



*Educational
Tours*



From Rome to Athens



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Italy • Greece

Extension includes Turkey



Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- 6 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms; plus 1 night cabin accommodation (5 with extension)
- Complete European breakfast and dinner daily (3 meals daily on cruise extension)
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- 8 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides; Vatican and Rome sightseeing tours includes headsets
- 10 visits to special attractions
- 2 EF walking tours

Highlights: Colosseum; Sistine Chapel; St. Peter's Basilica; Spanish Steps; Pompeii Roman ruins; Olympia; Epidaurus; Mycenae; Acropolis; Agora site and Athenian cemetery; Delphi site and museum
With extension: cruise ports: Mykonos; Kusadasi; Patmos; Rhodes; Heraklion; Santorini

Optional: Greek Evening



Learn before you go
www.eftours.com/pbsitaly
www.eftours.com/pbsgreece



The Acropolis towers over the center of Athens; its name translates to "city on the edge."

Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to Italy • Relax as you fly across the Atlantic.

Day 2 Rome

Arrival in Rome • Touch down in *bella Roma*, the Eternal City. Here Charlemagne was crowned emperor by the pope in A.D. 800. After clearing customs you are greeted by your bilingual EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

Day 3 Rome

Guided excursion to Vatican City • Today, you will explore Vatican City, the world's smallest country. Begin at the Vatican Museum, where elaborate galleries filled with one artistic masterpiece after another lead you directly to the Sistine Chapel. Between 1508 and 1512, Michelangelo painted some of the world's finest pictorial images on the chapel's ceiling. This was his first attempt at working in fresco, which he did by standing up and craning backward from a scaffold. Next, tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected on the site where the saint was martyred. Enter the basilica under the

watchful eyes of the brightly dressed Swiss Guard. Inside, admire Michelangelo's *Pietà*, the only sculpture he ever signed.

Guided sightseeing of Rome • Pass the grassy ruins of the ancient Forum Romanum, once the heart of the Roman Empire, and admire the enduring fragments of Rome's glorious past. It was here that business, commerce and the administration of justice once took place. Then visit the mighty Colosseum, Rome's first permanent amphitheater whose three tiers are approximately equal to a 12- to 15 story building. Once, as many as 50,000 cheering spectators would flock



Number of overnight stays in parentheses.

to watch gladiator battles unfold inside. During the staged fights here as many as 10,000 slaves, prisoners or volunteers were killed. Persecuted Christians were also murdered — spectators saw them mauled by lions. After A.D. 404, gladiator battles ended, but animals were still massacred in the name of sport until the 6th century.

Guided walking tour of Rome • Continue on to the Piazza Venezia, where the Vittoriano monument marks the center of contemporary Rome. View the Pantheon, one of the best-preserved ancient buildings in Rome, commissioned by the Emperor Hadrian around A.D. 120. This temple to “all the gods” sports the second-widest dome in Rome—it was built using the exact proportions of an egg! Then, when you visit the legendary Trevi Fountain, make sure to toss a coin in to ensure your return to Rome. Finish off in the Piazza di Spagna, or the Spanish Steps, a popular hangout for foreigners and Italians alike.

Day 4 Rome • Night Ferry

Guided sightseeing of Pompeii • Learn how wealthy Romans lived 2,000 years ago on an excursion to Pompeii, one of the richest archaeological sites in the world. When neighboring Mt. Vesuvius erupted in A.D. 79, volcanic ash completely buried the Roman resort, perfectly preserving the minutiae of daily life. Now it is fully excavated, and you can see ruins of villas, ancient temples, and the Stabian Baths.

Night ferry to Greece • Board a night ferry in Brindisi or Bari. Enjoy cabin accommodations as you sail across the Ionian Sea to Greece.

Day 5 Patras • Tolo

Arrival in Patras • Disembark in Patras. Capital of the Peloponnese, Patras serves as a hub for ships travelling among the Greek islands and the ports of Italy.

Guided sightseeing of Olympia • Visit Olympia, site of the first Olympic Games almost 2,800 years ago! According to legend, Hercules proposed the idea of the Olympics, intended as a means of honoring Zeus. Back then the games were held every four years—a tradition that the modern-day Olympics upheld until 1994, when the summer and winter games were first split into different years.

Transfer to Tolo • Spend the night in Tolo, a town whose sandy beaches are just a few miles south of Nauplia.

Day 6 Tolo • Athens

Guided sightseeing of Epidaurus • Visit the ancient site of Epidaurus, famous for its open-air theater (dating from the 4th century B.C.), the best-preserved in all of Greece.

Guided sightseeing of Mycenae • You'll also tour legendary Mycenae, founded by Perseus with the help of the Cyclops. From here, Agamemnon began his campaign against Troy.

Transfer via the Corinth Canal • Then go by way of the Corinth Canal (Oedipus spent his childhood in Corinth) en route to Athens.

Arrival in Athens • Arrive in Athens, Cradle of Democracy and birthplace of Western civilization.

Day 7 Athens

Guided sightseeing of Athens • An expert local guide introduces you to the antiquities of Athens. Climb the Acropolis to view the majestic Parthenon, perhaps the world's greatest architectural feat. See the Temple of Athena Nike, which once housed a gold statue of the goddess (her wings were clipped to keep her from ever deserting the city). Athens is named after Athena, the goddess of war and wisdom. After seeing the Presidential Guard in their traditional costumes, pass the stadium, where the first modern Olympics were held in 1896, as well as lively Omonia and Syntagma Squares.

Agora Site • See the Agora, ancient Athens' political, economic and commercial center. You'll walk by the remains of the Temple of Hephaistos begun in 449 B.C. and see various other sites important in Greek history. Later, get a glimpse of bronze, silver and gold artifacts that were dug up at the site by various teams of archaeologists.

Athenian Cemetery • The Athenian Cemetery is a who's who of Ancient Athens. See impressive

family tombs where statesmen, warriors and authors were laid to rest. Nearby is the Akademos, where in the 4th century B.C., Plato founded his academy.

EF walking tour of Athens • Your tour director introduces you to the endearing Plaka district. Stroll past Hadrian's Arch and the Temple of Olympian Zeus, built to honor the most powerful of all Greek gods—construction began in 515 B.C.

Day 8 Delphi

Guided sightseeing of Delphi • As you tour Delphi, ponder the mysteries of what lies in your future, as did Greece's ancient military leaders, who left gifts for the Oracle in hopes of good fortune in battle. Then visit the Temple of Apollo where, according to legend, the god communicated with mortals. Your visit concludes with a stop at the Delphi Museum, whose collection boasts many artifacts dating back to 550 B.C., reminiscent of the mythical past of ancient Greece.

Optional Greek Evening • Tonight, opt to experience Greece's unique and colorful culture during an evening of traditional entertainment and cuisine. Enjoy an authentic meal composed of typical dishes at a specially selected taverna in or near the famous old Plaka district of Athens. Watch an enthralling belly-dance performance, and witness the fancy footwork and twirling bravado of traditional Greek dancing while musicians perform on *bouzoukis*, stringed instruments unique to Greece. Musical instruments, which date from the Bronze Age in Greece, have

If you lied, medieval Romans said the Bocca della Verita (Mouth of Truth) would swallow your hand!



long played a central role in Greek tradition, as have regional dances. Experience firsthand this thrilling element of Greek culture!

Day 9 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

EXTENSION

Day 9–13 Island Cruise

Cruise extension (seasonal) • Your group can plan to stay for a four-day Louis Cruise Lines voyage through the beautiful whitewashed isles of Greece. Your ports of call are picturesque Mykonos, Patmos, Kusadasi, Rhodes, Heraklion, and Santorini. In between, you'll have plenty of time to enjoy the activities on board ship. Free-time options while you're at sea include shopping, games, fitness activities, swimming, and sunning. (Please note that the cruise is seasonal and the itinerary is subject to change.) Fly home from Athens on Day 13.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

Discover the Global Classroom

