

Greek Odyssey

17-Day Guided Tour of the Greek Isles

May 20 - June 5, 2011

Co-hosted by Jim Conaway and Paul Kellett

Sponsored by the Fine Arts Board of Plymouth Congregational Church



Fri May 20 Arrive Athens, Greece (D)

Arrive in Athens and check into the Herodion Hotel and a welcome dinner. The Herodion is located on the south side of the Acropolis and has a great view of it from its roof top terrace.

3nights Herodion Hotel (www.herodion.gr)

Sat May 21 Athens touring (BD)

09.00 departure from the hotel with your guide for a walking tour of Athens including the Parthenon, Temple of Athena Nike, Erectheion, Acropolis Museum, Theater of Dionysus and the Theater of Herodes Atticus. Lunch is on your own in the Plaka. After lunch, drive south to the tip of Cape Sounion to see the Temple of Poseidon. Your co-hosts will provide a social hour while watching the sunset. Dinner is at a local seaside restaurant.

Sun May 22 Free Day in Athens (B)

Some of the options you have are to take the subway to the port of Piraeus and then a one hour ferry ride to the Island of Aegina, visit the Athens flea market, the largest in Greece, walk through the National Archeological Museum, or watch the changing of the guard at the Parliament Building. A walk through the Plaka is exciting too. Dinner is on your own tonight.

Mon May 23 Athens (Piraeus) to Naxos (B)

After breakfast, drive to the Port of Piraeus to catch the morning BLUE STAR Ferry to Naxos arriving around noontime. Transfer to hotel for check-in. Lunch and Dinner on your own today.

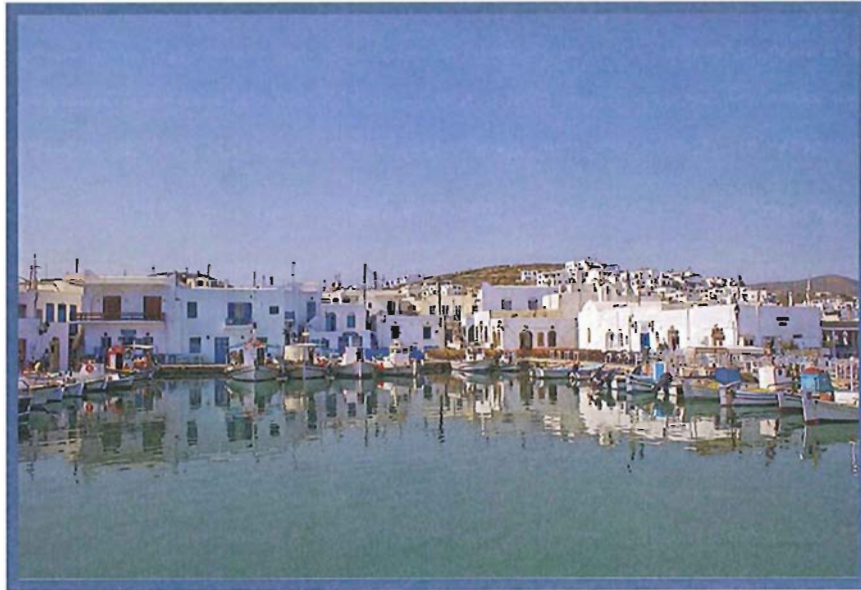
3nights Porto Naxos Hotel (www.porto-hotels-noxos.gr)

Tue May 24 Delos • Mykonos • Afternoon free (BD)

At 09.15, your excursion boat will depart for the island of Delos. Upon arrival, you will have a guided walking tour of the most important site on the island, which according to tradition, is the birthplace of Apollo and his twin sister Artemis. From Delos, you will cruise to the island of Mykonos for a free afternoon. You will return to Naxos at 19.00 for a group dinner and overnight.

Wed May 25 Naxos Island touring (BL)

This morning you will tour the island by bus with your guide. The sites you will visit today are: a small archeological museum, the Kouros Statue in Melanes, an orchard, the local Kitron (island liqueur) distillery at Chalki, a small Byzantine church at Drossiani, the Temple of Dimitra at Sagri overlooking an island plane and its small archeological museum. Your co-hosts will provide a picnic lunch today. Late afternoon you will stop at the lovely beach of Agia Anna for an optional swim. Dinner is on your own.



Fishing village of Naoussa, Island of Paros

Thu May 26 Naxos to Paros • Paros touring (B)

This morning you will transfer to the port of embarkation for a one-hour ferry to the island of Paros. Upon arrival, you will transfer to your hotel. This afternoon you will take a guided walking tour through town and visit the Church of Ekatonpyliani. This church is a copy of Hagia Sophia in Istanbul. Lunch and dinner is on your own today. *2nights Paros Palace Hotel (www.parospalace.gr)*

Fri May 27 Paros touring (BLD)

Today you will tour the island on a private motor coach. You will visit the charming fishing village of Naoussa, the ancient marble quarries and the village of Lefkes. Your co-hosts will provide a picnic lunch before you visit the golden sandy beach at Chryssi Ammos for a refreshing optional swim. You will return to the hotel for group dinner and overnight.

Sat May 28 Morning free • Paros to Santorini (BD)

Most of the morning will be free. At noon, you will depart for the port to catch the high-speed ferry for the 3-hour ride to the island of Santorini. Lunch is on your own. Upon arrival, you will check into your hotel. This afternoon you will drive to Oia, the old capital of the island for cocktails and to view the spectacular sunset and a group dinner at a local restaurant.

2nights Santorini Palace Hotel (www.santorinipalacehotel.gr)

Sun May 29 Santorini touring (BD)

Today you will have a guided tour of the island by motor coach, which includes visits to the Archeological Museum to see frescoes from the Minoan period and a visit to a local winery for wine tasting. Your co-hosts will provide your social hour at the hotel. Group dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant

Mon May 30 Morning free • Santorini to Crete (BD)

Morning is free. Transfer to the port to board the Catamaran to Heraklion, Crete. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel for check in. Lunch is on your own. You will have a guided walking tour of old town followed by dinner with Cretan specialties in a Cretan "ouzeri". *3nights Lato Water Front Hotel (www.lato.gr)*

Tue May 31 Crete touring • Afternoon free (BL)

Today you will travel by private motor coach to the Palace of Knossos for a walking tour of the palace and the archeological museum of Heraklion. Lunch is in the picturesque village of Archanes. Afternoon and evening are free to explore Heraklion.

Wed Jun 1 Crete touring (BL)

Today you will drive to the ancient village of Gortyna, which has been inhabited since Neolithic times. The site was of importance to the ancient Egyptians, Minoans, Romans and later by Christians. Your Co-hosts will provide a picnic lunch after which you will have a guided tour of the Minoan palace at Phestos. Dinner will be on your own in Heraklion.

Thu Jun 2 Crete to Rhodes • Rhodes touring (B)

Olympic Airways flight to Rhodes. Upon arrival, you will transfer to your hotel for check-in followed by a guided walking tour of the city. The tour will include the Master's Palace, Street of the Knights, Socrates and Homer Streets and Ibrahim Pasha Mosque and Suleiman Baths. Lunch and dinner is on your own today. *2nights Rhodes Hotel in Old Town*

Fri Jun 3 Rhodes touring (B)

Today you will drive south to the city to the very charming village of Arkhangelos with narrow streets, picturesque houses and welcoming inhabitants. You will continue to the charming bayside fishing village of Lindos for a tour of the Acropolis, which was fortified by early Greeks, Romans and by the Byzantines. Lunch and dinner is on your own today

Sat Jun 4 Rhodes to Athens • Afternoon free (BD)

Fly Rhodes to Athens. Upon arrival into Athens, you will transfer to the Herodian Hotel for check-in. The afternoon is at your leisure. Tonight you are invited to a farewell dinner at the "Spilia tis Acropolis taverna.

Sat Jun 5 Athens • Depart (B)

Today you will transfer from the hotel to the airport for your flights back to the USA. See optional Turkey extension.

TOUR COST **\$5290 per person sharing a double or twin-bedded room**
\$1295 single room supplement

Tour Cost Includes

- Accommodation in selected 4-star hotels, in Athens, Naxos, Paros, Santorini, and 3-star Superior class hotels in Heraklion and Rhodes. All rooms have private facilities and air-conditioning
- Meals as indicated (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner)
 - Daily breakfast buffet
 - Eight (8) dinners in selected restaurants or in the hotels, with a variety of Greek dishes
 - One (1) lunch in Crete
 - Three picnic lunches and three social hours (wine and hors d'oeuvres) arranged by your co-hosts
- Transportation by private air conditioned motor coach per itinerary
- English speaking guide/lecturer and two tour co-hosts throughout
- All boat tickets to as per the itinerary
- Admission fees to sites/museums per the itinerary
- Inter-island flights (including current airport taxes):
 - Heraklion to Rhodes
 - Rhodes to Athens
- Group airport and port transfers as detailed (by private coach)
- Tips for driver, guides and baggage handling in and out of hotels
- Bottled water on the motor coaches
- Detailed Tour Handbook
- 24-Hour Assistance from Viking Tours at their office in Athens and local reps

Tour Cost Excludes

- Flights from USA to Greece (return) and related taxes
- Room and maid service and other incidentals and items of personal nature
- Meals not designated by (BLD)
- Baggage handling on/off all water craft
- Travel Insurance – see option on application form

Questions?

For questions about tour programming:

Jim Conaway 612-339-3153 or email: jamesdconaway@msn.com

Paul Kellett 612-718-2818 or email: kellett500@hotmail.com

For questions about flights, insurance or invoices:

Jody Schuster 612-661-4625 or email: jody@bortonoverseas.com

Optional Turkey Extension

June 5 to 11, 2011

Sun	June 5	Rhodes to Bodrum	(B)
You will take the afternoon ferry from Rhodes to Bodrum. Upon arrival in Bodrum you will check into your hotel. Evening is free to explore this beautiful and historic city and dinner is on your own. Overnight Bodrum Hotel			
Mon	June 6	Bodrum to Kusadasi	(BL)
Today you will drive to Kusadasi with stops at some very important Hellenistic sites along the way. Your co-hosts will provide a picnic at one of the historic sites. Upon arrival in Kusadasi you will check into you hotel located in the center of Kusadasi Town. Dinner tonight is on your own. Kusadasi Hotel			
Tue	June 7	Tour Ephesus	(BD)
09:00 am pick up and depart for full day guided Ephesus Tour. The tour will include the Temple of Artemis, Ephesus Ruins, Theatre, Celsius Library, Agora, Odeon, Domitianus Temple, Trajan Fountain, Roman Latrine) and the St. John Museum. Group dinner tonight will be in a local restaurant. Kusadasi Hotel			
Wed	June 8	Drive to Pamukkale and flight to Istanbul	(B)
This morning you will drive to Pamukkale for a tour of Hierapolis which was famous in ancient times for its healing thermal/ mineral baths and beautiful snow-white "petrified waterfalls." After lunch on your own, you will have time for further sightseeing before you drive to the airport for your flight to Istanbul. Upon arrival Istanbul, you will check into your hotel in Sultanahmet for overnight. Istanbul Hotel			
Thu	June 9	Byzantine and Ottoman relics tour	(BD)
This morning you will have a walking tour of Saltanahmet to visit Haghia Sophia, Blue Mosque, Hippodrome, Topkapi Palace and Suleymanie Mosque. Lunch is on your own and your group dinner will be in the Kumkapi District. Istanbul Hotel			
Fri	June 10	Istanbul Touring	(BD)
Touring will include a boat on the Bosphorus & Two Continents tour starting at 08.30 You will see the Spice Bazaar, Rumeli Fortress, Dolmabahce Palace, Bosphorus Bridge and Camlica Hill. Lunch is on your own. You will have a farewell dinner at Leander's Tower island in the Bosphorus. Istanbul Hotel			
Sat	June 11	Istanbul • Depart	(B)
After breakfast, transfer to Istanbul international airport for your return trip back to the USA.			

The estimated rates are based on the final group number traveling on this extension:

\$1900 per person sharing a double/twin - based on min 20-24 participants
\$1945 per person sharing a double/twin - based on min 15-19 participants
\$2255 per person sharing a double/twin - based on min 10-14 participants
Single room supplement is \$255

***ALL ABOVE RATES ARE VALID FOR MAY/JUNE 2011 BUT NEED TO BE CONFIRMED IN NOVEMBER 2010. PRICES ARE BASED ON CURRENT EXCHANGE RATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. YOUR INVOICES WILL REFLECT CURRENT EXCHANGE RATES.**

Tour Includes:

- Accommodation in selected 4-star hotels: in Istanbul, Hotel Arcadia or similar, Hotel Pine Bay Marina in Kusadasi and Hotel Manastir In Bodrum - all rooms with private facilities and air-conditioning
- Meals as detailed (B-bkfst, L-lunch, D-dinner)
- English speaking guide and two co-hosts through out your stay in Turkey
- Transportation by private, comfortable motor coach with air-conditioning as per itinerary
- Tips for all drivers, guides and baggage handling for one checked bag for hotels and transfers, tips to hotels and restaurants
- Domestic flight from Denezli to Istanbul incl. all taxes
- Entrance fees to the sites & museums per itinerary, parking fees

Tour exclusions:

- Room, maid service and other incidentals and items of personal nature
- Meals not designated by (BLD)
- Excess baggage fees