

Greece

ATHENS & POROS



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WESTERN
ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

**Western Illinois University
Alumni Association**

October 24 – November 1, 2019

Other dates available upon request



Inspiring Moments

A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers, who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your multilingual Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings. This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

Begin your next chapter with an adventure set in breathtaking Greece. Explore and embrace its alluring treasures, from sublime classical buildings to pretty islands amid sparkling, azure waters.

- ▶ Stand in the glorious **Acropolis** and witness magnificent views of Athens.
- ▶ Imagine Greek dramas unfolding in the ancient theater in **Epidaurus**.
- ▶ Explore the charming, car-free island of **Hydra**.
- ▶ Wander through the amazing ruins of the powerful Bronze Age kingdom, **Mycenae**.
- ▶ Learn a **Greek folk dance** at a festive farewell celebration.
- ▶ Delight in lovely **Nafplio**, a historic Venetian seaport and Greece's first capital.
- ▶ Discover the flavors of **Greek wine** at a Peloponnese winery tasting.

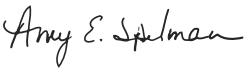
Dear Alumni and Friends,

If you've always wanted to experience the celebrated history and beauty of Greece, this wonderfully priced, enriching cultural journey offers you the ideal opportunity to realize your dream.

Encounter Greece's living legacy firsthand during two nights in vibrant Athens and five nights on delightful Poros. In Athens, with its heady mix of antiquity and modernity, witness unrivaled archaeological treasures, including the Acropolis overlooking the city. Next, delight in the glittering aquamarine sea and savor the sun-splashed, relaxed island life on Poros. Cruise to the island of Hydra and make new discoveries about the ancient Greeks during visits to the World Heritage sites of Epidaurus and Mycenae.

You'll enjoy lovely accommodations and meals, engaging insights from expert guides and local speakers, plus worry-free travel, thanks to a dedicated Travel Director. With all these fantastic benefits, this trip is sure to be popular. Act now to make your dream a reality!

Sincerely,



Amy E. Spelman
Director of Alumni Programs
Western Illinois University

P.S. WIU graduates become members of the WIU Alumni Association the day they graduate and are entitled to many benefits and services, including travel protection. Information regarding travel protection will be sent to you by the Western Illinois University Alumni Association with your confirmation letter. Whether you decide to travel with WIU or just on your own, you are invited to check out our Travel Protection Program, providing protection for any type of travel you do.

Be sure to visit wiu.edu/alumni for details and to learn about the upcoming Alumni & Friends Events near you.

800-323-7373

westil.ahitravel.com





Acropolis towering above Athens

Day 1

In Transit

Depart your gateway city for Athens, Greece.✈

Day 2

Athens, Greece

Transfer✈ to the NJV Athens Plaza Hotel.

Free Time: Get better acquainted with the city and make your own plans for dinner. From the hotel's location on Syntagma Square, you are close to many attractions. In the Plaka, take an evening stroll, or "volta," a popular social event when the sun goes down.

Day 3

B | L | D

Athens | Poros

Discovery: Athens. Explore the birthplace of democracy and Western philosophy, theater and architecture. Witness Athens Academy, the University of Athens and the National Library, Athens' famous neoclassical trio. At the Acropolis Museum, gaze down through glass flooring to see the ruins of an ancient neighborhood. Ascend the Acropolis and admire the classical lines of the Parthenon, dedicated to the goddess Athena. While touring, break for a lunch of local specialties.

This afternoon, relish views of mountains and olive groves during a scenic drive through the countryside to Peloponnese, the storied Greek peninsula. From the town of Galatas, take a short ferry ride to the island of Poros and check in to the New Aegli Hotel.

Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

Day 4

B | L

Poros

Enrichment: Greek Art. Trace Greek culture through the ages as reflected in its art.

Discovery: Poros. Stroll through streets lined with whitewashed homes in Poros Town and St. George Square. Pass bustling shops along the sparkling waterfront on your way to visit the Archaeological Museum of Poros.

AHI Connects: Meet the People. Sit down for a traditional lunch with residents at a local tavern. Chat together over your meal and learn about everyday life in Greece.

Free Time: Meander through Poros Town on your own or spend the afternoon on beautiful Askeli beach by the hotel.

Enrichment: Classical Greece. Learn about the profound influence of ancient Greece on the Western world.

Day 5

B | L

Epidauros | Nafplio

Enrichment: Greek History. Examine key periods and influential figures who formed the foundation for the modern-day republic.

Discovery: Epidauros. Set amid pine-clad hills, Epidauros is renowned for its ancient theater. Built in the fourth century B.C., the well-preserved theater is still in use today and seats up to 14,000 people. Its acoustics are phenomenal; a coin dropped at the center of the stage can be heard in the highest seat.

After exploring Epidauros, tuck into a delicious lunch of Greek cuisine.



Theater, Epidaurus



Discovery: Nafplio. Situated on a rocky peninsula jutting into the Argolic Gulf, this city briefly was the first capital of Greece during the War of Independence. Soak up the town's medieval ambience as you see ancient castles and neoclassical mansions. Turkish fountains, vibrant bougainvillea trees and balconies overhead add to the quaint character. After your guided walk, explore on your own.

Return to Poros. The evening is yours to plan.

Day 6

B | D

Hydra

This morning, take a water taxi to the port and catch a hydrofoil to the nearby island of Hydra.

Discovery: Hydra. Cruise to this jewel of an island in the Saronic Gulf, celebrated for its exquisite harbor, superb stone architecture and car-free environment. Visit the National Archives for a glimpse into the 18th- and 19th-century history of both Hydra and Greece. Then find your own special spot for lunch.

Take the hydrofoil back to Poros and a water taxi to the hotel.

Enrichment: Greece Today. Understand the current issues influencing Greek life.

Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant this evening.



Corinth Canal

Day 7

B | L | D

Mycenae

Discovery: Mycenae. With a guide, walk among the ruins of Mycenae, a wealthy city that flourished in the second millennium B.C. This mighty naval power exerted its influence throughout the Mediterranean and into Asia Minor. According to legend, it was home to Agamemnon, the king who conquered Troy.

Discovery: Greek Wine. Relax and savor lunch at a highly regarded winery and sample its vintages.

Enrichment: Greek Night. Conclude an amazing week in Greece at a festive "glendi," or party. After a tasty dinner, listen to a live band play spirited folk music and watch dancers perform traditional routines. If you'd like, join in and learn the dances!

Day 8

B | D

Corinth | Athens

Depart Poros for Athens this morning.

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

(with baggage handling)

- **2 nights** in Athens, Greece, at the deluxe NJV Athens Plaza Hotel.
- **5 nights** in Poros at the first-class New Aegli Hotel.

Transfers

- Deluxe motor coach, water taxi, hydrofoil and ferry transfers during the Land program, including baggage handling.

Extensive Meal Program

- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 4 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history:
 - Tour the ancient metropolis of Athens.
 - Explore the island of Poros.
 - Visit the classical Greek theater in Epidaurus.
 - Roam coastal Nafplio's winding streets.
 - Immerse yourself in the idyllic island ambience of Hydra.
 - Journey to the ancient fortified city of Mycenae.
 - Delve into the world of Greek wine.
 - See the renowned Corinth Canal.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



UNESCO World Heritage

1. Acropolis, Athens
2. Archaeological Site of Mycenae
3. Sanctuary of Asklepios at Epidaurus



Discovery: Corinth Canal. On your way to Athens, marvel at the Corinth Canal, which separates Peloponnese from the mainland. Opened in 1893, the canal connects the Gulf of Corinth with the Saronic Gulf.

Arrive in Athens, and check in to the NJV Athens Plaza Hotel.

Free Time: Spend the afternoon at leisure. Walk to the Greek Parliament building, where you can watch the changing of the guard every hour on the hour. Head south from the Parliament, and see the National Garden, Hadrian's Arch and the Temple of Olympian Zeus. Another enjoyable option is a visit to the acclaimed Benaki Museum to admire its fine collection of ancient Greek, Byzantine, Coptic and Chinese art.

Gather for a final group dinner tonight.

Day 9

B

In Transit

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for the return flight to your gateway city.✈

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.

✈ Transfers and flights included for AHI FlexAir participants.

B|L|D denotes included breakfasts, lunches and dinners.



NJV ATHENS PLAZA HOTEL | ATHENS



AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

- ▶ **Travel Consultants** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ **Passenger Service Representative** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **Travel Information** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to prepare you fully for your journey.

Once you arrive:

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- ▶ **Travel Director** | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- ▶ **Expert Guides** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- ▶ **Lecturers** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.



NEW AEGLI HOTEL | POROS



Our travel experts have carefully selected these first-class properties for their prime locations. They are ideally situated for exploring the region's renowned landmarks, while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in local life. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of the services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.

Reserve your trip to Greece today!

Trip #:18-24614W

Send to Greece ~ Athens & Poros
Western Illinois University Alumni Association
c/o AHI Travel
International Tower-Suite 600
8550 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631

Please contact AHI Travel at **800-323-7373** with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

1) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

2) _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (_____) Cell: (_____) _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately)

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Land Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the round-trip AHI FlexAir to Athens, Greece, to depart from:

Departure City

Land Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

I prefer single accommodations at an additional \$350 (limited availability).

I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **August 10, 2019** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 pp required) to reserve _____ place(s).

Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.

Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____/_____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

PROGRAM DATES

Air Program dates: October 24 – November 1, 2019

Land Program dates: October 25 – November 1, 2019

LAND PROGRAM

Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price*
\$2,545	\$250	\$2,295

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.

VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$350 (limited availability).

Let us arrange your flights!

✈ **AHI FlexAir** | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ▶ **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- ▶ arrival and departure **transfers** on most flights
- ▶ **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- ▶ **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays
- ▶ flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms

Travel stress-free with AHI FlexAir



Poros



Hydra

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas; entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL-The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for arrival and departure transfers, and any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS-On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

RESPONSIBILITY-AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program, and act only as agents for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other services. All such persons or entities are independent contractors. As a result, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not liable for any negligence or willful act of any such person or entity or any third person. In addition and without limitation, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is canceled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

CANCELLATION-All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 15% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. **CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS**-Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

800-323-7373

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Parthenon, Athens



Hydra

Explore the living legacy of Greece at an incredible value!

**Please call or refer to our
website for the most current
program information,
discounts and pricing.**

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey
- An exceptional travel value
- Unique access to local sites
- Flexibility and customization
- Safety and security



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