



Sacred Travel with like-minded friends to Ancient Places

Greek Islands



May 27—June 8, 2019 (Depart USA on May 26)

Join Mark Dodich and a small group of spiritual growth oriented friends to tap into ancient energies at sacred sites in Greece and the Greek islands for 12 days. Mark has led trips to Egypt, Tanzanian safari, land-based Greece, and now it is time to return for a water-based adventure.

Why now?

The astrology of 2019 is perfect for this trip. Uranus fully moves into Taurus the Bull until 2026, so we shall open to this revolutionary and freedom-seeking energy in Crete. This is where the Minotaur culture existed, along with the most ancient city in Europe. Chiron, a famous Greek healing centaur, fully moves into Aries until 2026. Healing and pioneering a courageous new path is up now. Jupiter (Zeus) is in Sagittarius now, stimulating travel, adventure and expansion of your belief system. We are building up to 2020 when there is a major alignment in Capricorn that will affect the entire world. Capricorn restructures your life and the world- and it is associated with ancient sites, initiation into a new order, and accessing Akashic records. We shall get a head start on everyone else in opening to this rare alignment.

- ★ Stepping out of your day to day routine gives you a fresh outlook on your life
- ★ You meet the nicest people, some of whom you will know for a long time
 - ★ Imagine how you will feel surrounded constantly by great beauty
 - ★ Tapping into ancient energies in sacred locations expands wisdom
 - ★ You get a fresh perspective on yourself and feel renewed
 - ★ International travel opens your view of the world

What happens on the trip?

We tap into the energy of the area through meditation, healing ceremonies, short classes and we look at your personal astrology for the time period (no need to know astrology). This trip will be more relaxed than the previous land-based trip as we shall spend more than one night in each hotel plus down time as we ferry from island to island while viewing the beautiful Mediterranean. Many attendees offer their own talents through guided meditations, healing ceremonies, morning yoga, dream sharing, etc. Of course, you don't have to offer anything, nor attend a class if you prefer introspective time.

Who typically comes on the trip?

Most of the attendees are between the ages of 35-72. They are interested in spiritual growth activities, although sometimes a spouse or friend comes with limited interest but they adapt. With the exception of the Tanzanian safari, it is about 65% women to 35% men (please encourage the men in your life). It is usually a mixed combination of singles, friends, couples, straight, gay, liberal and conservative.- a genuine melting pot. By departure, you have made some deep connections with your travel mates.

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Pease Help me decide

Please tune in to feel if this is the trip for you.

Astrology & Intuitive Consultations, Sacred Travel to Ancient Places
with Mark F Dodich ~since 1980

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Greek Islands Itinerary 13 days, 12 nights May-June 2019

Depart USA on May 26, Arrive in Athens (ATH) on May 27

- May 27-29 Arrival Athens transfer to hotel - balance of day at leisure - overnight Athens
Visit Athens with the Acropolis, Museum, Pnyx Hill, Ancient Agora
- May 30: Day trip to Delphi, Transfer to Pireaus for overnight ferry to Crete
- May 31-June 3 In Crete (Heraklion), morning breakfast and drop off luggage:
Knossos Temple, Heraklion Museum, Full Day Lasithi & Diktian Cave
Phaestos and sunset at Matala
- June 3-5: Travel to Santorini, visit Akrotiri
Cruise to volcano and island tour
- June 5-6: Mykonos and tour Delos
- June 7-8: Athens and travel home

The official Greece website has lots of great photos and detailed write-ups on all these places:

<http://www.visitgreece.gr/>

A few notes (keeping in mind that changes are always a possibility in world travel):

- ★ Athens is a beautiful, safe city. There is a short walk up a hill to the Acropolis with great views. Pnyx Hill is where people gathered to share their views, arguably the beginning of modern democracy- not to mention great views of the city. Shop and eat in Plaka.
- ★ The Delphi Oracle site is a modest drive from Athens with a small hill leading up to the site. It is a can't miss visit to any trip to Greece. Wear good walking shoes.
- ★ Crete has the oldest city in Europe, and the Knossos Temple site is quite large. The Minotaur culture thrived here, and the half-man, half bull fits right in with Uranus moving into Taurus the bull. The Diktian Cave is associated with Zeus and likely the most important cave in Crete, possibly Greece.
- ★ Plato thought Santorini was part of Atlantis. We shall take a boat cruise. Shopping anyone? Step back about 7,000 years to the bronze age in Akrotiri.
- ★ Mykonos is a cosmopolitan city named after Apollo's grandson. Some suggest it is a bit like Venice.
- ★ Delos, the birthplace of Apollo (god of light) and Artemis, is an ancient religious site and UNESCO world heritage site. No mortal could be born there, nor die there. It is one of the most important historical sites in all of Greece.



Acropolis in Athens

Delos



Delphi Oracle

Mykonos



Knossos, Crete



Santorini (Atlantis?)



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Our guide Mariza

You will love her.

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IMPORTANT NOTE: **Price Page**
THESE PRICES ARE GOING TO ADJUST



Approximate cost estimate
Sept 9, 2018

In order to give a price estimate in my fall quarterly Astromark newsletter, I wanted to provide an approximate cost estimate. Everything in this document is subject to change, but hopefully the estimates are close and the value of the US dollar will stay strong.

We had to guess at 2019 Greek island ferry schedules, and the hotel costs for 2019 are not carved in stone yet. We are also waiting on 2019 entrance fees to exhibits and deciding how many prepaid meals we shall have together and how many to have you pay for on your own. Most of us felt that we ate too much on the Greece land trip, so not providing all the meals is a way for people to make dietary choices. We also have to pay in Eurodollars and that rate changes every day.

So please be patient and hopefully the estimated costs below are close to accurate. The frustrations in dealing with advanced planning with Greece are also reflected in the adventure, meaning that Greece will give you a really relaxed feeling and rigid schedules are not in the spirit of the place.

This is an approximate cost. 2019 pricing is not confirmed yet, so adjustment are likely.

Early Bird Registration price: (by Dec 7?):	Single Room US\$ 4780, Double Room US\$ 4020
<u>Advance Registration price:</u> (by Jan 31):	Single Room US\$ 4880, Double Room US\$ 4120
<u>Regular Registration Price:</u> (after Jan. 31)	Single Room US\$ 4980, Double Room US\$ 4220

What's included: Hotel accommodations for 12 nights, private bus for transfers in Athens and the islands, our favorite guide (Mariza), ferry tickets Piraeus to Crete to Santorini to Myconos to Piraeus; Service and state taxes. Breakfasts are included. (In the works: entrance fees, some meals. I have already estimated them in the above pricing so hopefully adjustments will be small. Mark provides short classes and personal astrology current cycles as it relates to the trip.

What's not included:

Airfare costs. USA residents should plan to depart on May 26 with arrival in Athens (ATH) on May 27 (preferably in the morning so we can all travel to the hotel together). If you want to come in early, our tour agent will be happy to help.

Hotels have an extra tax of about 3 euros per night which you must pay on arrival at each hotel. We are staying 12 nights, so this will come out to approximately 36 Euros

Not all meals are included in the price. Alcohol and possibly other drinks at meals that are prepaid.

Tip for our guide Mariza. There may be other minor tips yet to be determined.

I do my best to provide accurate and transparent costs, but international travel can present unexpected costs. Trip and/or medical insurance is not included.

Full trip details will be updated here as 2019 prices are firmed up. Reload/refresh/write over:

<http://astromark.us/sacred-travel>, Download pdf document Greece2019.pdf

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Please come back to www.astromark.us periodically to find additions and updates. This document is under construction until all prices/ details are in place.

→ **We are waiting for firm pricing before taking reservations.**
There will be an early registration discount, and a regular price.

___ **(please initial):** I understand that if the conversion cost of the Euro to the US dollar is above \$1.25 dollars to buy one Euro when final payment is due, the cost may need to be adjusted.

___ **(please initial):** I understand that I am responsible for getting up in the morning and being on time for group departures. Traveling in groups, even small groups, requires mutual respect and a need to have a schedule, even in a relaxed place like Greece.

Do you seek a roommate? _____ Prefer: male female either

___ **(please initial if you seek a roommate):** I understand that there is no guarantee to provide a roommate for a double room, and that if one is not available, the single person cost will apply. Note: it is best to sign up early if you need help finding a roommate. I provide contact information to people seeking a roommate so you can talk about your sleeping needs and habits.

If you already have a roommate: who is that: _____

Please list any Health or Dietary needs:

Please note that for prepaid shared meals, adaptability is needed. On the previous Greece trip, vegetarian requests often meant pasta and a side of vegetables. I am not sure if they are up on GMO and gluten free requests. Shared meals are in good restaurants, but I have seen diarrhea problems in the healthiest of foreign countries. Walking at archaeology sites usually requires good shoes and there may or may not be handrails at uneven steps or rough paths. It is perfectly OK not to go into a site if you are tired or body parts hurt. There are small hills to walk up at the Acropolis, Delphi, and likely at some of the islands.

**This form will be updated when pricing is firm. Please check back
<http://astromark.us/sacred-travel/>**



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→ **I shall not be taking registration until all of the pricing is finalized.**
There will be two dates for early bird registration and advanced registration.
Your early registration saves you money and helps me to plan.

Payment by checks is preferred. However, I can also run credit cards on Square or Paypal.
You are responsible for processing fees.

Name exactly as it appears on passport:

Country issuing your passport:

Expiration date of passport: ____ / ____

Emergency contact name and phone/email:

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Miscellaneous Notes of Interest



Our hotels:

Hotel Parthenon in Athens, www.airotel.gr/en/Parthenon-Hotel-795.htm
Hotel Marin Dream in Heraklion Crete, www.marinhotel.gr/
Hotel Nikolas, Santorini, www.nikolashotel.gr/
Hotel San Marco in Myconos, www.sanmarco.gr/

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Istanbul, Ephesus and Asclepion: Western Turkey

Please help me decide if adding on a short, optional side trip to western Turkey is of interest to you



Western Turkey is safe and a great place to visit.
The country is loaded with sacred sites.

Personally, I think anyone who had past lives in ancient times had to have at least visited Turkey as the crossroads of the world in those days.



Day 1. Arrival in Istanbul Morning flight to Istanbul. Half day city tour.

Day 2. Istanbul Full day City Tour

Day 3. Istanbul - Fly to Izmir - Pergamon - Kusadasi

Asclepion in Pergamon , <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1457>

Day 4. Kusadasi - Izmir - Fly to Istanbul Ephesus

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1018>

Day 5. Departure Istanbul



Both Ephesus and Asclepion in Pergamon are UNESCO World Heritage sites. (See links in itinerary above). Ephesus has some of the best preserved Greco-Roman ruins in the world, and has associations to St. Paul and many think Mother Mary lived there after the death of Jesus. It has remnants of one of the Seven Wonders of the world, Temple of Artemis.

Asclepion has a sacred spring that runs to this day, and is the second most important healing center after Epidaurus in Greece(which we visited in 2011)



Cost estimates are coming soon.

If world politics ever settles down, I would love to lead a full trip to Turkey. But it is difficult to say when southeast Turkey on the Syrian border will settle down in my lifetime. So western Turkey seems like a good compromise to me. I figure that we are already spending the money on airfare, might as well get as much out of it as we can.

If you are considering the Greek Islands trip and have an interest in this optional side trip, please let me know soon. It will help my decision making process. mark@astromark.us

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