistant forces won a battle against the Nazi forces, near Kerpini village and 80 German soldiers were captured. The Nazi forces demanded Greece to free the prisoners and threatened to execute the population of nearby villages to take revenge.



Day 5

Breakfast and departure to the historic village of Kalpaki with a visit at the local War Museum, where we will analyze the planning and outcome of the first actual battle of WWII in Greece. Head to the small town of Konitsa and briefed on yet another battle, on the way to Bourazani. A stop at Bourazani's bridge will showcase its military importance. We should not omit to visit "Molyvdoskepasti" (lead roofed) church followed by lunch at Bourazani. A brief stop at Klisoura before we head to our hotel in Kastoria and relax.



Day 6

Today we will leave Kastoria and visit Vevi and Fort Roupel where we will discuss the Forts' battle and enjoy a picnic at a picturesque location near the Fort.

Later, we will depart for Thessaloniki where we will check-in the hotel and have the afternoon and evening at leisure.



Day program

Visits of Kalpaki historic village & Museum

Visit of Konitsa

Visit of Bourazani bridge

Visit of Molivdoskepasti church, lunch at Bourazani

Guided tour at Klisoura

Check in the hotel in Kastoria

Kalpaki Battle

At the outskirts of Kalpaki, by the western edge of Zagori is a site remembered for its morale-boosting role in WWII. The outnumbered Greeks pushed back the Italians (invading from Albania) in November 1940, at the Battle of Kalpaki (Elaias), thus providing the Allies with their first major land victory.

Day program

Transfer to Vevi and Fort Roupel

Picnic at the area of the Fort

Transfer to Thessaloniki and overnight

Fort Roupel

Built in 1914, Fort Roupel is located at the north border of Central Macedonia, Greece. It became part of the fortifications of the Metaxas' Line in the 1930s and was famous for its defence during the German invasion in Greece in April 1941.



Day 7

Our morning will allow some time at leisure in Thessaloniki before our flight to Chania. Upon arrival, we will drive you to the hotel to check-in and freshen-up. In the afternoon, we will head to the historical village of Maleme, where we will present the battle's chronicle before visiting the Allied Forces' and German WWII cemeteries. Then, we will continue to Souda Bay where NATO's biggest naval base in East Med operates. A dinner at "Thalassino Ageri" restaurant, by the seashore, with beautiful sunset view awaits later.



Day 8

In the morning we will drive to the south, on the Libyan Sea to visit Preveli Monastery and talk about the battle. Later, we will enjoy a day at the beach where you will swim in crystal clear waters.

Continuing our stay in the island of Crete, today we will end up at Rethymno where we will stay the night.



Day program

Flight to Chania, Crete, transfer to the hotel for check in and free time
Visit Maleme
Visit the Allied Forces & German cemeteries
Dinner at "Thalassino Ageri"

World War Allied Cemetery

The Allied War cemetery is a true memorial to the many men who lost their lives both in World War I and also the Battle of Crete during World War II. The cemetery hosts a total of 1,500 burials, 776 of which are unidentified.

Day program

Visit of Preveli Monastery
Beach visit for swimming and lunch.
Transfer to Rethymno for free time and stay over

Preveli Monastery

The Monastery of Prevelli has a glorious history due to the active and leading involvement of its fellow monks in all national endeavors for freedom and education of our people.

The events of the heroic battle of Crete in May 1941 are known for when the German forces met fierce resistance from the Allied Forces and the Cretans.

The Monastery of Preveli, loyal to its traditions and with no other way to be supportive, was preparing and offering daily meals and provisions to the Allied army and the locals.

Although the occupying forces threatened with very harsh reprisals against the local population if they provided assistance to the remaining Allied troops, the Monastery of Preveli and the neighboring villages became for many a place of safe shelter and a point to which they could escape.



Day 9

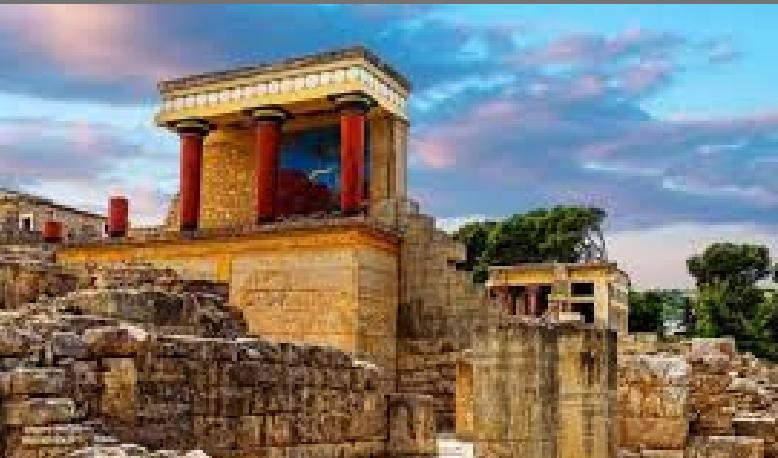
Following a relaxed morning we will leave Rethymno towards Heraklion, passing by the village of Anogia. Anogia's history is one of Greece's most glorious from the antiquity to present times. It is claimed that Zeus, the King of Gods, was born on these mountains before taking his throne in Mt. Olympus. Upon arrival in Heraklion we check-in hotel and have some time to relax before we head to the old town and harbour for a stroll and dinner.



Day 10

Today is our last day! A guided visit of Knossos, the world's largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete and Europe's oldest city is considered a must.

Before heading to the airport for our flight back to Athens, we will of course enjoy a farewell lunch!



Day program

Rethymno to Heraklio
Visit Anogia village
Overnight and dinner in Heraklio

Anogia Village

...is perched on the slopes of Psiloritis at an altitude of 700m. Local tradition, folk art and music are the elements that have remained unchanged in time, since the inhabitants of the village carry them from generation to generation.

The village was burned by the Turks during the Ottoman occupation and, in 1944, German forces destroyed every building except the church and killed all the men in Anogia as revenge for the kidnapping of the German General Von Kreipe by the local resistance fighters.

Day program

Guided visit of Knossos
Farewell lunch
Transfer to the airport and return to Athens

Knossos Palace

The Palace of King Minos is the largest, most complex, and most fancy of all in Greece. It was inhabited for several thousand years, starting in the 7th millennium BC. It was abandoned following the violent destruction occurred by Santorini's volcano eruption in 1375 BC, which also marked the end of the Minoan civilization.

Knossos Palace was the ceremonial and political center of the Minoan Civilization during the Bronze Age. Considered as Europe's oldest city, Knossos was once the city-state of Crete, with the town surrounding the hill the palace is on.

