

## COVID-19 TRAVEL INFORMATION

### Greece

(Updated Jul 07, 2021)

#### TRAVEL AND IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS

Several countries have imposed travel and immigration restrictions due to COVID-19. All customers are required to check relevant travel advisories to and from the countries to which they are traveling. This is a dynamic situation and it is the responsibility of the customer to ensure there are no entry restrictions at their travel destination. Always check travel restrictions for each part of your trip; this includes layovers for connecting flights, as well as entry requirements for your return back to the US. Please note that the information provided in this addendum is based on the time of print and a country's requirements can change rapidly at any time. It is the responsibility of the traveler to check all updates and obtain all necessary documents and tests prior to departure, as well as entry back into the US. Ritz Tours is not responsible if you are denied entrance for any reason in any country, even if you hold a valid passport and entry visa. Non U.S. Passport holders - please check with your local embassy or consulate for detailed visa and travel document/entry requirements.

If you need clarification on whether you may enter Greece, contact the closest Greek Embassy or consulate, as well as your airline prior to travel. The US Embassy in Athens cannot give you permission to enter Greece or request exceptions to Greece or EU travel restrictions.

#### DOCUMENTATION

**1. Passenger Locator Form (PLF):**

**All travelers** who are eligible to enter Greece **must complete the online [Passenger Locator Form \(PLF\)](#) at least 48 hours before entering Greece.** For any questions regarding the PLF form, the Greek Government has instituted a PLF Hot Line at +30-215-560-5151, available Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm in English and Greek. For more PLF information, please click [here](#). See the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs post on [procedures for international arrivals](#).

**2. Covid-19 Testing (PCR and/or Serology) & Other Entry Requirements:**

- **Prior to departure (US to Greece): All travelers** must ensure that they carry an acceptable form of certification of their health condition. **Acceptable documents include:**
  - ✓ **A negative PCR molecular test result from a laboratory.** The test must be taken up to 72 hours before entry. All travelers aged five or over entering Greece are required to present a negative molecular test result (PCR test) for COVID-19, performed up to 72 hours before their entry to Greece.
  - ✓ **A vaccination certificate issued by a certified authority.** Fully vaccinated individuals who are residents of the US, EU and certain other countries may enter Greece without a PCR test if they present a vaccination certificate. The vaccination certificate must be issued by a public authority in English, German, French, Italian, Spanish or Russian. The vaccination certificate must demonstrate that vaccination was completed at least 14 days before arrival to Greece. However, PCR or other types of COVID-19 tests may still be required by transit countries.
  - ✓ **A certificate of recovery from the SARS-CoV-2 virus infection** issued by a public authority or a certified laboratory.
  - ✓ **A certificate of a positive PCR molecular test result, confirming that the holder recovered from the SARS-CoV-2 virus infection,** performed at least 2 months before arrival, and no later than 9 months before arrival.
- **Prior to returning to the US (Greece to US):** Effective May 19, 2021, **all airline passengers**

coming to the United States, including US citizens and fully vaccinated individuals, are required to provide one of the following items:

- ✓ **A negative Covid-19 test result taken within 3 calendar days before traveling back to the US.** Testing is paid by the individual being tested. The cost for COVID-19 PCR tests is capped at 60 euros, and for antigen (rapid) tests at 30 euros. If you plan on arranging the return PCR test on your own, it is strongly recommended to contact testing centers in advance for appointments and plan accordingly (i.e - do not expect to be able to test and receive your results the same day of travel). Alternatively, if you would like assistance in arranging your return PCR test, please notify your tour guide upon arrival in Greece and they will provide you with pricing and further details.
- ✓ **Documentation from a licensed healthcare provider of having recovered from Covid-19 in the 90 days preceding travel.**

All certificates must include the critical information (i.e. number of doses and their respective dates) in English, German French, Italian, Spanish, Russian and the person's full name must match the name on the passport or any other recognized travel document. Refer to [travel.gov.gr](https://travel.gov.gr) for detailed information on PCR test requirements for entry to Greece and vaccination certificate requirements.

Please see [CDC Guidance](#) for more information on International Travel During COVID-19.

Please see [CDC's FAQ](#) for answers to questions about the new requirement for proof of negative COVID-19 test or recovery from COVID-19 for all air passengers arriving in the United States.

#### **ARRIVALS - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (GREECE)**

- **All passengers from air, land or sea will be subjected to random COVID-19 rapid testing upon arrival.** In the event of a positive result, they will be contacted and placed on a 14-day supervised quarantine.
- Sampling RAPID antigen tests at the entrance gates for selected individuals drawn from a targeted sampling system, based on the "EVA" system.
- Mandatory isolation if they test positive for SARS-Cov-2, following a sampling test. In this case, the travelers and their travel companions are accommodated in quarantine hotels, where they will undergo further PCR testing to confirm the initial diagnosis. Guests will stay in seclusion hotels for at least 10 days. The expenses of the accommodation in quarantine hotels are covered by the Greek state.
- In the event a guest receives a positive PCR result, the guest will be transferred to a Government isolation/quarantine unit. Any unused tour feature either on air transportation or for land arrangements including but not limited to optional excursions/tours/meals, hotel accommodations and upgrades are non-refundable, non-transferable, or exchangeable.
- Guests who have purchased the Land Only or Land + Air package will be met by the Ritz Tours' tour guide/representative at the Athens(ATH) airport.

#### **TRAVELING WITHIN GREECE:**

As of May 14, 2021, all passengers age 5 years or older traveling within Greece by air or ferry to the Greek Islands must provide either of the following items:

- Proof of full vaccination at least 14 days prior to travel
- A negative PCR test no older than 72 hours
- A negative rapid or self-test no older than 24 hours
- Documentation by a health care professional of recovery from COVID-19 within the previous 2-9 months.

A nighttime curfew is in effect from 12:30 am to 5:00 am throughout the country. Travel may be restricted further with little or no advance notice to/from areas with active Covid-19 outbreaks.

**MASK REQUIREMENTS:**

- Masks are required everywhere, indoors and outdoors.
- The fine for not wearing a mask in areas where it is required, not maintaining required social distancing, and/or violating the movement restrictions is **300 euros**.
- The fine for non-compliance with mandatory quarantine is **5000 euros**, in addition to possible arrest.
- All travelers are responsible for bringing their own masks and hand sanitizers for personal use during the tour.
- Additional information is available in English at [travel.gov.gr](https://travel.gov.gr)

**GOVERNMENT RESOURCES**

We'd like to remind all guests to check their local state travel guidelines regarding travel restrictions when arriving from international destinations or other US States, as this may vary state by state.

[US State Department](#)

[CDC Travel Resources](#)

[WHO](#)

[US Embassy & Consulate in Greece – Covid-19 Information](#)

[Protocol for Arrivals in Greece](#)

[Emirates Airlines Travel Requirements by Destination](#)

[Country-specific entry restrictions | Turkish Airlines®](#)

**GREECE EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS**

+30 6947 56 59 06 (Marjan)

+30 6947 56 59 03 (Thanassis)

+30 6947 56 59 07 (emergency office – after hours)

## THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

### GREECE

(Updated July 2021)

#### PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP

As you prepare to embark on your upcoming Ritz Tours journey, please make sure you have all travel documents\*, passports, and necessary visas ready before you depart for your trip.

#### CHECKING IN AT THE AIRPORT

Be sure to bring your **passport** as you will need to present it when checking in at the airport\*. Please be advised that not all airlines assign seats in advance. Some airlines assign seats at the airport during check-in. We recommend all travellers arrive at the airport at least 3 hours prior to the flight departure time. You will receive boarding passes at the airline counter when you check in for your flight.

*\*Additional documents and/or PCR tests may be required due to COVID-19. It is the responsibility of the traveler to check relevant travel advisories and/or restrictions and to obtain all necessary documents and tests prior to departure, as well as entry back into the U.S. Ritz Tours is not responsible if you are denied entrance for any reason in any country, even if you hold a valid passport and entry visa.*

#### UPON ARRIVAL IN GREECE

Please go through Customs and Immigrations on your own. Our representative will be waiting for you inside the baggage claim area and will be holding a Ritz Tours sign. Please wear your Ritz Tours badge for easy identification.

Ritz Tours tour guides/airport assistants will wait for arriving tour members at the airport baggage claim area for up to **90 minutes** after the landing time of the tour member's flight before departing from the airport with transportation to the hotel. If for any reason a tour member does not meet the Ritz Tours representative within 90 minutes after the landing time of the tour member's flight, the tour member will be responsible for his or her own transportation from the airport to the hotel, along with all associated expenses.

*\*\*Land only packages do not include airport transfers. Land only travellers – please arrange your own airport transfer to the hotel. If you have purchased an airport transfer service from us please be sure to provide all flight information to Ritz Tours prior to your trip departure date.\**

#### TRAVEL DOCUMENTS\*

- **Passports must be valid for 6 months from the return date of your trip.**
- **US Passport holders** – No visa is required for your stay up to 90 days; A visa is required for all official and diplomatic passport holders.
- **Non-US-Passport holders** – please check with your local consulate or embassy for Greece Visa requirements.
- It is the responsibility of the traveller to obtain a visa and all required travel documents in a timely manner.

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#### BAGGAGE

Baggage allowance for international flights varies by airlines and is subject to change at any time. For up-to-date baggage allowance restrictions, please check with the appropriate airline for their latest regulations. Additional baggage charges may apply.

#### **Important Luggage Info & Tips**

- Baggage is the sole responsibility of the traveler. We recommend using a TSA approved luggage lock and **Ritz Tours** luggage tags (enclosed) showing the name and contact information of the owner.
- DO NOT pack medicine, valuables, and other personal necessities in checked luggage. Keep these items in your carry-on bag.
- Consider packing a change of clothing, a set of undergarments and toiletry in your carry-on bag to avoid inconvenience caused by delays or lost luggage.
- Power bank chargers over 20,000 mAh are restricted from carry on and check in luggage.
- Power bank mAh capacity must be clearly labelled by the manufacturer on the charger.
- Please visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov) for USA carry on restrictions.
- **No porter service will be provided throughout the tour or on ferry journeys; customers will need to be physically able to carry their own baggage when embarking and disembarking the ferry to place baggage in the designated storage area (this may include steps, inclines and/or uneven walkways).**
- During the tour please always keep an eye on your personal belongings and valuables. Be aware of your surroundings when going out on your own.
- **Please keep in mind within Greece the baggage limitation on all flights varies by airline. Please check directly with the corresponding airline for baggage allowance policies.**

#### **FERRY SERVICE DISRUPTION**

Please note, in circumstances which may be beyond our control, ferry services between islands may be interrupted or cancelled due to reasons such as, inclement weather, acts of God, a strike, or other unforeseen hazardous conditions. If the ferry services will not operate as scheduled, our ground agents in Greece will make reasonable efforts to assist you; this includes but is not limited to varying itineraries or substituting sightseeing excursions. In some cases, we may have to rearrange your itinerary to accommodate the revised ferry schedule and in other cases you will be given the option to pay the difference for a flight to the island; alternatively you may also purchase your own flight should you wish to. In other rare cases it may not be possible to access the island at all. Please note, the options listed are for reference only and will vary based on the circumstances at the time of the event. Our ground agents in Greece will determine the best alternative options for the group and inform you of the itinerary changes and/or alternate transportation options at the time of the event. Please note, any unused tour costs will not be refunded, and any additional expenses incurred will not be reimbursed by Ritz Tours. Prior to your travels, we highly recommend purchasing adequate travel insurance.

#### **CURRENCY**

Greece uses the Euro as its national currency. As of June 2021, the exchange rate is \$1 U.S dollar to 0.82 Euro. We suggest you bring a combination of cash and credit cards for your trip. Most department stores, hotels and restaurants will accept major credit cards such as American Express, Visa, and MasterCard. However it is more convenient to use cash especially if you are planning to shop and eat in smaller shops. Please always keep your currency exchange receipts as you may need to present these when changing EUR back to your own currency at the end of your trip. All travelers entering or leaving the EU with a sum equal to or exceeding 10,000 Euros must declare the amount in writing to Customs without being individually requested to do so.

#### **TIPPING**

An important note on tipping - please note gratuities are not included in your tour cost (except Aegean cruise portions). They are customary and their purpose is to encourage and reward quality service. Our

guides and drivers greatly appreciate any tips you would like to give them. As you will have different guides and drivers in each city, we have provided a breakdown for the suggested tip amount (in Euro) by city, guide and driver.

- **Tour leader** €7 per person /per night
- **Long Distance coach driver** € 3 per person/per night
- **Local guide** €1 per person per half day or €2 per person per full day
- **Local driver** €1 per person per half day or €2 per person per full day

### HEALTH & MEDICAL MATTERS

- Medical and vaccination requirements vary between countries and it is important you check with your family doctor or a qualified medical professional for the most up to date travel health information for the region you are visiting.  
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- Guests must ensure they are physically and medically able to travel; the majority of our tours incorporate active elements such as walking to and from buses and vessels, walking long distances, and sightseeing; you are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the level of activity that will be involved in your guided Tour. Please consult your physician regarding your medical condition and ability to travel long distances.
- It is advisable to pack any prescription medicine in your carry-on luggage. Please ensure prescription medicine is fully labelled. It may also be useful to bring aspirin, over-the-counter medicine for the flu, indigestion, motion sickness, etc. In case of illness during the trip, please immediately notify your tour guide for assistance.

### ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENT

Greece's electrical system operates at 220 volts. You will need a voltage converter and plug adapter in order to use U.S appliances. It is recommended travellers bring their own voltage converter and adapter.

### TIME DIFFERENCE

The time difference between major cities in North America and Greece are as below:

- Los Angeles + 10 hours
- New York + 7 hours

### MEALS

Certain meals are included in Greece as per the itinerary. We regret to inform you that Ritz Tours is unable to confirm any special meal request as it is based on the availability of the restaurants, hotels, and airlines. Please contact the airlines directly to place special meal requests for your flights if you purchase a land only package.

### SHOPPING

Although Ritz Tours' national guides will be happy to assist you with any shopping requirements, Ritz Tours does not assume responsibility for any items purchased at shops while on tour. You are never required to purchase any items while on tour and thus must be responsible for your own purchases. Any after sales correspondence must be between the passenger and the shop in question.

### OPTIONAL TOURS

Optional tours may be added up to 7 days prior to the departure date. Optional tours may also be purchased while on the tour. All on-site optional tour purchases are an additional \$10 per person and must be payable in USD cash (credit cards are not accepted for on-site optional tour purchases). Optional tours that have a “pre-book” icon are only available for purchase up to 7 days prior to the departure date and are not available for on-site purchase. Unused services, including optional tours are non-refundable.

**CLIMATE & CLOTHING:**

Greece generally has a typical Mediterranean climate – the country traditionally experiences hot summers and rainy and cold winters but overall enjoys a good amount of sunshine all year long.

- It is suggested to bring comfortable, casual clothing, and a swimsuit; a comfortable pair of walking shoes and sunglasses are essential, light hats advisable.
- Be prepared for many steps, uneven pavement and walking up steep inclines (especially in Santorini, Mykonos and Crete; as well as Athens’ historic sites) – comfortable walking shoes with grip are strongly recommended.
- If you are visiting Greece in the summer, choose lightweight clothes for its balmy weather – natural fabrics such as linens and cottons are highly recommended. While the Greek islands are hot during the day, they can get cooler in the evenings so a light sweater or jacket is recommended. Winter months can be quite cold so normal winter wear is suggested.
- Check [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) for more detailed weather conditions closer to your departure date.
- It is not necessary to bring formal clothing however modest attire is always welcome.

**Temperature in Major Cities, Greece**

Major Cities		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Athens	High	55	57	63	68	77	86	91	93	84	75	66	59
	Low	45	45	48	54	61	70	75	75	68	61	54	48
Mykonos	High	54	54	59	64	73	81	86	84	81	72	63	55
	Low	43	43	46	52	57	64	70	70	64	59	52	46
Santorini	High	57	57	61	64	73	81	84	84	79	73	66	59
	Low	50	50	52	55	63	70	73	73	70	64	57	52

**GREECE EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS**

- +30 6947 56 59 06 (Marjan)
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Our experienced staff of Greece specialists take pride in providing you with the very best in service and planning. Thank you for choosing Ritz Tours as your partner in travel. We are confident your trip will be happy and rewarding!

**Bon Voyage!**