



Classic Greek Odyssey

Greece Main Program: **September 18 - 27, 2025** Optional Istanbul Extension: **September 27 – 29, 2025**



Embark on a Journey Through Time: The Oxford Club's Classic Greek Odyssey

Dear Oxford Club Travel Enthusiast,

Step into a world where myths come alive and ancient wonders meet timeless beauty. From the iconic skyline of Athens to the serene shores of Poros Island and the sacred grounds of Olympia and Delphi, *The Oxford Club's Classic Greek Odyssey* offers an unforgettable experience across the cradle of Western civilization.

This luxurious 10-day journey—expertly curated for curious minds and passionate travelers—will immerse you in the culture, cuisine, and classical legacy of Greece, all while enjoying the comfort of superior accommodations and exclusive events.

Take it from your hosts – Alexander Green and Fritz Satran, "This odyssey is more than a vacation; it's a passage through time."

Picture yourself dining under the stars near Mount Parnassus, walking the marble steps of the Parthenon, or sipping champagne as the sun sets over Hydra's cliffside harbor. With private guides, curated excursions, and elegant meals, you'll explore the stories and splendor of ancient Greece—from the athletic triumphs of Olympia to the mysterious prophecies of Delphi.

Along the way, savor fresh island cuisine, mingle at seaside cocktail receptions, and bask in the Mediterranean's golden glow.

Designed for those who value enriching experiences, this tour balances guided discovery with time to relax and absorb the moment. Whether you're wandering the lively markets of Monastiraki, gazing over the Aegean from a private balcony, or chatting with fellow travelers over a glass of wine, every detail of this journey invites you to slow down and connect—with history, with beauty, and with like-minded adventurers.

Join us this September and uncover Greece not just as a destination, but as an experience to savor for a lifetime. To learn more information and register, call Maggie Stephens at <u>800.638.7640</u> ext. 125 or email <u>maggie@aesu.com</u>.

I look forward to greeting you in Athens!

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Steven King Executive Event Director



Classic Greek Odyssey Highlights

Thursday September 18 – Friday September 27

- Two nights in Athens at the 5-star Intercontinental Athenaeum
- Welcome rooftop cocktail reception overlooking Athens
- Entrance to the magnificent Acropolis Museum with private local guide
- Famed Strofi taverna lunch at base of Acropolis rock
- Four nights on the enchanting Greek island of Poros epicurean lifestyle
- Excursion to the artists' island of Hydra sunset views and dinner
- Stay in Olympia, "Valley of the gods" and Delphi, home of the ancient Oracle
- Visit UNESCO World Heritage site "Temple of Apollo Epicurius" in Bassae
- Farewell taverna dinner- bouzouki music and dancing in the Plaka District
- "Finance & Philosophy" seminar with Chief Investment Strategist, Alexander Green

Tour Includes:

- Accommodations for 8 nights in deluxe hotels in superior rooms
- Daily breakfast included at hotel
- Lunches, dinners, and cocktail receptions as listed in the itinerary
- All transportation from city to city as indicated in the tour program
- Sightseeing, special events, and a few surprises!

Tour Price: \$5,850.00 per person based on two people sharing a double room. Single room supplement: \$2,750.00.



Classic Greek Odyssey Itinerary

Day 1, September 18: Fly to Athens

Depart the US tonight on overnight flights to Greece.

Day 2, September 19: Arrive in Athens

Touch down this morning in Greece, and step into a land where mythology breathes and history whispers from every stone. Greece unfolds before you—a living canvas of azure skies, pristine archaeological treasures, and landscapes that have inspired poets and philosophers for millennia. Our team will meet you at the airport upon arrival and assist with your transfer to the heart of the



city, where the Intercontinental Athenaeum welcomes you with its sleek sophistication, offering breathtaking views of the Acropolis that bridge the ancient and modern worlds.

There will be time to relax and settle in this afternoon. Later, join us for a welcome cocktail high above Athens, where the skyline tells stories of civilizations past. Our evening continues with a curated dinner featuring time-honored Greek delicacies. [Cocktails, Dinner]

Day 3, September 20: Athens to Poros

This morning, our city tour takes us back more than 2000 years as we visit the Parthenon, the Temple of Olympian Zeus, and Constitution Square with a local historian guide. This complex includes some of the most important historic buildings in Athens, designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. Our tour continues with a visit to the remarkable Acropolis Museum, home of priceless archeological treasures, including the magnificent Caryatid statues.

Lunch will be served at a local institution, Strofi, which offers classic Greek cuisine with an unmatched view of the spectacular Acropolis. Following lunch, you'll have a bit of free time to wander through the historic area or perhaps try your bargaining skills at the markets of Monastiraki.



Late this afternoon, we'll board our hydrofoil and set off for the enchanting Greek island of Poros. Far from the tourist crowds, Poros is a truly special place, home to quiet streets, beautiful sea views, and a chance to enjoy the true Greek island lifestyle. Upon arrival in Poros, we'll be whisked away to the Poros Image Hotel. This upscale hotel offers friendly service and modern accommodation with spacious private balconies overlooking the Saronic Gulf and the picturesque Poros Town.

Tonight we'll gather for a cocktail reception to celebrate our arrival in Poros, before proceeding to a lively dinner of Greek specialties.

[Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]



Day 4, September 21: Poros

Start the day by indulging in a decadent buffet breakfast at the hotel's panoramic restaurant, where the shimmering Aegean Sea stretches endlessly before you. The rest of the morning is free to relax and explore. Perhaps lounge by the exclusive hotel beach or take a stroll through the welcoming streets along the waterfront.

At midday, we'll introduce you to authentic Greek hospitality at a charming local taverna, where generationsold recipes and the freshest island ingredients combine to create a true taste of the island. Then we embark on a journey through time, as we discover the breathtaking 18th-century Monastery, a dazzling white sanctuary nestled among verdant pine forests on the rugged mountainside. Then ascend to the island's summit where the ancient Sanctuary of Poseidon has stood guard since 500 BC. Tonight, we'll enjoy elegant cocktails and dinner at the island's chic Sirene Blue resort.



[Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]

Day 5, September 22: Poros * Hydra

Today begins with another restful morning, before we set off on a special excursion. Our first stop is a family-owned taverna nestled within a centuries-old olive grove in the unspoiled countryside. Then, we'll board our private vessel for a short boat ride to the idyllic island of Hydra, the jewel of the Saronic Gulf.

This lovely island has long been a favored retreat of movie stars, writers, and artists. Here the locals like to tell stories of the movie stars who make regular visits, and you never know just who might appear on the deck of one of the luxury yachts that tie up in the harbor. No cars are allowed on the island—instead, donkeys are the main means of transportation. You'll have time to wander the stone-paved narrow alleys, lined with red-tiled houses rising majestically from the steep harbor. As evening begins, head to our exclusive vantage point high in the cliffs overlooking the glistening sea to enjoy a glass of champagne while marveling at a breathtaking sunset. After a lively dinner in Hydra, we'll return to Poros late this evening by private launch.



[Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]



Day 6, September 23: Poros

Today the full day is at leisure to embrace the Epicurean lifestyle, which involves finding joy in the simple pleasures of life, including delicious food, fine wine, and thoughtprovoking conversation. Stroll through the picturesque streets of Poros Town, climb up to the historic Clock Tower, or just fully absorb the island life and relax, swim and sunbathe at the pool or beach. Bicycles will also be available for use during this free day of exploration.



Tonight, stroll along the harbor quay past colorful fishing boats and jetsetter sailing yachts from around the world. Lights reflect in water so deep blue and clear that it defies description. Cafes, shops and waterfront tavernas are alive with traditional music. In this incredible atmosphere, we'll share our final dinner on the island.

[Breakfast, Dinner]

Day 7, September 24: Poros to Olympia

Today our odyssey continues as we cross the legendary Peloponnese, a landscape etched with mythological significance. We'll pass through the medieval town of Napflio, with its unique blend of cultural and architectural styles. Along the way, we'll stop at Bassae, a site rarely frequented by tourists which is home to spectacular unspoiled scenery as well as an ancient temple of Apollo.

We'll make a brief stop for lunch en route, before continuing to ancient Olympia and the "Valley of the Gods." Here the Hotel Europa offers a prime location at the top of the highest hill in town, offering panoramic views of the Alpheus River valley and the historic wonders below. Dinner tonight will be at the hotel's gourmet restaurant.



[Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]

Day 8, September 25: Olympia to Delphi

This morning, we delve into the legendary archaeological site of Olympia, the sacred ground where the ancient Olympic Games began. With your expert guide, visit the Sanctuary of Olympian Zeus, where myths and history converge, and step into the Ancient Stadium, imagining the athletic prowess that filled these grounds millennia ago. Explore the Archaeological Museum, home to treasures that shed light on Olympia's significance in Greek culture.

Then, we journey onward through the plains of Eliad and Achaia to cross the impressive Rion-Antirion Bridge, an engineering marvel over the Corinthian Bay. The day concludes in Delphi, home to the ancient Oracle and its timeless mystique. Tonight, unwind in our charming haven in the mystical countryside near Delphi. Nestled among ancient olive groves beneath the watchful gaze of Mount Parnassus, our accommodation offers the perfect blend of comfort and authentic Greek character. Tonight, we dine under starlit skies in the very landscape that inspired oracles and gods.

[Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]



Day 9, September 26: Delphi to Athens

Today we'll explore Delphi, once considered the center of the ancient world. Our local historian will guide us through the fascinating Temple of Apollo. The legendary Oracle once spoke from this very ground, her cryptic messages shaping the destiny of empires. In the museum, the Charioteer of Delphi stands frozen in bronze—a masterpiece that captures the essence of Greek artistry and human potential.



This afternoon, we'll begin our journey back to modern Greece as we head back to Athens for one more night at the Intercontinental Athenaeum. Tonight, follow the sounds of traditional bouzouki music and join our farewell taverna dinner in the Plaka District – Athens' oldest neighborhood at the foot of the Acropolis.

[Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]

Day 10, September 27: Main Tour Ends

Our main program ends this morning with return transfers back to the airport in Athens. Those joining our optional post-tour extension will transfer to the airport as a group for a short flight to Istanbul.



Optional Add-On Program: Istanbul Highlights

Saturday September 27 – Monday September 29

- Two nights at the iconic 5-star Four Seasons Sultanahmet
- Exclusive cruise on the River Bosphorus
- Visit the Hagia Sophia and underground Byzantine marvel, Basilica Cistern

Add-On Program Includes:

- Accommodations for 2 nights in five-star deluxe hotel
- Daily breakfast included at hotel
- Welcome cocktail reception and dinner
- Lunch at local taverna
- Bosphorus cruise
- Special farewell dinner

Add-On Program Price: \$2,950.00 per person based on double occupancy. Single room supplement: \$1,249.00.



Optional Add-On Program Itinerary

September 27: Fly to Istanbul

This morning we bid farewell to Greece, but the adventure continues as we board our short flight to Istanbul, the city where East meets West in spectacular fashion. Upon landing, we'll retreat to the magnificent Four Seasons Sultanahmet, an Ottoman-era gem transformed into a sanctuary of luxury in the very heart of Istanbul's ancient quarter. Tonight, raise your glass beneath soaring minarets as we toast the beginning of our Turkish sojourn with an exquisite welcome dinner featuring the finest Ottoman cuisine.



September 28: Istanbul

Immerse yourself in Istanbul's breathtaking treasures as we explore architectural marvels that have defined civilization for millennia. Stand in awe beneath the colossal dome of Hagia Sophia where emperors once prayed, admire the cascading blue tiles of the Sultan Ahmed Mosque, and descend into the mystical underground world of the Basilica Cistern—a subterranean wonder from Byzantine times. After lunch at a local taverna, join our exclusive Bosphorus cruise.



Imagine gliding between two continents as you witness Ottoman palaces and modern villas that line Europe and Asia's shores. Later tonight, we'll ascend to one of Istanbul's most exclusive rooftop restaurants where our farewell celebration unfolds against a dazzling panorama—a perfect finale to our extraordinary journey.

September 29: Fly home

After breakfast this morning, we'll bid a reluctant farewell to this enchanting city as we transfer back to the airport for return flights to the USA.

