

THE WRIGHT GETAWAY

# GREECE

TRAVEL GUIDE



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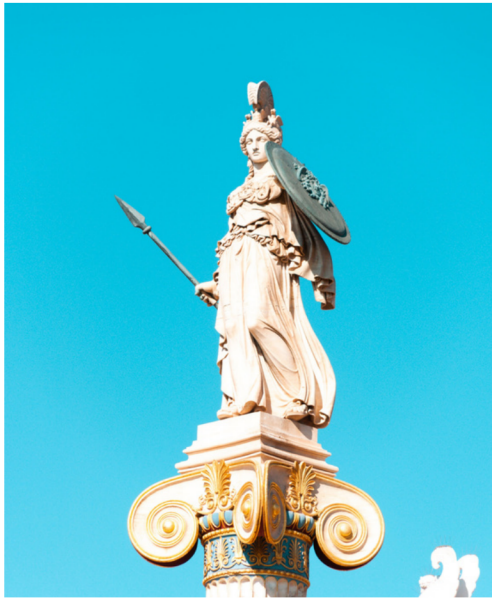
# Welcome to Greece

It's a country that everyone has heard of – even if only because of middle school history class...even if only because of Zeus and Poseidon. Greece is a destination that occupies a grand place in humanity's hearts and souls. Any person who lives in the modern world of science, philosophy, and democracy have ideas rooted in thoughts that were developed in Greece over two thousand years ago.

Today, Greece is a prime vacation destination. Its rugged land is dotted with both mighty volcanoes and blissful resorts that many people don't look for in Europe. And – most of all – it's a unique location.

Situated east of much of Europe, its culture is something that stands alone. With its own customs, its own long history, and its own language – written in an alphabet that nobody else uses but was one of the planet's first – Greece truly is special.

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## QUICK INFO

**CAPITAL:**

Athens

**POPULATION:**

10,724,599

**CURRENCY:**

Euro

**VISA:**

As part of the Schengen Area, visitors to Greece may need a Schengen visa.

**SAFETY RANK:**

#57 on the Global Peace Index

**LANGUAGES:**

Greek

**TIME ZONE:**

UTC+03:00; winter:  
UTC+02:00 (Eastern European Time)

# So when is the best time to visit?

**High Season:** June to August (summer)

**Shoulder Season:** April-May and September-October (spring and fall)

**Low Season:** November to March (winter)

## HIGH SEASON (JUNE TO AUGUST)

High season has the best weather, but it can also be the most crowded during this time.

This is really the best time to visit the Greek islands, particularly if you're looking forward to sunbathing and swimming!



## **SHOULDER SEASON – APRIL TO MAY AND SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER**

There are two shoulder seasons in Greece: a spring season and a shorter fall season. These are the best times to visit the Greek mainland because it will be far less crowded. If lounging on the beach is not important, the spring – with wildflowers galore in the ruin sites – is the best time to visit.

Be aware that the weather in these seasons can be unpredictable ranging from hail to hurricane-force winds!

## **LOW SEASON (NOVEMBER TO MARCH)**

Expect mostly cool weather, grey skies, and a lot of rain during low season. Winter really is NOT the best time to visit Greece unless you're just searching for the most economical option.



# What are the top five places to visit in Greece?

From the pillars of the beginnings of modern civilization (LITERALLY...and they're still standing) to deluxe resorts of the sea, Greece has it all. But some things are a must-see for any traveler! Here are five of them:

## 1. THE ACROPOLIS

The Acropolis is the most prominent part of the Greek capital of Athens. While the whole city of Athens is worth visiting for several days, the acropolis is truly a special gem. Dedicated to the city's patron (the goddess Athena), this Acropolis was a sacred site to the ancients. It dominates the cityscape, and from the top of the hill, the views are incredible. But even more incredible are the temples that are built on it. From the world-famous Parthenon to the Karyatides (columns carved in the form of women), the Acropolis will hold you captive for quite some time.

## 2. SANTORINI

The country's most famous island of Santorini is heavenly. A volcanic ring forms the island. Part of the ring may have sunk in the past and become the basis for the myth of Atlantis. Spend the days browsing the artisan goods made in countless local craft shops or strolling through narrow streets with spectacular views to the ocean. Lounge out on the black or red sand beaches of Santorini. This island also has the best sunsets in Greece...possibly the best sunsets in the world. For a truly unforgettable experience, take a sunset cruise out into the island's caldera.

### 3. CORFU

Another Greek island that you can't leave Greece without visiting is Corfu. Corfu is a wonderful mix of picturesque mountains and idyllic beaches. Despite being a popular destination, the island is rarely overcrowded. There are many isolated beaches! Looking to explore more culture? The island is home to beautiful and romantic towns like Perithia and Old Town. Additionally, there is history aplenty with structures built by the ancient Venetians and anti-pirate castles from days long gone.

### 4. DELPHI

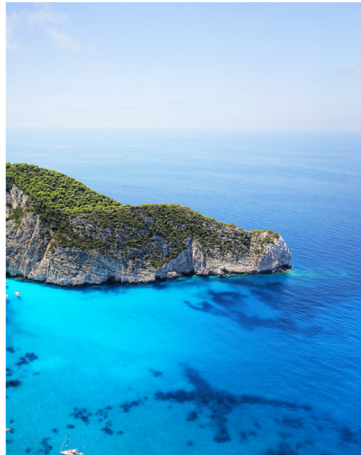
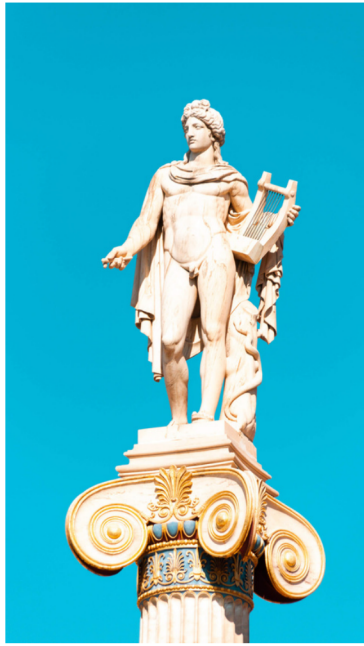
There may no longer be an Oracle of Delphi, but the famous site – referenced throughout ancient history – is now an incredible ruin. Dedicated to the Greek god Apollo, this location truly is a marvel. Spend some time in this ruin complex exploring the Temple of Apollo, the Athena Priene, a theatre, and an ancient stadium. When you visit, imagine what it would have been like there a millennia ago when even kings bowed before the words of the Oracle.

### 5. MYCENAE

Mycenae isn't too far from Athens (it's doable as a day trip) and the ruins of this ancient city are well worth visiting. Mycenae was old even to the ancients! Built by the Myceneans, a civilization that preceded the Ancient Greece of Zeus and Athena, the Ancient Greeks couldn't believe that the incredibly high walls of this city could have been built by humans. They attributed their construction to the Cyclops!



# explore greece





## What else is there to do in Greece?

Greece is loaded with things to do – far more than just five! Here are some other, equally delightful options:

Before Athens, the capital of modern Greece was a small, seaside town called **Nafplio**. It remains a wonderful destination to visit. A walk through the winding, picturesque streets will transport you to another time.

Interested in the nightlife scene? The island of **Zakynthos** has the best nightlife in the country. Spend the day taking great photos in incredible places like Shipwreck Cove, and then party all night long!

An easy trip from the Cretan capital Heraklion, **Knossos** is a must-see for any history buff. Knossos holds the remains from the ancient Minoan civilization. This civilization is so old that it preceded Socrates and Plato!

Have you ever heard of the colossus of **Rhodes**? You probably have. It was one of the ancient Seven Wonders of the World. There may not be a colossus anymore, but there's still incredible history on this island and wonderful beaches.

Another former site of an ancient Wonder, and the birthplace of the Olympic games, **Olympia** is well worth a visit. You can run in the field where the ancients ran, and if you happen to have a chariot, you could theoretically try chariot racing too!



# Important information travelers need to know about Greece

## DO:

- Visit a Greek island. And while you're there, visit one of the countless, picturesque villages.
- Learn a few Greek words like "Thank you" which is written "Ευχαριστώ" and sounds like "Efharisto".
- Admire one of the many beaches with crystal clear water...take a dip if you have time.

## DON'T

- Don't be surprised if people smoke indoors. Even though this is often banned, it's a cultural norm.
- Don't take offense if someone greets you with a kiss on each cheek. It's a common way to greet people, and you may receive this gesture even from strangers.
- Don't try to do everything. Greece has SO much to do that it can feel overwhelming. But don't waste all your time running around. Pick a few things, and really focus on those. Save the rest for your next Greek vacation!



# Greek Cuisine

Greece is well known for its cuisine which is world famous. It's based on a simple trio: wheat, olive oil, and wine. With three predominant ingredients, the Greeks fashion these simple things into culinary masterpieces.

Here are some of the highlights:

**Souvlaki (σουβλάκι)** is a popular Greek street food consisting of small pieces of meat and sometimes vegetables grilled on a skewer. It's usually eaten straight off the skewer while still hot.

**Gyros (γύρος)** are made from meat that's spinning on a skewer. It's typically prepared as you watch.

**Spanakorita (σπανακόπιτα)** has nothing to do with "pita" bread! This means "spinach pie", and it's a Greek savory pastry wrapped in filo.

**Baklava (Μπακλαβάς)** is a rich, sweet dessert pastry made of layers of filo filled with chopped nuts and sweetened and held together with syrup, frosting or honey.



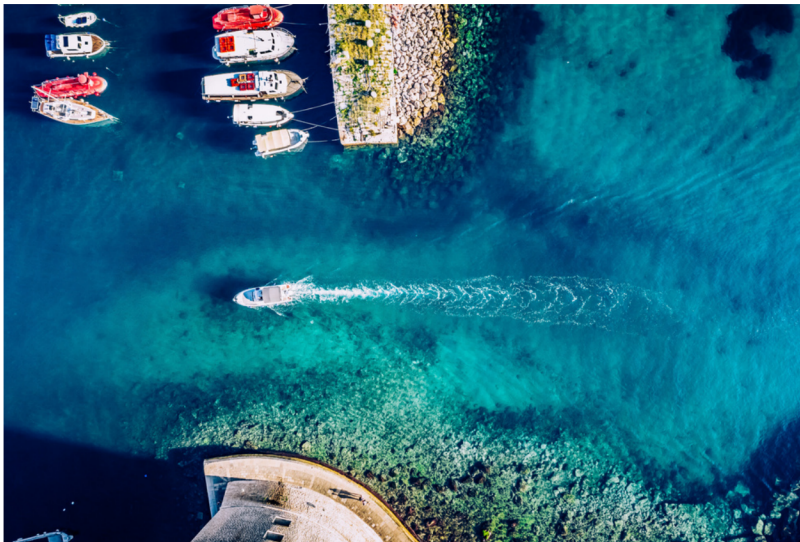
# How to get around Greece

## The mainland

On the mainland, one of the best modes of transportation is the bus network that's operated by a government agency Ktel. Trains exist but aren't always as reliable as those that you'll find in places like Germany.

## On the islands

If traveling between the islands, you can take a boat/ferry or fly. If you have the time, boats are the better option to take in the views. Greece has an extensive network of ferries, that reach as far as destinations like Turkey and Italy. Just be sure to book tickets in advance as the ferries are very popular and fill up quickly!





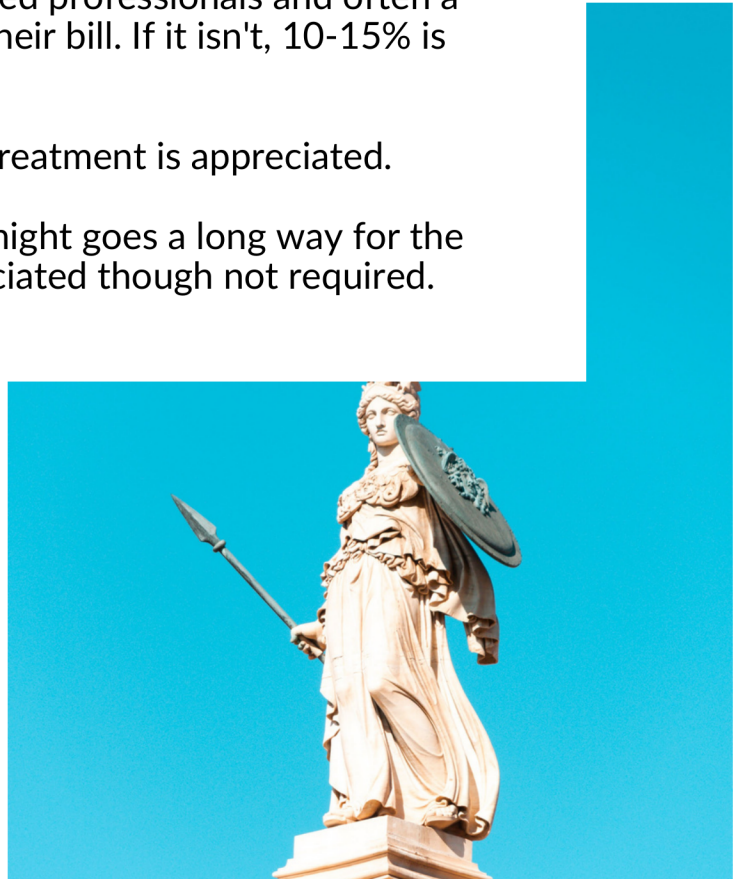
## Tipping - *Should I?*

**Restaurants:** Tipping in restaurants is often just a matter of rounding up bills or leaving the change.

**Tour Guides:** These are licensed professionals and often a service charge is included in their bill. If it isn't, 10-15% is typical.

**Spas:** A tip of around \$5 per treatment is appreciated.

**Hotels:** One to two euro per night goes a long way for the locals, and is genuinely appreciated though not required.



# Ready To Go To Greece?

Greece is well worth a visit. It's a favorite of many tourists and for good reason.

This is an incredible destination no matter what your travel style or what your goals and interests are.

Whatever ignites your spirit, Greece is sure to have it!

***So I'll see you in Greece!***

*Ronda Wright*



**LET'S PLAN YOUR  
GREECE VACATION  
TODAY!**

**Ronda Wright**

Book a call today to get a complimentary  
travel consultation.

**CONTACT ME TODAY!**

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