



# **Italy & Greece**

## 11 days | 15 days with Santorini & Athens extension

As you make your way through iconic cities and legendary landscapes on a tour of Greece and Italy, you'll walk through the backdrops of ancient mythology and in the footsteps of emperors. Sit back and savor the good life in Sorrento and on the Isle of Capri, then watch as history comes to life in Rome and Athens.



#### Your tour package includes

9 nights in handpicked hotels 9 breakfasts 4 dinners with beer or wine 6 sightseeing tours Expert Tour Director & local guides Private deluxe motor coach 1 on-tour flight

#### Included highlights

Capri
Pompeii ruins
Colosseum
Roman Forum
Epidaurus & Mycenae
Acropolis
Parthenon
Temple of Zeus

## Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads and unpaved trails, with some hills and stairs.

#### Group size

15-38

# Italy & Greece

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#### Overnight Flight → 1 night

#### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Naples today.

### Sorrento Peninsula → 2 nights

#### Day 2: Arrival in Naples & transfer to Sorrento Peninsula

Included meals: welcome dinner
Welcome to Italy! Travel to your hotel on the
Sorrento peninsula. Then, meet your Tour
Director and fellow travelers at tonight's
welcome dinner.

#### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Capri

Included meals: breakfast

Join a local guide and sail across the Bay of Naples to the famed Isle of Capri before returning to Sorrento.

- Boat around the island to view Capri's caves and grottoes (weather-dependent)
- · Stroll through the village of Capri
- Take a funicular ride to Capri's upper town
- Explore the Gardens of Augustus

Enjoy a free evening in Sorrento or add an excursion.

+ Rustic Italy: Farmhouse Dinner & Wine Tasting

## **Rome** $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

#### Day 4: Rome via Pompeii

Included meals: breakfast, dinner
En route to Rome, stop at Pompeii for a guided walking tour of the city's ruins.

- Discover how Roman citizens lived 2,000 years ago, before Mount Vesuvius erupted in 79 A.D.
- View the excavated Roman ruins of theaters, villas, temples, and baths

Then, continue on to Rome and sit down for an included dinner.

#### Day 5: Sightseeing tour of Rome

Included meals: breakfast

Follow in the footsteps of the ancient Romans on a guided tour of the Eternal City.

- Soak up over 2,000 years of history in Imperial Rome, viewing the Arch of Constantine and the Arch of Titus
- Enter the Colosseum, the largest amphitheater of the Roman Empire
- Stop at the ruins of the Forum, once the setting of parades, elections, and trials
- Pass by Palatine Hill to see Circus Maximus, the stadium where ancient Romans raced chariots, and the Baths of Caracalla

Enjoy free time in Rome or add an excursion.

+ Pasta-Making Class & Dinner

#### Day 6: Free day in Rome

Included meals: breakfast
Spend a free day in Rome or add an excursion.
+ Iconic Sights: Vatican City

## Nafplio → 2 nights

# Day 7: Flight to Athens & Nafplio via Corinth Canal

Included meals: breakfast, dinner
Fly to Athens, Greece. Then, stop at the scenic
Corinth Canal as you travel to Nafplio.
Join your Tour Director on a walk through
Nafplio's charming old town, including Syntagma
Square, before sitting down for an included
dinner.

# Day 8: Sightseeing tour of Epidaurus & Mycenae

Included meals: breakfast

Visit Greece's best-preserved amphitheater on a guided walking tour of Epidaurus, then enjoy a guided tour of the UNESCO-listed Archaeological site of Mycenae.

# **Athens** $\rightarrow$ 2 nights

## Day 9: Transfer to Athens & sightseeing tour

Included meals: breakfast

Travel to Athens this morning and join a local guide who will introduces you to the highlights of this bustling ancient capital, home to the world's first democracy.

- Pass by the Olympic Stadium, Syntagma Square, and the Arch of Hadrian
- · View the sixth-century Temple of Zeus

- See the classically inspired Old Royal Palace, home of the Hellenic Parliament, and drive through the Plaka district
- Set off on a walking tour around the ancient Acropolis, site of the Parthenon, Temple of Athena Nike, and Erechtheion

#### Day 10: Free day in Athens

Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner Spend a free day in Athens or add an excursion. Later, celebrate your trip with your group during a farewell dinner.

+ Cape Sounion

#### Flight Home

#### Day 11: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)

Transfer to the airport for your flight home, or extend your stay to visit Santorini an continue exploring Athens.

## + Santorini & Athens extension

Want another dose of Greece's ancient history and laid-back lifestyle? Take a ferry to Santorini to see it all alongside a local expert. Then, fly to Athens and let the myth-filled streets call you back.

#### **Santorini** $\rightarrow$ 3 nights

#### Day 11: Ferry to Santorini

Included meals: breakfast
Board a ferry to Santorini today.

### Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Santorini

Included meals: breakfast

Take in the local sights on a guided tour of Santorini, a volcanic isle known for its black-sand beaches, cliff-lined shores, and stunning whitewashed architecture.

- Visit the prehistoric settlements unearthed at Akrotiri Excavations
- Ride to the top of Profitis Ilias Mountain for panoramic views of the whole island

 Stop in the small, picturesque village of Pyrgos

Enjoy a free afternoon in Santorini or add an excursion.

+ Santorini Caldera Cruise & Dinner

## Day 13: Free day in Santorini

Included meals: breakfast
Spend a free day in Santorini or add an excursion.

Please note: For an additional cost, you can book a visit to the village of Oia through your Tour Director. The visit will either take place on the evening of day 11 or 13 depending on the ferry schedule.

+ Greek Wine Tasting & Lunch

## $\textbf{Athens} \rightarrow 1 \, \text{night}$

#### Day 14: Flight to Athens

Included meals: breakfast
Spend a final morning in Santorini before flying back to Athens.

This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

## **Flight Home**

#### Day 15: Departure

Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)
Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: **goaheadtours.ca/ITG | 1-800-754-5066** 

# Day 3: Rustic Italy: Farmhouse Dinner & Wine Tasting

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Take a short trip outside of Sorrento for a cultural experience at an agriturismo, or farm stay. Here you'll have a chance to explore the lush gardens, cultivated fields, and vegetation typical of many Mediterranean regions. After touring the farm, savor an aperitif of prosecco, meant to stimulate the appetite. A four-course dinner will follow, complete with a wine tasting led by an experienced sommelier. After an evening experiencing the Italian art of eating, return to Sorrento. Please note: This excursion is seasonal and runs from March through October and inclusions may vary based on season. In addition, climbing stairs and walking is required in order to tour the farm.

#### Day 5: Pasta-Making Class & Dinner

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

In this hands-on cooking class led by an experienced Italian chef, you'll learn to make pasta—perhaps pillowy ravioli or castellane, a ridged shell pasta that's rolled into a long, oval shape—using traditional techniques you can keep on practicing when you get back home. Then, sit down for dinner and enjoy the dishes you've prepared, along with wine.

#### Day 6: Iconic Sights: Vatican City

\$175CAD (3.5 hours, departure time varies) This guided tour takes you inside Vatican City—a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most sacred places in Christendom. This independent citystate within Rome serves as the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church and is home to the Pope, Upon arrival, turn on your pre-distributed headset and dive into the Vatican's rich history with your local guide. First, visit the Vatican Museums, which are more than 500 years old and house many of the world's most important Classical- and Renaissance-era sculptures. Next, step inside the Sistine Chapel, whose frescoed ceiling is arguably Michelangelo's greatest masterpiece. Finally, pay a visit to the enormous St. Peter's Basilica, the epicenter of the Roman Catholic faith. The artists who have contributed to its glory are some of the best Italy has ever known: Bramante, Peruzzi, Raphael, and Michelangelo, Masterpieces await at every turn, from Bernini's magnificent bronze canopy to Michelangelo's

Please note: Should this excursion fall on a Sunday, it'll be moved to another day of the tour. Backpacks aren't allowed in the Vatican, and shorts and sleeveless shirts are strictly prohibited. Due to closures of certain entrances and pathways, wait times may extend to several hours during busy travel months. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 70 days prior to departure.

#### Day 10: Cape Sounion

\$89CAD/\$99CAD\* (4.5 hours, departure time varies) Journey to the southern tip of the Attica Peninsula to take in the sights of the Poseidon Coast, including sandy beaches, natural and manmade harbors, and, of course, the Aegean Sea itself. High above the sparkling shoreline, the Temple of Poseidon dominates the landscape. Of the original structure, 16 elegant Doric pillars remain. Afterward, decide how you'd like to spend your free time. Take a moment to look out from the lofty cliffside vantage point, where you can see five Aegean islands on a clear day. You may also choose to enjoy a coffee, stop in the souvenir shop, or stroll through the area. Please note: This excursion involves some walking on uneven terrain.

#### **Extension excursion options**

#### Day 12: Santorini Caldera Cruise & Dinner

\$205CAD (5 hours, departs in the afternoon, dinner included)

Board a catamaran and sail in comfort through Santorini's awe-inspiring caldera on this scenic excursion. You'll cruise around the volcanic island of Nea Kameni for views of the picture-perfect cliffside village of Oia (pronounced "EE-ah"). Situated on the western end of the island, Oia was once a maritime center, and stately captains' houses still sit on its high ridges. Spend the afternoon on the open waters as you snorkel in the ocean, sunbathe on the deck of the catamaran, and swim in a natural hot spring that was once the crater of a volcano. You'll enjoy unlimited wine, water, and soft drinks, as well as a buffet-style dinner of home-cooked Greek specialties, on board the boat as you take in the beautiful scenery. Please note: We recommend packing a bathing suit. This excursion is seasonal and runs from April through mid-October only. It is also weather-dependent. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

#### Day 13: Greek Wine Tasting & Lunch

\$125CAD/\$135CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the afternoon with lunch)

Santorini's volcanic landscape and nutrient-rich soil nurture a wealth of outstanding vineyards. You'll tour a local winery and learn about how the vines are trained to grow close to the ground, which helps protect the grapes from the strong ocean winds. Then, sit down for a lunch and tasting featuring some of their signature varietals including Assyrtiko and Vin Santo.