

Towson University: The Political Economy of Greece

May 22-June 13,2010

Saturday 22 MAY: BALTIMORE DEPARTURE

Transatlantic flight to Athens

Sunday 23 MAY: ATHENS ARRIVAL

Upon your arrival to Athens our representative will meet and assist in your transfer to the hotel for check in. Dinner at Hotel is provided by Aristotle. Overnight at the hotel

Monday 24 MAY: ATHENS CITY TOUR & ACROPOLIS MUSEUM



Breakfast at the hotel. At 8:30 a.m. we climb up to the marble-capped *Acropolis* and visit the famous *Parthenon* and the *Erechtheum*. Enjoy a panoramic drive to view the highlights of modern Athens passing by the *Tomb of the Unknown Soldier*, *Parliament House*, *Presidential Palace*, *Panathenian Stadium*, *Temple of Olympian Zeus*, the *Academy*, the *University* and the *National Library*. We continue our sightseeing tour with a visit to the *New Acropolis Museum*, the first gallery of the Museum houses finds from the slopes of the Acropolis. The gallery's glass floor affords views to the excavation, while its upward slope eludes to the ascent to the Acropolis. In antiquity, the slopes of the Sacred Rock constituted the transition zone between the city and its most famous sanctuary. This was the area where official and popular cults, as well as large and small sanctuaries existed alongside private houses.

Tuesday 25 MAY: LECTURES

Breakfast at the hotel
Introduction to Greek Political Economic & Social System. Morning and afternoon sessions.
Lunch & dinner on your own
Overnight at the hotel

Wednesday 26 MAY: LECTURES

Breakfast at the hotel
Morning guest lecture "Greek American relations".
Lunch on your own
Afternoon discussion.
Dinner on your own & overnight at the hotel

Thursday 27 May: LECTURES – PLAKA




Breakfast at the hotel
Lecture on Greek Politics and Political Parties in the 21st century.
Free afternoon.
In the evening we will enjoy a traditional Greek dinner with folk dances, bouzouki music and songs in a typical tavern in the oldest and most picturesque district of Athens, Plaka. Overnight at the hotel in Athens

Friday 28 MAY: LECTURES

Breakfast at the hotel
Morning guest lecture "Greece and the European Union".
Lunch on your own
Afternoon discussion.
Dinner on your own & overnight at the hotel.

Saturday 29 MAY: ATHENS-DELPHI-KALAMBAKA	
	After breakfast we check out of the hotel and begin our drive to Delphi through the fertile plain of Boeotia, crossing the towns of Thebes, Levadia and Arachova, famous for their colorful woolen rugs and carpets. Arrive at Delphi , the center of the Ancient world, the "omphalos" (navel) of the earth - whose prestige extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic world. On the slopes of Mt. Parnassos, in a landscape of unparalleled natural beauty and majesty, lies the archaeological site of Delphi.
	We visit the <i>Sanctuary of Apollo</i> , the <i>Treasury of the Athenians</i> , and the <i>Museum</i> containing such masterpieces of ancient Greek sculpture as the bronze <i>Charioteer</i> and the famous athlete <i>Aghias</i> . Depart for Kalambaka. Drive through the towns of Central Greece (Amphissa, Lamia and Trikala) crossing the fertile plain of Thessaly, the granary of Greece, to reach Kalambaka. Check in at the hotel Orfeas for overnight.
Sunday 30 May: METEORA-ATHENS	
 	After breakfast we drive up to visit <i>Meteora</i> . Colossal symmetrical gray and reddish boulders, as though pushed upwards from the bowels of mother earth by an invisible hand, sustain breathtaking beautiful monasteries perched precariously high above the ground. The monasteries were first built in the 14th century by monks seeking isolation and salvation, accessible only by ropes thrown from above. We will climb up steps built since, to the veritable Byzantine museums exhibiting superb icons, old manuscripts and unique mosaics and frescoes. On our way back to Athens we stop at Thermopylae, which commemorates the historic battle between the 300 Spartans, led by Leonidas and the Persian army of Xerxes in 480 BC composed of thousands. We arrive in Athens in the evening and transfer to the hotel for overnight.
Monday 31 May: 1-DAY ISLAND CRUISE TO AEGINA, POROS & HYDRA	
	After an early breakfast at the hotel we will enjoy the one-day cruise to the Greek islands of Aegina, Poros, and Hydra , including lunch on board and round-trip transfers by bus. First stop Aegina , an attractive and tranquil resort place. Here we can either join the optional excursion to the Temple of Aphaia , one of the finest and the best preserved of the Greek temples, or walk leisurely around the harbor or browse in the small gift shops.
	From here we continue our voyage to Poros where the first naval arsenal of independent Greece was established. Poros provides delightful scenery marked by the low pine-wooded hills.
	Our last call is Hydra , fashionable artists' colony, a retreat of intellectuals and a favorite film location. An amphitheatrical town rings the colorful harbor with well-preserved sea-merchant family mansions. Leisurely we have time for strolling, shopping or swimming. Return to Athens in the early evening. Overnight at the hotel.
Tuesday 1 JUNE: LECTURES	
Breakfast at the hotel Morning: Guest Lecture "Greece and the Balkans" Lunch on your own Afternoon discussion. Dinner on your own & overnight at the hotel	

Wednesday 2 JUNE: LECTURES	
Breakfast at the hotel Morning & Afternoon "The Political and Economic History of Greece since World War I Lunch & dinner on your own & overnight at the hotel	
Thursday 3 JUNE: VISIT TO FACTORY	
Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to a Factory (exact details to be advised.) Return to hotel for the rest of the day at leisure. Lunch & dinner on your own Overnight at the hotel.	
Friday 4 JUNE: CORINTHIAN CANAL - MYCENAE- EPIDAUROS-TOLO	
	Breakfast at the hotel & check out. At 8:00 a.m. we drive along the coastal road of the Saronic Gulf, with a short stop at the Corinthian Canal, a four miles narrow cut of land, connecting the waters of the Saronic with the Corinthian Gulfs
	We then proceed to <u>Mycenae</u> and visit the remains of the prehistoric citadel fortified with the <i>Cyclopean Walls</i> , the <i>Lionesses' Gate</i> , the remains of the <i>Mycenaean Palace</i> and the <i>Tomb of King Agamemnon</i> in which we will actually enter. On through Argos to <i>Nafplion</i> , the first capital of modern Greece, where we stop to take pictures.
	Then we continue on to visit <u>Epidauros</u> : the <i>Sanctuary of Asclepeios</i> , ancient god of healing. We see the best-preserved ancient theater in all of Greece, famous for the harmony of its design and the perfection of its remarkable acoustics, easily accommodating 12,000 people. Drive to Tolon for check in. Evening at leisure, lunch & dinner on your own. overnight at the Tolon hotel
Saturday 5 JUNE: ANCIENT OLYMPIA	
	After breakfast check out and drive to <i>Ancient Olympia</i> , the birthplace of the Olympic Games and the most important sanctuary of Zeus, father of all gods and goddesses. The starting line is still visible etched on the marble in the Stadium there, inviting you to run and in your imagination compete with the Ancient athletes. Enjoy the play of light on the soft greenery and dappled ancient columns in this wonderful and peaceful setting. We will visit the ancient site and then enjoy the afternoon at leisure. Lunch & dinner on your own. Overnight at the Hotel Neda.
Sunday 6 JUNE: OLYMPIA-ATHENS	
 	After breakfast check out and then we visit the archaeological museum beside the ancient site. It contains most interesting exhibits such as the pediments and the metopes of the <i>Temple of Zeus</i> , the <i>Statue of Nike</i> and of <i>Hermes</i> . We will then visit the <i>Museum of the Olympic Games</i> ; here we will see exhibits of rare objects connected to the modern Olympiads, such Olympic coins, medals of Olympic winners, torches, rich photo material, posters, pictures, the unique stamp collection. This collection follows the subject of the modern Olympic games of the last hundred years and is accompanied by related informative microfilms. We will enjoy two stops on the way back to Athens one to take pictures of the Rio bridge and another for lunch on our own at a local restaurant before driving back to Athens. Overnight at the hotel in Athens.

Monday 7 JUNE: LECTURES-CAPE SOUNION	
	<p>Breakfast at the hotel Morning lectures.</p> <p>In the afternoon we have our excursion towards <u>Cape Sounion</u>. Driving along the picturesque coastal road, past the beautiful beaches of Kalamaki, Glyfada, Voula, Vouliagmeni and Varkiza, with its countless coves, with the beautiful blue waters of the Saronic Gulf only feet from us, we continue toward Sounion. A crowning feature of the tour is <i>Cape Sounion</i>, famous for its radiant sunsets and dominated by the Doric white marble <u>Temple of Poseidon</u> that overlooks the blue Aegean Sea. On our way back to Athens we will stop at a seaside tavern for dinner before returning to the hotel in Athens for overnight.</p>
Tuesday 8 JUNE: LECTURES-VISIT TO LYCABETTUS HILL	
	<p>Breakfast at the hotel Morning Lectures. Lunch on your own</p> <p>Afternoon visit to Lycabettus Hill (only 11 & 15-seat mini buses are able to go to the steps and from there the Teleferik up to Lycabettus Hill.) Dinner on your own & Return to the hotel for overnight.</p>
Wednesday 9 JUNE: LECTURES	
<p>Breakfast at the hotel Morning: Guest Lecture "Higher Education in Greece" Lunch on your own Afternoon: Discussion. Dinner on your own & overnight at the hotel</p>	
Thursday 10 JUNE: LECTURES	
<p>Breakfast at the hotel Morning: Greek-Turkish relations and the Aegean dispute Lunch on your own & Free afternoon. Dinner on your own & overnight at the hotel</p>	
Friday 11 JUNE: MORNING AT LEISURE-AFTERNOON JOURNAL ENTRIES	
<p>Breakfast at the hotel Enjoy the morning at leisure for shopping etc. Lunch on your own In the Afternoon work on final entries of Journal. Dinner on your own & overnight at the hotel</p>	
Saturday 12 JUNE: FINAL EXAMINATION	
<p>Breakfast at the hotel Work on the essays of the Final Examination. Lunch & dinner on your own Overnight at the hotel</p>	
Sunday 13 JUNE: ATHENS DEPARTURE	
<p>Transfer to the airport for your departure flight to USA (breakfast set out prior to departure)</p>	