GREECE: CRADLE OF CULTURE

Athens - Delphi - the Peloponnese
with Kirk Ormand

October 19 - 26, 2014

A Custom Exploration of Greece’s Hidden Artistic and Cultural Treasures

Plus an optional extension to the island of Crete!
Travel with Oberlin Study Leader

Kirk Ormand
Assistant Professor of Classics at Oberlin College

We invite you to join this custom exploration of historic Greece, from Athens and Delphi to the Peloponnese. Having lived, taught, and traveled extensively throughout Greece, Kirk Ormand is the ideal study leader for this cultural journey. Kirk completed his undergraduate degree at Carleton College in Minnesota, and earned his MA and PhD in Classics at Stanford. Briefly teaching at Loyola, Kirk continued onto Loyola University Chicago and joined Oberlin College in 2001. He has published extensively on archaic and classical Greek poetry, and teaches ancient Greek and Latin (language), Greek History, Greek and Roman Mythology, and a course on Sexuality in Ancient Greece and Rome. He also held the position of Whitehead Professor at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens from 2007-08 and in the summer of 2010, led the American School’s six-week long tour of archaeological sites in Southern Greece. Kirk has led several exciting tours to Greece with Oberlin and has specifically designed this custom tour for Oberlin Alumni.
October 19th - Departures for Athens
Take independent international flights to Athens, Greece.

October 20th - Arrivals in Athens
Arrive at Athens International Airport and enjoy some free time before joining Kirk on a leisurely walking tour of the Agora discovering the ancient market-place. We’ll walk by the great Stoa of Attalos and walk the Panathenaic Way named for the festival which took place every four years to honor the city’s patron goddess, Athena. We visit Panagia Gorgoepikoos, known as the “Little Cathedral”; it is a small 12th-century Byzantine Church with stunning stone carvings! Return to our central hotel for a pleasant welcome dinner with fellow Oberlin travelers.

October 21st - Classical Athens
Today we begin by exploring the Acropolis to see the architectural masterpieces of the Golden Age of Athens: the Propylaeum, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheum and finally the famous Parthenon. We’ll see the remains of the Theatre of Dionysos, cut into the southern cliff face of the Acropolis. Next, Kirk will tell us about the controversial Elgin Marbles and the construction of the Parthenon at the newly-finished Acropolis Museum. Enjoy your independent lunch at a traditional restaurant in Plaka, the historic center of downtown Athens. After lunch, enjoy free time to explore historic Athens. Dinner and the remainder of the evening are independent.

October 22nd - Delphi Day Trip
This morning we depart on a day trip to Delphi, the center of Ancient World – the “Omphalos” (Navel of Earth) – whose prestige extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic World. We’ll visit the Treasury of the Athenians, the Temple of Apollo and the Museum containing such masterpieces of Ancient Greek sculpture as the bronze Charioteer and the famous athlete Aghias. We stop at a charming restaurant in a nearby town to enjoy lunch together. Late this afternoon we return to Athens for an independent dinner and evening at leisure.

October 23rd - Athens - Nafplion
Today we transfer to Nafplion, the lovely old Venetian port town of the Peloponnese. En route, we discover Perachora, a beautiful settlement of ancient Corinth right on the sea and a favorite site of Kirk’s. We’ll pass by the Corinth Canal, which connects the Aegean Sea with the Ionian Sea before stopping nearby for an independent lunch in a local restaurant. We’ll briefly stop in the ancient town of Corinth where St. Paul lived and preached for two years. Continue to Nafplion, a quaint seaside town with marble pavements, looming castles and stunning views. Check into the central 4-star Mariana Hotel in the center of Nafplion and enjoy an independent dinner in Nafplion boasting the most spectacular vistas of the Argolic Gulf.

October 24th - Heart of the Peloponnese
This morning, depart for Mystra, one of Kirk’s preferred and lesser known Byzantine sites. We’ll drive through the stunning landscape of the Southern Peloponnese to Sparta, surrounded by picturesque mountains. Discover the awe-inspiring site at Mystra that was both a city and fortification dating to the Middle Ages (leisure hike optional). Return to Nafplion to explore the Archaeological Museum in Nafplion. Enjoy the remainder of the day strolling through Nafplion’s quaint streets and an independent dinner at a seafood taverna.

October 25th - Ancient Mystical Cities
Today we visit Mycenae, the Homeric city of Atreides and one of the most sophisticated ancient citadels. We’ll see the famous Lion’s Gate and the impressive ancient Cyclopean Walls. The astonishing engineering of the Royal Tholos Tombs is a must see! Enjoy lunch at a nearby restaurant featuring local cuisine. After lunch we depart for Nemea, one of the most important centers for the production of quality red wine in Southern Greece. We’ll relax and sip some unique varietals of wine produced from the prominent grape, Ayoryitiko. We return to Nafplion for a memorable farewell dinner where we’ll recount all of the amazing places visited on tour.

October 26th - Departures for the U.S.A.
This morning we transfer to the Athens International Airport for independent flights returning to the U.S.A.

For more information call 440-775-8692 or visit new.oberlin.edu/office/alumni/travel-tours.com
Discover Crete
4-day / 3-night Extension
October 26 - 29, 2014

Continue your journey through Southern Greece with its largest island, Crete. Stay at the Apollonia Resort Hotel & Spa in Heraklion while taking daily journeys to the islands greatest treasures. Begin with a guided tour of Knossos; tour a local vineyard and sample local wines; visit a Cretan artist’s textile studio; enjoy a cooking lesson; visit local archaeological museums containing prized Minoan artifacts; and enjoy flavorful local foods and crystal blue beaches steps away from your hotel!

Discover Crete Tour Price Inclusions:
- Three (3) nights accommodation at the 4-star Apollonia Resort Hotel
- Meals: breakfast daily, three (3) lunches, two (2) dinners, one (1) wine tasting, two (2) glasses of wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Leadership of Prof. Kirk Ormand
- Services of an experienced ISDI Tour Manager
- Entrance fees to all visits in itinerary
- One (1) group airport transfer from Athens International Airport to the hotel in Athens upon arrival and from the Nafplion hotel to Athens International Airport upon departure.
- Land transportation by private motor coach as per program
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers; taxes, services, hotel porterage fees

Tour Exclusions:
- Airline tickets returning to Athens from Heraklion upon departure, taxes and fuel surcharges; airport porterage; individual transfers to and from the airport; excursions, activities, or meals during traveler’s free time; personal items such as additional alcohol, liquors, and mineral water except where noted in the itinerary; gratuities for chambermaids; personal services; travel extensions; personal insurance for health, baggage and tour cancellation; any other items not specifically included.

Greece: Cradle of Culture Tour Price Inclusions:
- Three (3) nights accommodation at the 4-star Amalia Hotel in Athens
- Three (3) nights accommodation at the 4-star Hotel Mariana in Nafplion
- Meals: breakfast daily, three (3) lunches, two (2) dinners, one (1) wine tasting, two (2) glasses of wine at included dinner; cooking lesson in Arolithos
- Leadership of Prof. Kirk Ormand
- Services of an experienced ISDI Tour Manager
- Entrance fees to all visits in itinerary
- One (1) group airport transfer from Athens International Airport to the hotel in Athens upon arrival and from the Nafplion hotel to Athens International Airport upon departure.
- Land transportation by private motor coach as per program
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers; taxes, services, hotel porterage fees

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**Greece Tour Price:**
October 19-26, 2014
Land Only: $2,995
Single Supplement: $495

*Tour Price is per person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 15 paying participants.

**Discover Crete Tour Price:**
October 26-29, 2014
Crete Tour Extension: $1,895
Single Supplement: $195

*Tour Price is per person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 10 paying participants.

### Activity Level

- Easy / Moderate: Hill towns require some ability to climb steep streets. Some paths to archaeological sites are rocky and may not have a hand railing available.

### Cancellations & Refunds:

All cancellations must be received in writing by ISDI, and charges are calculated as of the day notification is received in writing by ISDI. If a tour member cancels, the following scale of charges is incurred: There is a non-refundable administrative fee of $500 per person. The costs associated with any tickets purchased for planned activities (as indicated in the itinerary) are non-refundable. Written cancellation received by ISDI on or before July 9, 2014: full refund minus $500 per person administrative fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI between July 10, 2014 and September 2, 2014: full refund of any recoverable land costs, less $2,000 per person cancellation charge (includes administrative fee). Cancellations received on or after September 3, 2014: no refund. After the tour has commenced, it is not possible to issue any refunds. No refunds for any unused portion of the tour including, but not limited to, occasional missed meals or any missed sightseeing tours. Costs for promotion, staff, and other group expenses are not refundable. In the case of cancellation, substitutions are not acceptable. The tour cost is non-transferable. A package of cancellation, baggage, and medical insurance is strongly recommended. © 2013 International Seminar Design, Inc. / CST 2072963-

### Terms & Conditions:

International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI) acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations, and all other services relating to this tour. ISDI, Oberlin College and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity, which may be caused by any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus, or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of the tour. ISDI and Oberlin College reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason including insufficient numbers of participants, as well as the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time. If bookings fall below the minimum required, passengers will be advised of additional costs or itinerary alterations before departure date.

### Deposit & Final Payment:

A deposit of $1,000 per paying participant will be required to guarantee participation in the program. This deposit may be paid by check, bank wire, or by Visa or MasterCard. Final payment will be invoiced and is due on June 9, 2014. Final payment must be made by check payable to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrations will be accepted beyond July 9, 2014 on a space-available basis with payment in full by check only.

**Register me for:**

- Greece: Cradle of Culture + Discover Crete
- Greece: Cradle of Culture only

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risks therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless Oberlin College and International Seminar Design, Inc (ISDI) and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licenses, or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of and/or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, this tour.

**Register today! Space is limited.**

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