



**ATHENS – DELPHI – METEORA – VERGINA**  
**INCLUDED: PLATO’S ACADEMY & ARISTOTLE’S LYKEION**  
**UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES**  
*DURATION: 3 nights, 4 days*

Get a taste of Greece’s natural landscape & cultural heritage trademarks on this 4-day tour by visiting some of the most significant and distinctive archaeological and historical sites of Greece, all Unesco World Heritage Sites.

The excursion begins by exploring the city of Athens, visiting the Acropolis archaeological site, the new Acropolis Museum, the Ancient Agora and areas such as Plaka and Thision, but also archaeological sites directly linked to Aristotle, such as Plato’s Academy & Aristotle’s Lykeion. The second day participants will discover Arachova, a charming traditional village and then, continue to the archaeological site of Delphi, a great spiritual site of Ancient Greece. On the third day, the participants will have the chance to acquaint themselves with the byzantine history and culture of Greece, by visiting the holy monasteries of Meteora, perched on top of the unique rock pillars that form one of the most impressive landscapes in Europe. Finally, attendants will visit Vergina, where Philip II, father of Alexander the Great, and many other Macedonian Kings were buried. The tour will end in Thessaloniki.

**\* *Emphasis will be given to the archaeological sites of Athens directly linked to Aristotle***

#### Archaeological Site of Aristotle’s Lykeion

The archaeological site of Lykeion is one of the most important places in the history of the human spirit. The monumental intellectual construct of Aristotle and his School summarized coherently all the philosophical and scientific inquiries of the ancient world, and had inestimable influence on the formation of Christian Patristic theology. For eighteen centuries, until the Renaissance, Aristotle was the epitome of human wisdom and the undisputed authority on virtually every discipline.





### Plato's Academy

The Academy (Ancient Greek: Ἀκαδημία) was founded by Plato in ca. 387 BC in Athens. Aristotle studied there for twenty years (367 BC – 347 BC) before founding his own school, the Lykeion. The Academy persisted throughout the Hellenistic period as a skeptical school, until coming to an end after the death of Philo of Larissa in 83 BC. The Academy has been cited by historians as the first higher learning institution in the Western world.



Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016

**Duration:** 3 nights, 4 days

**Price: €405,00 per person sharing double bed room, + €105,00 per person for single bed room**

*Includes: coach bus transportation, professional tour guide, tour coordinator, 3 nights' accommodation with breakfast and 3 lunches, entrance to archeological sites [minimum participation 25 pax]*

### PROGRAMME

#### **Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>: arrival at Athens**

Check in at PLAKA hotel [www.plakahotel.gr](http://www.plakahotel.gr)

The evening in Athens will be free to explore the city by night. The nightlife hotspots are Plaka, Psiri Gazi area. Suggested restaurants as well as events will appear on your voucher

Arrangements for dinner at a historical location with additional cost can be made

#### **Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>: Athens City tour**

**09.00 am** departure from hotel

Visit to the **Acropolis**, the Parthenon, the **Ancient Agora**, the **New Acropolis Museum**, as well as **Plato's Academy & Aristotle's Lykeion**. Coach bus will be used for transfer, while a professional tour guide will guide all antiquities and museum. Lunch at **Plaka area**. Free time before departure for **Delphi**, which is the second most visited ancient site in Greece after the Parthenon in Athens.

After an approximate 3 hour drive arrival and check in at **Amalia Hotel Delphi**. Close to Delphi (12 klm, 15' drive) is Arahova, a charming traditional Greek town, and for those who are interested in better knowing this popular village the bus will take you there in the evening for an approximate 2 hour stay. You will have the opportunity to walk around and dine at one of the area's restaurant enjoying the local food or have a drink at one of the cafes' or bars, or stroll among the many store with traditional products.

***Saturday, May 21st: Ancient Delphi Tour***

**09.00 am** Tour Delphi archaeological site and the museum.

Lunch at Arahova.

After lunch, departure for **Meteora - Kalambaka** and overnight at **Amalia Kalampaka Hotel**

***Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Meteora & Vergina Tour***

**09:00 am** depart for **Meteora**, one of the largest and most important complexes of Eastern Orthodox monasteries. Visit two of the many monasteries and explore the fascinating natural landscape.

Lunch at a traditional Greek restaurant in Meteora.

**12:30 pm** depart for the Archaeological Site of **Vergina**

Guided tour in the royal tombs of Ancient Macedonia, among them the tomb of Philip II, father of Alexander the Great and other important findings of that era.

**17:00 pm** departure for Thessaloniki (drop off at hotels approximately at 18:15)

### **\*From Athens International Airport to Central Hotel**

Arrangements for transfer from the airport to hotel by taxi can be made with an additional cost of €40,00.

Participants who wish to make their own arrangements, from the international airport 'Eletherios Venizelos' to PLAKA hotel (centrally located close to Monastiriaki square area), by:

#### **Metro**

*Metro line 3 runs from the circular building outside the terminal to Athens every 30 minutes between 06:30 and 23:30, on the hour and half hour. The trip takes approximately 45 minutes and the single fare is € 10,00. Get off at the Monastiraki Square station.*

#### **Taxi**

*A taxi can take you to your hotel via Attiki Odos, the Athens ring road, a six-lane motorway. The trip should take around 35 minutes and cost about € 35.*

#### **Bus**

*Several bus lines leave from just outside the exit doors at the arrivals level of the terminal building. **Line X95** is the Athens-Airport Express, running from the airport to Syntagma Square. It departs every 10 to 30 minutes (depending on the hour of the day), 24 hours a day. You can buy the ticket from the bus driver. Ticket price is € 5,00 one way.*

Please fill in the [online form](#) to indicate your interest in participating and SYMVOLI Conference & Cultural Management will get back to you with more details as soon as possible!