

A GREEK ODYSSEY

*a pilgrimage to Athens, Delphi, Corinth,
& a 4-day Greek island cruise*

JUNE 20-30-2024
with TSH OXENREIDER



For More Information Contact:
Select International Tours
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and view or pay your invoice, from any computer or mobile device.



"ὁ δὲ
ἀνεξέταστος
βίος
οὐ βιωτὸς
ἀνθρώπῳ"

"The unexamined life
is not worth living."
-Socrates



Greece is one of the oldest cultures in the world and the iconic cradle of western civilization. To visit it is to step along the stones where ancient thinkers, philosophers, inventors, politicians, poets, artists, and theologians shared their truth, goodness, and beauty with the world. The rocky land and storied islands are worth a modern odyssey, because Socrates was right: our lives are worthwhile when we reflect on who we are, how we're made, and why we're here. What better way to do that than to travel? And what better place to pilgrimage for a deep, reflective look into our modern lives than in historic Greece?

YOUR GUIDES:

KYLE & TSH OXENREIDER



Kyle and Tsh Oxenreider are explorers down to their bones, and ever since they met on a dirt road in war-torn Kosovo 20-plus years ago, travel has been in their family's DNA. They've lived in Kosovo and Turkey and traveled to well over thirty countries, and along the way they've learned a heckuva lot about *home*. Several years ago they took their three kids on a round-the-globe journey, spending a school year learning from the greatest textbook there is: the world.

Because of all this (not in spite of!), they love being home in their cozy small town north of Austin, Texas, where they spend their weekends renovating an old house and walking to coffee shops and the library. Kyle is a small business owner by day, podcast editor by night, and loves all things outdoors.

Tsh is an experienced travel guide, high school literature teacher, and author of six books including *At Home in the World:*

Reflections on Belonging While Wandering the Globe. She also writes for publications like *America Magazine*, *Public Discourse*, *Word on Fire*, and more. She is a long-time podcaster and currently co-hosts *A Drink With a Friend*, a show that explores what it means to see all of ordinary life through a sacramental lens.

Both of them are Catholic converts after spending most of their lives as devoted evangelicals, followed by Anglicans. They're beyond grateful for discovering where they belong after years of searching for where they could best find the presence of Jesus. There's little that gets them more encouraged than connecting ecumenically with brothers and sisters, wherever God has them, and sharing real-world experiences together.

Their favorite style of travel? Laid-back adventure. When you travel with them, you'll try new things and ask new questions about the world and your place in it, but not at the cost of unwise risk. We'll learn from locals, trod on old soil, and spend time each day unpacking what we've learned — often over a pint or a glass of something unique to the culture. They'd love you to join them!

ITINERARY



June 20, Thursday | Day 1: Depart for Greece

We depart on an overnight flight from Newark to Athens. Dinner and breakfast will be served on board.

(Add-on airfare from most major airports, as well as premium and business class upgrades, are available upon request.)

June 21, Friday | Day 2: Welcome to Greece!

We arrive in Athens and meet our English-speaking Greek guide who will accompany us during the land portion of the trip. We'll begin our trip at the Catholic Church of St. Dennis, where we'll celebrate Mass. We'll then settle into the hotel and enjoy a Greek dinner before getting a well deserved night of rest. Overnight in Athens.

(breakfast & dinner included)

June 22, Saturday | Day 3: Delphi - Osios Loukas

After breakfast we'll drive to Delphi, the center of the ancient world and "navel" of the earth, whose prestige extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic world. On the slopes of Mount Parnassus in a landscape of unparalleled beauty lie the ruins of the pagan Sanctuary of Apollo Pythios. We then visit the Orthodox Monastery of Osios Loukas, dedicated to the local hermit and healer, Holy Luke. The monastery is considered one of the most beautiful in Greece with a treasury of priceless icons. Dinner and overnight in Athens.

(breakfast & dinner included)

June 23, Sunday - Day 4: Athens

Following Mass with the local faithful in Athens, we embark on a city tour. Athens is one of the most glorious cities in the world and the cradle of western civilization as we know it. We visit the Acropolis: the rock that has dominated the panorama of Athens for twenty-



five centuries. There, we'll see the ruins of the Parthenon, Erechtheum, and Propylaea, then ascend Mars Hill, where St. Paul spoke to the Athenians about the one and only God (Acts 17), and finally see the ancient Agora, the former public center of Athenian life. The afternoon and dinner are free to explore the city on your own. Overnight in Athens.

(breakfast included)

June 24, Monday | Day 5: Start Our 4-Day Aegean Cruise /

After breakfast we'll board the Celestyal Olympia, then settle into our cabins and explore the ship. Beverages are included, so grab a cool drink and meet on the deck as we depart the mainland and enjoy the beautiful views. Our first stop is the island of Mykonos, the most cosmopolitan of the Greek islands which attracts visitors from all over the world. After docking, we'll head to Hora, the island's capital, and leisurely explore the narrow, cobble streets of the city, pass by chic boutiques, elegant nightclubs, and whitewashed houses to arrive in Alefkandra, known as the "Venice of Mykonos" with historic homes donning wooden balconies built on the sea for the wealthy merchants and captains. We'll then return to the ship for dinner and our overnight. *(breakfast, lunch, & dinner included)*



June 25, Tuesday | Day 6: Kusadasi – Ephesus & Patmos

After breakfast on board we'll disembark at the lively Turkish port of Kusadasi, then head to the small village of Mt. Koressos where we'll visit the small stone chapel on the site where the Virgin Mary spent her last days following Christ's crucifixion. We'll continue to ancient Ephesus and begin our walking tour, which takes us through the most magnificent excavations in the world. The last stop on the walking tour is the Great Theater, with a capacity of 25,000 people, where St. Paul preached. We'll then follow the exact route that Mark Anthony and Cleopatra once rode in procession via the Arcadian Way. This main street runs from the Great Theater to the main city's harbor.



We'll return to Kusadasi and enjoy free time to explore on our own before boarding the ship, when we then stop in Patmos, where we'll visit the Monastery of St. John the Theologian. This marvelous structure was built 900 years ago and continues to stand strong. In addition to the stunning main church with outstanding frescoes, we'll view the beautiful courtyard, dining room, and bakery.

We'll then head to the small museum which houses priceless ecclesiastical treasures such as books, manuscripts, mosaics, icons, textiles, vestments, and jewelry. We'll then board a bus to the Monastery and Grotto of the Apocalypse for a once-in-a-lifetime experience to stand at the site where the Book of Revelation was written. We'll return to the ship for dinner and our overnight. *(breakfast, lunch, & dinner included)*

June 26, Wednesday | Day 7: Rhodes

The island of Rhodes is a mix of Roman and Byzantine architecture, as it was one of the most important seafaring and trading centers in the Eastern Mediterranean during ancient times. It's now under the protection of UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. We tour Rhodes together in the morning, then you'll enjoy free time to explore on your own. You may return to the ship for our included lunch, or enjoy lunch on your own in town. An optional



excursion to the ruins of Lindos, an ancient fishing village on Rhodes, may be purchased on the ship. Dinner and overnight on the ship. *(breakfast, lunch, & dinner included)*

June 27, Thursday | Day 8: Crete & Santorini

We'll head to the largest city on the island of Crete, Heraklion, to see the ancient ruins of the Palace of Knossos, discovered in 1899 and partially

reconstructed. This ancient palace is believed to have housed the mythical Labyrinth of King Minos and is the seat of ancient Minoan culture. It's also the site where St. Paul met the owner and captain of the ship who warned him about continuing his missionary journey

to Rome. We'll return to the ship and sail to the idyllic island of Santorini, the most breathtaking of all the Greek

Islands. We'll take the cable car to explore Thira, with its iconic white-washed houses, narrow streets, open-air cafes, and glittering boutiques that cling to steep cliffs. We'll then enjoy our last dinner & overnight on the ship.

(breakfast, lunch, & dinner included)



June 28, Friday | Day 9: Corinth of St. Paul & Winery

We'll disembark our ship and drive to ancient Corinth. Under the shadow of the towering Acropolis, St. Paul lived in Corinth for two years, where he grieved over the spiritual formation of its still-young church and ultimately wrote four letters here. We'll explore the remains of first century shops, the site of St. Paul's trial by Gallio, the Fountain of Peirene, and the Temple of Apollo. In the late afternoon, we'll enjoy a lunch stop and a winery tour to learn about local wine. Dinner is at leisure. *(breakfast & lunch included)*



June 29, Saturday | Day 10: Athens

We'll enjoy a day at leisure in Athens to explore the city, visit a museum, or simply soak up the local atmosphere. Tonight we'll come together for our farewell dinner with Greek folklore dancing. *(breakfast & special dinner included)*

June 30, Sunday | Day 11: Head Home

Today marks the end of our odyssey. We'll say our heartfelt farewell to a pilgrimage that will last in our memories, then head to the airport for our return flights home. *(breakfast included)*

TOTAL TRIP COST

\$4,895

land only: \$3,595
+ air: \$1,300*
solo traveler (add'l cost): \$1,395

**price based on a minimum 20-passenger group*
prices are valid only if the deposit is received
no later than March 1, 2024
final payment due April 21, 2024

- FIRST-CLASS HOTEL IN ATHENS FOR 5 NIGHTS
- SERVICE CHARGES AND HOTEL TAXES
- DAILY BUFFET BREAKFAST
- TWO HOTEL DINNERS(BEVERAGES AVAILABLE AT AN ADDITIONAL COST)
- FAREWELL DINNER IN A RESTAURANT WITH WINE AND A SHOW
- BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER AND MIDNIGHT BUFFET ON THE SHIP
- ALL TRANSFERS WITH A PRIVATE A/C MOTOR-COACH AS PER ITINERARY
- PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH-SPEAKING TOUR GUIDE FOR THE LAND PORTION
- SIGHTSEEING TOURS AS PER ITINERARY
- FOUR-NIGHT GREEK ISLAND CRUISE IN OUTSIDE CABINS
- PRIVATE SHORE EXCURSIONS FOR THE GROUP IN EPHEBUS AND PATMOS
- OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS IN CRETE, RHODES, & SANTORINI (PURCHASED ON THE SHIP)
- EXCURSION TO CORINTH WITH LUNCH AND WINE TASTING
- ENTRANCE FEES TO SITES SPECIFICALLY LISTED (OUTSIDE VIEW MEANS NO INCLUDED ENTRANCE)
- LUGGAGE HANDLING AT HOTELS(ONE PIECE PER PERSON IN/OUT)
- SELECT INTERNATIONAL TOURS TRAVEL PORTFOLIO
- PORT TAXES
- WHISPER SETS (EARPHONES) FOR THE LAND PORTION

👉 WHAT'S INCLUDED



Note: A tip fund of \$ 220.00 will be added to each invoice for tips on the cruise and the land and collected in advance for the convenience of the travelers.

Rates Do Not Include:

- Personal expenses
- Medical insurance
- Any items not explicitly mentioned in the listed inclusions
- Beverages at meals unless otherwise noted
- Church donations
- Any airline baggage charges.
- Baggage handling at train stations, airports, and hotels in excess of one suitcase per person.
- Any charges incurred due to excessive luggage, including the cost of an additional baggage vehicle or portorage charges.

DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENT: A **deposit of \$500.00** per person by check should accompany the enrollment form and a copy of your passport picture page by **March 1, 2024. Final payment is due by April 21, 2024. A late payment fee of \$100 will be charged per person for all payments received after the final payment date. Please mail your payment to: Select International Tours, 85 Park Ave., Flemington, NJ 08822 Attn: Rebecca Stoker, 800-842-4842, rebeca@select-intl.com.**

Your passport must be valid through December 30, 2024. Reservations will not be processed until we have passport copies. Prices quoted are based on payments by check. Prices: **\$3,595.00** for land only (air not included); **\$1,300.00** for group air (estimated air price, exact price will be available at the end of July); **\$4,895.00** for land and air; **\$1,395.00** for solo traveler, additional cost, (in room by yourself). For credit card prices add 4%

PILGRIMAGE PRICES: Prices are based on minimum 20 passengers. Prices may be adjusted in the event of fewer than 20 passengers, changes in currency conversion rates, or amendments in local government taxes and/or fuel surcharges. Prices are in US dollars. For European travel an exchange rate of US \$1.05 per Euro is assumed.

SOLO TRAVEL: A limited number of single rooms are available. Prices are based on two people per room. We do not guarantee roommates but will do our best to connect you with a someone willing to share.

LAND ONLY OPTION: Land only services start and end at the hotels and do not include any airfare. You are welcome to transfer from the airport with the group if you arrive at the same time, otherwise, transfers are not included.

TOUR CANCELLATION POLICY: Individual deposits are refundable except for a \$350.00 per person handling fee for cancellations made 90 days or more before departure. A \$500.00 non-refundable fee will be assessed if the reservation is canceled between 90 and 60 days prior to departure. Within 60 days of departure all payments are non-refundable regardless of reason for cancellations. All airline tickets are non-refundable once issued. All cancellations must be in writing. Unused portions of the trip are not refundable. If a roommate cancels, the cost of a solo supplement will be added to your invoice. You may be eligible for a refund through your travel protection. Refer to the U.S. Policy by State on our website.

TRIP CANCELLATION PROTECTION: We strongly encourage you to purchase a **Travel Protection Plan**, for the protection of your travel investment. Please consider purchasing this plan at the time of initial deposit in order to be covered for pre-existing conditions.

Visit www.travelinsured.com/agency?agency=47406&p=SEL21 or call **844-440-8133** for details and costs for the Select International Travel Protection Plan with optional Cancel for any reason (CFAR). Please note that CFAR is not available in NY State. The plans contain insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. The plans also contain non-insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization.

AIRLINE, SEATING AND SPECIAL REQUESTS: To best accommodate our pilgrims, we often utilize Group Air Reservations. These allow more predictable transfer and tour schedules. However, when booking Group Air, the airline (not

Select International Tours) controls seating assignments. If you require very specific seats, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options. You may communicate directly with the airline to request seating changes, provide mileage program information, or change passenger contact information once you receive ticket numbers—approximately three (3) weeks prior to departure. We work with instant purchase airline tickets and or group rates. If you switch from air and land to land only within 90 days from departure you will be charged a \$100 service fee in addition to any airline charges. All special needs and requests due to medical or dietary restrictions must be requested in writing at least 60 days prior to departure. Business class and Premium Coach seats are available upon written request; as are add-ons from your hometown airport. If you require very specific airlines or schedules, we suggest that you book your own airfare and take advantage of our "Land Only" options.

WALKING: Our trips require daily walking, sometimes up or down slopes, steps, and uneven terrain. We recommend preparing oneself, by walking before the trip. Anyone needing assistance is required to be accompanied by a qualified and physically-able travel companion. We are not responsible for any medical condition that occurs prior, during or after the trip.

SAFETY PROCEDURES: Select International Tours has undertaken a reasonable inquiry, with all the suppliers (including airlines, hotels, bus companies and other service providers) used on our trips to ensure they have instigated the best available procedures regarding the pandemic- protective policies advised by local government and health authorities. The client understands and agrees that the supplier(s) may not apply those policies as diligently as the policies suggest. In addition even if the supplier makes a good faith effort to enforce its good practices, some travelers may simply refuse to cooperate. Therefore the client agrees not to hold Select International Tours or group leaders responsible should they or anyone on the trip contract COVID-19 or any other illness during or after the trip

RESPONSIBILITY: By accepting this confirmation, you agree that the Group Leaders and Select International Tours, Inc. have no responsibility for any acts or omission of the travel suppliers in your itinerary and during your trip. We have no special knowledge regarding the financial conditions of the suppliers, unsafe travel conditions, health hazards, or weather hazards at locations traveled. We are not responsible for flight delays or cancellations or any charges incurred due to unforeseen circumstances. Unused portions of the trip are non-refundable. For information about destination climate, risks, and safety please consult the appropriate on-line resources. For health information consult the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. You are responsible for checking passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements of your destinations. Itineraries are subject to change. We are not responsible for any damaged, lost, or stolen articles. We are not responsible for any sickness, injury, or death during or after the trip. Travel documents will be mailed out approximately three (3) weeks before departure. Please review them carefully for any errors.

SHIPPING & HANDLING: \$15.00—not included in package price—will be added to each invoice. Your invoice will confirm the trip registration.

Pilgrimage to Greece with Tsh Oxenreider

Trip Code: 24RS06GRT0

June 20-30, 2024

THE BENEFITS OF REGISTERING ONLINE FOR YOUR PILGRIMAGE:

Over the last several years, our clients have requested more control over the trip booking process, payments, and, most importantly, communication about the trips. Our response to these comments and requests had taken two years to implement, but we are happy with the results. Select has committed to a major financial and time investment in building an online reservation system that is easy to navigate using your home computer, tablet, or smartphone. We have addressed most of the requests and suggestions provided by clients. The benefits of the new system to you are a simplified registration process, the ability to access your information at your convenience, review your payment history and get trip information while easily communicating with your Account Manager and group leader.

When you register online, you will receive regular email updates about your trip and useful tips and tricks for making your international travel more comfortable and enjoyable. And best of all, you can register online even if you prefer to pay by check or wire transfer; just choose that option upon checkout.

We understand that some people are not comfortable with technology and prefer to register via mail-in paper registration, regardless of the many benefits of registering online. To make that easy, we have created a generic registration form on our website at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>. You may download and print the form, fill it out and mail it with your check to Select International Tours. However, before you choose to register by mail, please know that we cannot communicate with people who do not register online as frequently and seamlessly. And you may miss some important communication regarding balances and trip preparation, as well as communication from your group leaders. We want you to be in charge and be comfortable with the registration process; our job is to inform you so you can choose the best system for you.

To learn how easy it is to register online, please view THIS SHORT 6-minute VIDEO that explains the process at <https://selectinternationaltours.com/register-online/>.

Secure Your Spot!

Register online* ✓

Pay the deposit ✓

Complete the tasks
in your online profile ✓

*See how easy it is to
register online:



selectinternationaltours.com/easy/