

# **Greece** Eco Conservation Adventure

How do you fancy saving sea turtles, learning about how conservation in the Peloponnese region works and learning about the ancient trekking trails of this amazing area up close and personal? This week long adventure provides not just this but also a visit to the famous Acropolis in the heart of Greece's capital, Athens. Using local environmental and conservation organisations we will be able to immerse ourselves into some of Greece's most amazing landscapes and ecosystems and begin to understand the pressures they face from a growing population and tourism.



8 Days

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### Day 1

Day

2-4

#### Arrive Athens

Depart the UK and fly to Greece. Arrival in Athens then transfer to the scenic Athens Riviera for a welcome party and sea view from our hotel.

#### Turtle Rescue Centre

For the next three days, we will visit the only sea turtle rescue centre in Greece, located in the southern suburbs of Athens which is operated by our NGO partners Archelon. Archelon has been protecting sea turtles here and elsewhere in Greece since 1983. They promote and provide conservation through monitoring and research, developing and implementing management plans, habitat restoration, programmes, raising public awareness and rehabilitating sick and injured turtles back into the wild.

Activities that you can undertake here will depend on the time of year of your visit, but may include:

- Preparation and administration of food
- Operation of the sea water supply systems
- Carrying and cleaning the animals, as well as cleaning the facilities and equipment
- Public awareness like running of the exhibition area and providing information to visitors
- Other duties such as basic maintenance activities as well as cleaning of surroundings and living quarters.

The centre is walking distance from the hotel so afterwards there is time to relax by the beach before heading back for the evening.

Whilst here, we take the opportunity to explore some of the surrounding area with some visits and excursions. A visit to the Acropolis Museum is one possibility. The Acropolis is the ancient citadel that houses the sacred monuments of the Parthenon that was dedicated to worship the goddess Athena. It is a dramatic and startling site sitting on an outcrop of rock overlooking the hustle and bustle of modern Athens below. We can also undertake some great short walks in Vouliagmeni & Sounio, the seaside towns on the outskirts of Athens.





Day 5-6

Day

7

#### Cultural Greece, Hellenic Society

These next two days we take in the real culture of Greece along with having an insight into the restoration of the 'footpaths of culture'. Volunteering with the Hellenic Society, we help with the cleaning and maintenance of the footpaths in some of the following areas:

- Aigina Island (50 min ferry trip from Athens)
- Marathon
- Mountains of Corinth

#### Voula

Today we conduct a beach clean on one of Athens' main beaches in the Voula area. This beach is in a beautiful area but unfortunately it is prone to the tides (and locals/ tourists) bringing in lots of unwanted waste. The local community is beginning to become involved with the beach clean up initiative. It's developing traction and the aim is to re-establish the beach in its original condition. The waste that is collected will be used in an eco-recycling workshop, recreating any useful items into objects of everyday use or art items.

Day 8

#### Return to UK

Time to get in your last souvenirs, shopping or take in the views before we are transferred to the airport in time for our flight back to the UK.

## Further information

#### Look what's included!

- International flights
- All accommodation
- All food
- All transportation and activities
- Bi-lingual, first-aid qualified local tour leader
- Parent and student trip launch evening
- Pre-departure preparation evening
- 1-day offsite safety INSET day for staff
- ATOL financial protection

- Medical Emergency / Repatriation Travel Insurance
- Group first aid kit and prescription meds pack
- BS8848 safety management and risk assessments
- Detailed pre-departure information and kit lists
- Comprehensive teacher travel packs
- Permanent operations team in your destination
- 24-hour UK operational support whilst overseas
- Carbon offsetting of all flights
- Free t-shirt for every participant and teacher

#### What's excluded?

- Transport to airport in UK
- Drinks (advice will be given on purification of water)
- Visas or tourist cards if required
- Any required inoculations

- Personal spending money
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters
- Airport departure taxes paid locally
- · Cancellation and personal effects insurance

#### Your educational journey timeline



# Physical journey rating:

Some low level physical activities included in your trip, including walking on uneven terrain, maybe a morning/afternoon trek of two to four hours. That said, no physical preparation is required to make the most of the tour. High humidity and temperatures can occur at certain times of the year.

# Culture shock rating:

Expect to find local life broadly familiar to that in the UK, however aspects of the trip are likely to be in remoter areas where differences are more profound. Whilst English may not be the native language, you can expect it to be widely spoken. There may be some cultural differences and although western pallets should be well catered for there will be the opportunity to try new dishes



# A journey of 1,000 miles...

Starts with a single step... Contact us now to start your educational journey.

### Get your tailor-made proposal and further information 1

If this itinerary doesn't quite scratch your educational travel itch then let us tailor-make one for you. Our wealth of experience and expert in-country contacts means we can design an itinerary just for you. Contact us for more information and a detailed quote.

#### 2 Ask for risk assessments and marketing materials

We can provide initial risk assessments and destination threat assessments to help you with your expedition approval process. Ask for posters and your pre-booking information pack too.

#### 3 Arrange a trip launch evening at your school

This is a chance for students and parents to hear more about the planned adventure with a comprehensive information evening and an opportunity for questions.







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