



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

# UQ ALUMNI TRAVEL

GREECE, 2024

30 September—7 October



# UQ ALUMNI TRAVEL

## Best of Greece

### First class travel highlights and inclusions:

- An expert Travel Director and professional driver
- A curated range of hotels, all tried and trusted
- All hotel tips, charges and local taxes
- Daily breakfast and five evening meals
- Must-see sightseeing and surprise extras
- Audio headsets for flexible sightseeing
- Luxury air-conditioned coach with wi-fi in most countries, or alternative transportation (such as rail journeys)
- All portorage and restaurant gratuities



### What's not included:

- International, domestic and internal airfares
- Travel insurance, visas and items of a personal nature
- Early check in and/or late checkout
- Gratuities to the Travel Director, coach drivers and local experts
- Expenses of a personal nature, beverages and incidentals at the hotel
- Transportation, sightseeing and admissions other than those specified
- A Wellbeing Director
- Expenses of any required PCR or antigen tests

Day 1 | 30 September

## Welcome to Athens

Put the 'oh' in opa and embark on an unforgettable exploration of an ancient land of gods and goddesses, myths and legends. Your springboard to your spellbinding holiday is the vibrant capital of Athens, an effortless mix of ancient treasures and modern verve, which you will have an opportunity to explore after being transferred to your hotel.

This evening, join your Travel Director and travel companions for a light meal.

**Included meal/s** Dinner

**Hotel** Radisson Blu Park Hotel Athens or equivalent

Day 2 | 1 October

## Explore Amazing Athens

Join our local expert for a guided morning sightseeing tour to the ancient complex that was once the 'Cradle of Western Civilisation'. Our journey into antiquity includes the opportunity to explore the Acropolis with its treasures; the Parthenon, dedicated to the goddess Athena; the Royal Palace; the Temple of Zeus; and the Agora, once the haunt of Socrates and Plato.

Dive into culture and see remarkable displays of an ancient world during an included visit to the Acropolis Museum and see Hadrian's Arch and the stadium where the first modern Olympics took place in 1896.

The rest of the day is yours to enjoy on your own. Stroll through the Plaka, people-watch in Syntagma Square or go in search of the city's tastiest souvlaki – the choice is yours.

**Included meal/s** Breakfast

**Hotel** Radisson Blu Park Hotel Athens or equivalent



Day 3 | 2 October

## Journey to Corinth, Mycenae, Nafplion

We depart Athens and cross the mighty Corinth Canal to the wild Peloponnesian Peninsula. Arriving in Corinth, we join a local expert to explore an ancient city that several empires fought over throughout the centuries.

We continue to Mycenae, a mighty kingdom of ancient Greece, where we'll see the Beehive Tombs, also known as Treasury of Atreus; the Lion Gate; and the remains of Agamemnon's Royal Palace, in the company of a local expert.

Later, we travel to Epidaurus to visit the ancient theatre and Sanctuary of Asclepius, the God of Medicine, whose snake-entwined staff remains the symbol of medicine to this day.

Arriving in the Venetian town of Nafplion later, we'll dine in our hotel this evening.

**Included meal/s** Breakfast, dinner

**Hotel** Amalia Nafplio



Day 4 | 3 October

## Continue to Ancient Olympia

We traverse the mountains of Arcadia to ancient Olympia, the site of the first Olympic Games held in 776 BC.

This evening, we connect with locals, joining the Karambellas family on their olive and wine farm for dinner as well as traditional dancing and characteristic Greek philoxenia.

**Included meal/s** Breakfast, dinner

**Hotel** Amalia Olympia

Day 5 | 4 October

## Onwards to Patras and Delphi

We join our local expert this morning to delve into centuries of history. We'll visit the ancient Olympic site, the museum and the ruined remains of the Temples of Zeus and Hera.

Leaving Olympia, we skirt the coastline north to Patras, crossing the Gulf of Corinth to mainland Greece before continuing to Delphi, where you'll have the opportunity to prepare local dishes during an interactive cooking lesson.

**Included meal/s** Breakfast

**Hotel** Amalia Delphi

Day 6 | 5 October

## Off to Thermopylae and Kalambaka

Tread in the footsteps of the ancient Greeks, who would descend on the sanctuary of Delphi to consult with the most important oracle in the classical world.

Join our local expert and walk the Sacred Way to the 4th-century Temple of Apollo. View the statues immortalising the strength of the athletes who once competed in the Pythian Games, held in honour of Apollo and the Arts.

Continue on to a family-run honey farm where you can taste the rich thyme honey freshly collected from the hive and come up close to the unique biodiversity of the area.

A scenic afternoon drive brings us to Thermopylae, famous for the heroic defence by Leonidas and his brave Spartans against the invading Persians. We cross the lush Thessaly region, the 'breadbasket of Greece', then travel over the Pourmaraki Pass towards Kalambaka.

**Included meal/s** Breakfast, dinner

**Hotel** Amalia Kalambaka

Day 7 | 6 October

## Admire Meteora and Return to Athens

The UNESCO World Heritage monasteries of Meteora are our first stop today. Join our local expert to visit two of the six Eastern Orthodox monasteries that cling impressively to immense, rounded rock towers overlooking the town.

A scenic drive returns us to Athens, where we'll enjoy a rousing farewell dinner with our travel companions and reminisce over an incredible journey through Greece.

**Included meal/s** Breakfast, dinner

**Hotel** Radisson Blu Park Hotel Athens or equivalent



Day 8 | 7 October

## Farewell Athens

We say a fond farewell to our newfound friends and the treasures of Greece after an unforgettable journey.

**Included meal/s** Breakfast

