



Greece

Destination Guide

ARRIVING IN GREECE

- 1) After deplaning, enter the Immigration line. Present your passport and answer any questions from the officer.
- 2) Claim all your checked bags and proceed through customs.
- 3) Check your travel documents for instructions for transportation to your hotel.

ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS

A passport is required and it is recommended that passports have 6 months of validity.

DURING YOUR STAY

TIPPING

Tip 10-15% at restaurants, but check to make sure a service charge was not already added to the bill. Tip drivers 10% on long drives or round up for short drives. Tip €1 per bag for luggage attendants and porters. Tip housekeeping €1-€2 per day or €5-€10 at the end of your stay

CURRENCY

Greece is part of the European Union and the Euro is used here for currency. You can obtain Euros from your local bank when given enough notice. Otherwise, use a local ATM.

ELECTRICITY

Electricity in Greece is 230V AC (50Hz). Electronics from the U.S. require a transformer or converter.

TIME ZONE

Eastern European Time (EET), UTC +2 and in the summer, Eastern European Summer Time (EEST), UTC +3)

DRIVING

A a valid international driving permit (IDP) is required for Americans. Greeks drive on the right.

COMMUNICATION

Greek is the official language, but English is also taught in school and many Greeks speak both.

The country code for Greece is +30. If calling from your mobile phone, you will need to enter +30 before the local number.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

- First Aid National Center (Ambulances): 166
- SOS Doctors: 1016
- European Emergency Number: 112
- Poisoning Phone Center: 210 77 93 777
- Fire: 199 | Police: 100
- Tourist Police: 1571

TRAVEL TIPS

Many restrooms require a small fee. It is useful to have change with you to pay this fee.

Greece is rated as a Level 1 from the United States Government which is the safest level. As with most destinations, tourists are a target for petty crime. Keep a close eye on your wallet and phone.

Greek coffee is amazing and worth a try. If you want it sweetened, order it with sweetener for the best taste. They will brew the coffee grounds and sweetener together. It comes in a tiny espresso cup and the ground coffee beans are inside of the cup. Sip the espresso and stop drinking once you get to the coffee beans at the bottom.

Summer months are hot and can be dusty. If you are asthmatic, be sure to bring your medication.

Terrain can be uneven in Greece. Wear comfortable shoes that can traverse the unevenness and watch your step.

Many churches require shoulders, chests, and knees be covered. Dress appropriately and if you are doing a walking tour, assume that part of your tour will involve a church.

Greece can have earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and wildfires. Listen to local authorities.

RETURNING TO THE US

1) You may be given immigration forms to fill out during your flight. Keep a pen, your passports, travel documents, and receipts from anything you purchased during your trip easily accessible from your seat.

2) After deplaning, follow the signs for immigration and enter the appropriate line. Have your passport and completed forms in hand, answer any questions from the officer.

NOTE: Some airports no longer collect paper forms. They offer automated kiosks to collect immigration and customs information.

3) Go to the luggage carousel and claim all your checked bags.

4) Take your belongings through customs. You may be asked questions about what you are bringing back into the country and your bags may be searched.

5) For connecting flights or to reach the final airport exit, you may need to pass your checked luggage back to the airline. This is usually done at a counter nearby, but some airports require you to go to the front of the airport and re-check bags.

6) LIQUID WARNING: If you have to pass another security checkpoint before proceeding to the next gate or to the airport exit, you will not be able to carry your liquid duty-free purchases or purchased drinks with you. These need to be placed in your checked bags before re-checking.