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Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2008 4:14 AM
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Subject: Fwd: Spring Break Tour 2009
Attachments: Greek_Tour_ef_2009.pdf

Hello, all,

Attached is a Spring Break tour that I am helping with. The leader will be Bonnie Emery. We have travelled together over the past 3 Spring Breaks to France, Italy, England, and Ireland. The tour company we use is EF Tours - education first. They supply guides and plenty of information during the trip. Please consider exposing yourselves and your children to this reasonable priced, exciting trip. Our tour number to sign up under is 1331968. Contact me if you have any questions!

PJ (Bailey Booth's mom) 301-515-2803

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Federal Register Notice: 73FR8719
Comment Number: 1

Mail Envelope Properties (8CA8F7B17C508E9-3A8-1DAA)

Subject: Fwd: Spring Break Tour 2009
Sent Date: 5/29/2008 4:14:04 AM
Received Date: 5/29/2008 4:14:24 AM
From: PJ Clay

Created By: pjc1727@aol.com

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MESSAGE	947	5/29/2008 4:14:24 AM
Greek_Tour_ef_2009.pdf	341241	

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*Educational
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College Study Tours

Treasures of Greece



9 or 12 DAYS

Treasures of Greece

Greece



The Acropolis was built as a sanctuary for the goddess Athena.

Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (plus 3 nights cabin accommodations with extension)
- Complete European breakfast daily
- 4 dinners: Days 2, 5, 6 and 7
- Lunch on Day 4
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- 6 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides: Athens • Delphi • Olympia • Epidaurus Mycenae • Cape Sounion
- 1 EF walking tour: Athens
- 8 visits to special attractions: Acropolis • Delphi site • Delphi Museum Olympia site • Olympia Museum • Epidaurus Mycenae • Temple of Poseidon

OPTIONAL:

Greek Evening

WITH EXTENSION: All of the above PLUS:

- 3-day Greek island cruise with optional excursions offered by Louis Cruise Lines: Mykonos Walking Tour, Rhodes and Lindos, Old City and Philerimos, Lindos, St. John's Monastery and Grotto of the Apocalypse, Scenic Island Tour, Ephesus and the House of the Virgin Mary, Ancient Ephesus
- 3 meals daily

Embark on a journey worthy of Homer's epics on your Greek quest. Along your travels through Athens, Olympia and Cape Sounion, ascend the mythical mountain perches of Greek gods and their temples. Come face-to-face with ancient relics, stand where the first Olympic athletes competed and visit the site where the Oracle once foretold the future.

Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to Greece • Relax as you fly across the Atlantic.

Day 2 Athens

Arrival in Athens • Touch down in Athens, Cradle of Democracy and birthplace of Western civilization. After clearing customs, you are greeted by your bilingual EF Tour Director, who will remain with you throughout your stay.

Walking tour of Athens • Get acquainted with the endearing Plaka district. Stroll past Hadrian's Arch and the Temple of Olympian Zeus, which was built beginning in 515 B.C. to honor the most powerful of all Greek gods.

Day 3 Athens

Guided sightseeing of Athens • An expert local guide introduces you to the antiquities of Athens. Climb the Acropolis to view the majestic Parthenon, perhaps the world's greatest ar-



Number of overnight stays in parentheses.



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chitectural feat. See the Temple of Athena Nike, which once housed a gold statue of the goddess (her wings were clipped to keep her from ever deserting the city). Athens is named after Athena, the goddess of war and wisdom. After seeing the Presidential Guard in their traditional costumes, pass the stadium, where the first modern Olympics were held in 1896, as well as lively Omonia and Syntagma squares. During free time you may have later, use your ticket from this morning's sightseeing to explore other sights in Athens. Visit the Agora, ancient Athens' political, economic and commercial center, which holds the remains of the Temple of Hephaistos, begun in 449 B.C. You might also visit the Athenian Cemetery, a who's who of Ancient Athens. It contains impressive tombs, where statesmen, warriors and authors were laid to rest.

Day 4 Athens

Saronic Gulf cruise • Journey through the islands of the Saronic Gulf. Your first port of call is ancient Aegina, already well-known in the days of the pan-Hellenic Games. Then it's on to Poros, site of the Temple of Poseidon. Here, Demosthenes, a Greek orator who led the Athenian opposition toward Macedonia, escaped a death sentence by committing suicide. Last stop is Hydra, whose inhabitants figured prominently in the Greek War of Independence (Greece was a part of the Ottoman Empire until 1821). You'll also enjoy an included lunch during the cruise.

Day 5 Athens • Delphi • Patras

Guided sightseeing of Delphi • As you tour Delphi, ponder the mysteries of what lies in your future, as did Greece's ancient military leaders, who left gifts for the Oracle in hopes of good fortune in battle. Then visit the Temple of Apollo where, according to legend, the god communicated with mortals. Your visit concludes with a stop at the Delphi Museum, whose collection boasts many artifacts dating back to 550 B.C., reminiscent of the mythical past of ancient Greece.

Transfer to Patras • Spend the night in Patras, capital of the Peloponnese.

Day 6 Patras • Argolida

Guided sightseeing of Olympia • Visit Olympia, site of the first Olympic Games almost 2,800 years ago. According to legend, Hercules proposed the idea of the Olympics, which were intended as a means of honoring Zeus. The ancient Olympic Games were con-

tested every four years for a thousand years until Emperor Theodosius outlawed them in A.D. 393. The modern Olympic Games began in 1896 in Athens, and the Olympic flame is still lit by a reflection of sunlight at the restored stadium in Olympia. The stadium also hosted the men's and women's shotput competition when the Olympics returned to Greece in 2004. Also peruse the Olympia Archaeological Museum, which houses artifacts of bronzes, terracottas and sculptures, as well as a collection from the Olympic Games.

Transfer to Argolida • Continue to Argolida. Home to Greece's first capital, the peninsula is dotted with orange and olive groves. Together with the Isthmus of Corinth, Argolida forms the Saronic Gulf, known for its sailing and charters due to its proximity to Athens.

Day 7 Argolida • Athens

Guided sightseeing of Epidaurus • Visit the ancient site of Epidaurus, famous for its open-air theater (dating from the 4th century B.C.), the best-preserved in all of Greece.

Guided sightseeing of Mycenae • You'll also tour legendary Mycenae, founded by Perseus with the help of the Cyclops. From here, Agamemnon began his campaign against Troy.

Transfer via the Corinth Canal to Athens • Then go by way of the Corinth Canal (Oedipus spent his childhood in Corinth) en route to Athens.

Day 8 Athens

Guided excursion to Cape Sounion • Journey to Cape Sounion and view the Temple of Poseidon, located on a promontory overlooking the Aegean Sea.

Optional Greek Evening • Tonight, opt to experience Greece's unique and colorful culture during an evening of traditional entertainment and cuisine. Enjoy an authentic meal composed of typical dishes at a specially selected taverna in or near the famous old Plaka district of Athens. Watch an enthralling belly-dance performance, and witness the fancy footwork and twirling bravado of traditional Greek dancing while musicians perform on *bouzoukis*, stringed instruments unique to Greece. Musical instruments, which date from the Bronze Age in Greece, have long played a central role in Greek tradition, as have regional dances.

Day 9 Home

Return home • Your tour director assists with the transfer to the airport, where you'll check in for your return flight home.

EXTENSION

Days 9–12 Island Cruise

Cruise extension (seasonal) • Your group can extend its stay for a three-day cruise of the beautiful whitewashed isles of Greece aboard Louis Cruise Lines. Your ports of call include picturesque Mykonos, Patmos, Kusadasi and Rhodes. The cruise line offers special optional excursions at these ports, such as a visit to Ephesus in Kusadasi, where you will explore the ruins of Ancient Ephesus and the House of the Virgin Mary, where it is said she lived her last years. In between, you'll have plenty of time to enjoy life on board the ship. Free-time options at sea include shopping, games, fitness activities, swimming and sunning. (Please note that the cruise is seasonal and the itinerary is subject to change.) Fly home from Athens on Day 12.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

The olive branch as a sign of peace and prosperity dates from Ancient Greece.



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*ITN0107TGRA/TGXA
Itinerary subject to change.*



2008/Spring