

Tour: Full Day Ancient Corinth and Athens including lunch



Departing from Piraeus you will proceed to the once rich and powerful city of Ancient Corinth. A city blessed with a superb location, fertile plains and virtually impregnable refuge. Excavations reveal that the ancient city was huge and wealthy; a survivor of the numerous invasions but devastated by earthquakes. St. Paul lived and worked in Corinth for 18 months, making converts where he could. The Bema (platform) where the Roman governor tried him is still visible. See one of Corinth's most striking ancient buildings – the Temple of Apollo, seven of whose original columns still stand. Walk through the remains of the Market Place, a colonnaded square once surrounded by many small shops. See the celebrated Fountain of Priene, which has produced water from earliest times, and the Lechaion Road,

formerly the main thoroughfare to the port of Lechaion. You will then visit the incredible Corinth Canal. Short stop for photos.

Then you will proceed to Athens. You will stop at one of the most famous areas in Athens, Plaka. Here you will enjoy a traditional Greek lunch. Afterwards you will begin your guided tour in Athens.

For those visiting Athens for the first time, this outing provides an excellent introduction to one of the great cities of the ancient world. See the Olympic Stadium where the Olympic Games were revived in 1896 and returned in 2004. The former Royal Palace, now the Parliament Building, stands proudly on Constitution Square, its colorful 'Evzones' guarding the Monument to the Unknown Soldier. Visit the Acropolis, a symbol of the glory of ancient Greece. Climb the smooth marble steps as visitors have for centuries. History opens before you as you reach the Propylaea, one of the masterpieces of classical architecture, serving as the entrance to the complex of buildings. You'll see the Temple of Athena Nike (Wingless Victory), and the Erechtheum, with its classical Porch of Maidens, the Caryatids. Stand in awe of what is considered the most perfect example of classical architecture in the world – the Parthenon, designed as a shrine to Athena and at one time housing a massive gold and ivory statue of the warrior goddess.



Looking down from the Acropolis see the two ancient theaters in its shadow, the Greek theater of Dionysos where the masterpieces of Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes debuted to delighted audiences, and the theater of Herod Atticus, a grand Roman theater restored and used for concerts and classical plays during the summer Athens Festival.

Duration : Approx. 10 hours

SHORE EXCURSION OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Walking Conditions:	Medium to Heavy
Wheelchair access:	No
Specialized Clothing:	No

NOTES:

- There is approximately 1-hour and 30-minutes of walking involved in Ancient Corinth. Due to typically hot summer temperatures, guests are advised to wear a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- The visit of Acropolis involves approximately 2 hours of walking, and stairs to climb at the Acropolis. Passengers with limited mobility should take this into consideration before taking this tour.
- Wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes, and bring sunscreen, a hat and sunglasses from the ship.
- Please be aware ongoing restoration work is often carried out at the Acropolis.
- The tour involves climbing approximately 80 steps at the Acropolis, as well as walking over some uneven and slippery paths.
- Security restrictions at the Acropolis prohibit entrance with large bags and backpacks.
- Passengers should expect lines and crowds at the Acropolis.