

Topdeck

DELVE DEEP: GREEK ISLANDS



TRIP CODE:
TGIAA3

TOPDECKER, meet Europe (TD)

TRIP VIBE = iconic sights and in-depth adventures with a local Trip Leader. When we say 'Greek Island holiday', you say... Endless beaches? Ridiculously blue waters? Perpetual sunshine? Well, yeah, all those things are great. Obviously. But our Greek Island Hopper trip covers all the givens... and more. MORE ancient wonders. MORE eye candy sunsets. MORE fisherman-chic goodness. MORE G-L-A-M-O-R-O-U-S. Plate smashing. Greek dancing. Schmoozing with the locals. And with us, you won't just see it. You'll do it. One 'opa!' at a time.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Delve Deep



Nights



Download app



Meals

Thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

Ready for the time of your LIFE?

The countdown's on...

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – from where to meet your Topdeck fam to what we suggest you bring.

Read them on the train, in the supermarket queue or on the loo – we don't mind, just look through them carefully so you know what to expect on your trip. We recommend you download this document so it's with you when you travel (and give a copy to your MVPs so they know what you're up to).

IMPORTANT: please refresh this doc as close to your departure as possible. This means you'll have the most up-to-date info available.

INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

- Walking tour of Athens with Trip Leader
- Ferry to Mykonos
- Orientation walk of Mykonos town with Trip Leader
- Paradise Beach hike with Trip Leader
- Ferry to Paros
- Orientation walk of Parikia with Trip Leader
- Ferry to Santorini
- Orientation walk of Fira with Trip Leader
- Ferry to Athens

YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Athens
Greece

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

Athens
Greece

TRIP CURRENCIES

- Greece - EUR

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | ATHENS (GREECE)

Helloooo, Athens! Cue epic adventures, crystal-clear water and more gyros than your fat pants can handle. Think: 4am kebab – but better. Gather 'round Spartans! Tonight we'll meet the gang and dine Greek style: brace yourself for a legendary included group dinner at a local eatery.



MEALS:

- Dinner

DAY 2 | ATHENS

Tick off your ancient must-dos today on a stroll with your local Trip Leader. See the likes of Monastiraki Square, the ruins of the library of Hadrian, Filopappou Hill (for spectacular views over Athens and the Acropolis) and Syntagma Square for the changing of the guards. Then: delve deeper into these archeological sites with an afternoon of free time – the mighty Acropolis is waiting. Ready to dial up your ancient history quota? Jump on an optional afternoon trip to Cape Sounion and Attica. Or spend your free time hunting down the best Greek donut shop in Athens. And this evening? It's all yours. We rec finding local haunt for some seriously good saganaki – it's cheese, it's fried, it's goddam delicious.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Walking tour of Athens with Trip Leader



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Half day trip to Cape Sounion and Attica: from €65 (lunch included)

DAY 3 | ATHENS – MYKONOS (CYCLADES)

We're not going to lie, this morning's an early one – but it's going to be oh-so-worth it! If Athens invented democracy, Mykonos pioneered the beach party that followed. As a group, we'll hit up the windmills in Little Venice for THAT photo, check out the white-washed shop fronts of Old Town and make a mental note of all the beachfront cocktail bars to check out later. Then: the rest is up to you! Ever heard of Paradise Beach? It's where Europe goes to party. 'Nough said.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Ferry to Mykonos
- Orientation walk of Mykonos town with Trip Leader

DAY 4 | MYKONOS

Sore head this morning? DW we've got the cure – a free day lazing on Mykonos' soft sandy beaches. If you're up for it, why not sail over to Delos and Rhenia islands to check out the birthplace of the sun god Apollo. Or lace up those Nikes for an included hike around Paradise Beach. It's 100% up to you. Looking for some local inspo? Your Trip Leader's more clued-up than the Cluedo World Champion '96. Make the most of it!



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Paradise Beach hike with Trip Leader



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Half-day Delos & Rhenia Island sailing trip: from €135 (lunch included)

DAY 5 | MYKONOS – PAROS

Say goodbye to Mykonos – we're heading to Paros this morning. Expect: more white-and-blue coloured paradise. Get your bearings around Parikia (aka Paros' capital) before cutting loose to do whatever you want. Get your architecture fix at the Church of 100 Doors. Explore the cobblestone streets in Naoussa. Or grab some chill time at Kolimbithres Beach. Options, options...



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Ferry to Paros
- Orientation walk of Parikia with Trip Leader

DAY 6 | PAROS

Oh, what's that? Free time to do your own thing? We thought so. Soak up the sweet beach vibes. Settle in at a taverna. Or jump on the bus to Lefkes for some sick views. Want to explore a little deeper? There's a full day trip to Naoussa, Kolymbithres beach and the church of Ekatontapiliani on offer too. Get out there! And tonight? We're dining like locals with an included group meal, so get ready to share your top Greek legends/artly AF shell pics (we know you've got them).



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Full-day trip to Ekatontapiliani, Naoussa and Kolymbithres: from €60 (lunch included)

DAY 7 | PAROS – SANTORINI

Jump back on the ferry: the blue-domed cliffside houses of your Insta feed await in Santorini – #nofilter necessary. Get the tour of Fira with your in-the-know Trip Leader (the side of the island with the best views). Then: it's time to make your friends back home jealous AF with THAT sunset pic. Lucky for you, we're no rookies when it comes to picking the best spot. So settle in, this is going to be one to remember. Finally: it's time for another included dinner with the gang. Get ready to stuff your face with alllll the local bites.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Ferry to Santorini
- Orientation walk of Fira with Trip Leader

DAY 8 | SANTORINI

On today's agenda? OPTIONS. Get your fill of blue-domed churches, rustic windmills and whitewashed houses with an adventure around the island. Or sign up for a full-day volcano excursion, starting with a sail in a traditional caldera before getting your hike on – volcano style. And just in case your iPhone gallery wasn't filled last night, you could even join an Oia sunset tour later. Best day ever? We're not surprised.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Full-day volcano excursion and Oia sunset tour (private caldera, transfers, lunch, guide and cable car tickets included): from €120

DAY 9 | SANTORINI – ATHENS (GREECE)

Whip out your camera and snap those final pics – it's your last morning in Santorini. Disclaimer: this afternoon we've got a lengthy ferry ride back to Athens. But sometimes it's about the journey, right? We'll be back in Athens later this eve for our last night of the trip *sob*.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Ferry to Athens

DAY 10 | ATHENS

After breakfast, it's time to say goodbye. Try not to get too emotional – you could be an ugly crier. So, where to next?



MEALS:

- Breakfast

OTHER INFORMATION

TOPDECK APP

Feeling appy? Download the Topdeck app and get PUMPED for the adventure ahead. Best bit is: from 45 days before departure you'll be able to chat with your soon-to-be tripmates.

Plus, get your itinerary at your fingertips – so you know where you'll be going and what you'll be doing on each day of your trip. Nice!

Links:

Apple <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/topdeck/id994727866>

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.FlexiTechSolutions.TopDeck&hl=en>



YOUR SAFETY

NIGHTS OUT

We love a good night out – experiencing the nightlife and entertainment places have to offer is a big part of travelling. But alongside the fun it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety.

When you're out late, remember to avoid walking alone – particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. Make sure you have your trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking – and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Customers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana – even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip immediately. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

REMEMBER: if you are found in possession of drugs, not only do you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if they are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you don't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!

- Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations
- Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home too – so they're sure to know some tried- and- tested ways to beat the blues
- Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (fact!)

TRAVEL SINCE COVID-19

Travel looks a bit different since COVID-19. That's why we've put some new procedures in place to help keep you safe on the road.

What remains the same? Your Topdeck trip will be run hygienically, responsibly, and with your safety at the forefront of everything we do. End of.

Here's the info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/travel-safely>

RESPECT ON THE ROAD

RESPECTING FELLOW TRAVELLERS

Our trips are for everyone. We're a family – and we want every Topdecker to have an incredible time.

What we're not about is excluding people or making them feel like they don't belong. That's why we always encourage Topdeckers to be kind and courteous to their fellow tripmates . The golden rules? Respect each other's space, be mindful of causing excessive noise in shared accommodation, and treat others how you'd wish to be treated. Easy!

HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER

Responsible travel isn't difficult to achieve. With a little conscious thought and preparation, you can have an awesome adventure AND a positive impact on the places you visit. Sweet!

Here are five things you can do to ensure you're travelling responsibly:

- Conserve water. You know the drill – reuse your room towels, take short showers and remember to turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth
- Reduce your waste. Ditch the plastic bag, refuse unnecessary packaging, dispose of your waste responsibly and recycle as much as possible
- Go local. Hunt down locally owned and operated restaurants and bars, shop in local markets, and book tours and activities run by local guides
- Consider the wildlife. Avoid any attractions that involve closely engaging with wild animals
- Respect local people and culture. Obeying local laws is a given – but also remember to dress and behave in a manner appropriate to the community. Be polite and keep an open mind!

INSURANCE

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

Head to our FAQ for more info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/faqs-0>

Got more Qs? Chat with our Customer Service team: <https://www.topdeck.travel/about-us/contact>

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip's departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling. Check out our handy interactive map showing global visa requirements:

<https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/latest-border-restrictions>

PLEASE NOTE: some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

TIPPING

Basically: it's not necessary.

Your Trip Leader and Driver don't expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. Meaning? More dollar to spend on optional activities (and a souvenir for your nan).

WHAT TO BRING

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it (as long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is!).

Off to Japan? Your luggage must be no bigger than 160cm in total (height x width x length). So maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

Psst: this is a packing list for Topdeck trips in general. Obv you'd look silly splashing around the Greek islands in a snowsuit.

- 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes + 1 pair of smart casual shoes
- 1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops
- 2 pairs of jeans/trousers
- 2 pairs of shorts/skirts
- 4 shirts/T-shirts
- 2 sweaters/jumpers
- Smart casual evening wear
- 1 warm jacket + 1 rainproof jacket

- Underwear and socks + swimwear
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Hat and sunscreen
- Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- Adaptor plug
- Reusable water bottle
- Snow gear



THAT'S IT!