# **Happy in Greece**

#### Day 1: Meet and Greet in Thessaloniki

Welcome to Charming Thessaloniki and get ready to explore the Undiscovered Pearls of North and Central Greece.

After arriving in Thessaloniki, you will have some free time so you can relax from your long flights. This day is planned as a relaxed day giving you free time to accommodate, explore the surrounding area by your selves and get to know each other.

At about 17:00 we have organized a meet and greet activity. We will have the possibility to get know each other, meet with your tour leader and enjoy the evening at a Greek traditional restaurant accompanied by a glass of Greek wine. Overnight in Thessaloniki

Hotel: Elisabeth Boutique Hotel or The Maroon Bottle Suites

## Day 2: Day Tour of Thessaloniki and Winery experience

Our tour guide will come and pick you up at your hotel in Thessaloniki. We will begin this amazing journey with a city tour of Thessaloniki, the second largest city of Greece and located at the coast. Thessaloniki is an open-air museum of Byzantine history as it has many monuments from that time. We will go to the old city, walk through the traditional markets as well as visit the White Tower, symbol of Thessaloniki. Next to the White Tower is the Arch of Galerius and Rotunda, dating back to the Roman times. We will also visit the most famous hammam in the city, Yahudi hammam, meaning ''Bath of the Jews", resembling all the different cultures that lived here through time.

After sightseeing you will have some free time for lunch by the seaside. Right after lunch time we will drive towards one of the best vineyards, winery and wine museums near Thessaloniki, Ktima Gerovassiliou. You will be able to visit the unique museum dedicated to wines and a huge legacy of wine production and overall culture.

We will taste some unique fine wines with an amazing view of the sunset on the endless vineyards. Overnight in Thessaloniki.

Hotel: Elisabeth Boutique Hotel or The Maroon Bottle Suites

Approximately driving time: 40 minutes, one way

#### Day 3: Thessaloniki - Hike from Priònia to Agios Dionisios Monastery - Sea Side

After breakfast we drive towards the mythical Mount Olympus (also said to be the home of the 12 Greek gods according to Greek mythology) with a variety of microclimates which are considered responsible for the reversion of the vegetation zones.

After arriving at Prionia we start our hiking adventure towards Mount Olympus, first National Park in Greece. Mount Olympus is the highest mountain in Greece 2,917m or 9,570 feet. During the hike we will pass by breath-taking waterfall, wooden bridge a small hut in the mountains and the monastery dating back to the year 1542. We will visit Agios Dionysios Monastery, a Greek Orthodox monastery on the slopes of Mount Olympus. To return we will follow the same path to Prionia. Overnight near the coast line.

Approximately driving time from Thessaloniki to Priònia: 2 hours
Approximately driving time from Priònia to Platamon: 1 hour & 20 min

Hotel: Kronos Hotel

## Day 4: Platamon – Meteora (Kalabaka)

After breakfast we will drive towards Meteora, also part of UNESCO world heritage and constructed in the 14th – 15th century. The monasteries are built on top of the spectacular rock formations, creating a beautiful and impressive sight. You will have the opportunity to see all six magnificent monasteries and admire the interior of one of them. The surrounding rocks are oddly shaped, which makes it a landscape that cannot be found anywhere else. The town also has lots to offer. Walking through the cobblestone lanes, surrounded by two of Meteora's rock formations, is an experience in itself. Some marble stones in the church used to be part of an Ancient Greek temple. At the end of the monastery tour buy some beers, wine or snacks and get ready to enjoy one of the best sunsets in Greece. A truly one in a lifetime experience. Overnight in Kalabak.

Hotel: Hotel Kosta Famissi

Approximately driving time from Platamon to Meteora: 2 hours & 10 minutes

## Day 5: Kalabak - Portaria - Agio Ioannis

After breakfast we will depart towards Agio Ionnnis, but not before not before making a stop at the beautiful village of Portaria. The village is covered in greenery, flowers, and fruit trees overlooking the town of Volos and the Pagasetic Gulf and offering stunning views. Walk through Portaria main square "Melina Merkuri" covered by numerous flowers. Have some free time to taste here some delicious and traditional Greek meals. After having some free time get ready to depart toward the next destination, Agio Ionnis area, by the seaside, where we will spend two overnights.

Hotel: Kenta Beachside Hotel

Approximately driving time from Kalabak to Portaria: 2 hours & 45 minutes Approximately driving time from Portaria to Agio Ioannis: 1 hour & 20 minutes

#### Day 6: Free beach day in Agios Ioannis

Agios loannis, a beautiful village by the sea with a very large and beautiful beach with white pebbles. The beach strip it is over 500 meters long as it is narrowed along the promenade. The beach of Agios loannis is the perfect place for swimming. You will have free beach day to dive in the mesmerizing blue water, to absorb and store all the sunshine. Overnight near the coast line

Hotel: Kenta Beachside Hotel

#### Day 7: Agios Ioannis - Delphi

After having enjoyed the beach day in Agio Ioannis, get ready to depart towards our next destination for this tour. We will drive through the Pelion Mountain until we reach the small port town of Stylida. Have some free time to relaxed from the driving and enjoy the lunch by the bay to one of the tavernas. We recommend this local restaurant by the seaside: ΠΑΡΑΓΚΑ κρέατα & μεζέδες

Right after lunch time we will hop on the bus and depart towards Delphi. Reach Delphi and accommodate yourself at the hotel. Around afternoon get ready to enjoy the olive oil tasting

experience and admire the wonderful view of the immense Amfissa olive grove. We will discover together the olive oil aromas and also taste local olives of Delphi. The Kanatas family that we will visit has cultivated olive trees and produced olive oil for hundreds of years and we will get to learn more on this family tradition. Overnight in Delphi.

Hotel: Pan Hotel

Approximately driving time from Agio Ioannis to Stylida: 2 hours & 45 minutes Approximately driving time from Stylida to Delphi: 2 hours

## Day 8: Delphi - Athens

Delphi is a unique UNESCO world heritage site. This ancient Greek archaeological site is considered to be one of the most beautiful in the world, including multiple monuments such as the Temple of Apollo, the Castallian Fountain and the Large Sphynx of Naxos. You will be astonished by Treasury of the Athenians, the Theatre, the Stadium and the Museum with the famous statue of Antinoos and the unique bronze statue of the Charioteer dated from 475 B.C. Enjoy some free time to explore the UNESCO heritage site. After exploring Delphi, you will have some free time for lunch.

After lunch, we will depart towards the capital of Greece and cultural capital of Europe, Athens. In the afternoon we have a good bye dinner in Athens. We say a fond farewell to our newfound friends, our tour leader and the treasures of Greece after an unforgettable journey. Overnight in Athens

Hotel: @Syngrou Fix

Approximately driving time from Delphi to Athens: 3 hours

#### Day 9: Free time in Athens

Today you will have some free time to explore the city by your selves, buy some gifts and souvenirs as a memory of this amazing trip. You can enjoy the one last frape coffee or a traditional Mediterranean lunch. This remarks the end of this unforgettable tour through the highlights of Northern and Central Greece.