## **GREECE OPTIONAL TOURS!!!**

#### **TOURS FROM CRETE**

Crete Bus Tour with Knossos Saturday, April 17th



Today we will take in a full day bus tour taking in the ruins at <u>Knossos</u>, the old town of <u>Rethymno</u>, the <u>Fortezza</u> (the castle) and a stop at <u>Plakias village</u>. Lunch is at "Plateia Taverna" at Myrtos village.

Crete is home of the great Minoan Civilization and the mythological

home of Zeus. After a short drive through the town of Heraklion the tour will arrive at the Knossos excavations. Here, Sir Arthur Evan's archaeological discoveries revealed a civilization dating back to 4000 B.C., when a great empire flourished on the island of Crete. Based on the wealth of artefacts that were found, Evans theorized that this was the site of the ancient Minoan Kingdom. These findings will be viewed in detail, as your guide will lead you on a journey of discovery to learn of the sophisticated culture that flourished thousands of years ago on this island. The Palace, decorated



with frescoes and shields houses the Hall of the Royal Guard, the Hall of the Double Axes, the King's Chamber with the alabaster throne, the Queen's Apartment, beautiful courtyards and shrines. **COST with admission fees and guide: \$45** 



# Bus Tour with a Gorge Hike & Villages

#### Greek Easter Sunday, April 18th

It's another full day of exploring this incredible island. We start off with a downhill hike through a beautiful gorge filled with wildflowers. <u>Imbros</u> is the perfect gorge for those who want an easy hike. It is 8km long, not steep and not particularly difficult, crossing a changing scenery, from its green start by the fertile Askyfou plain to its rocky end near the dry south coast, with some very spectacular sections, especially the several very narrow passages and with a good shade for several parts.. Suitable for anyone in decent physical condition and with no hiking experience required. Imbros offers a great opportunity to descend a Cretan gorge and end by the sea. Solid walking shoes is a must-have to enjoy the day. After the walk we drive to the

village of Sfakia for lunch by its waterfront tavernas.

Then we will make stops will include the village of <u>Gavalochori</u> and the village of <u>Vamos</u> for a walk in its older part to view traditionally restored stone houses. Late afternoon return at your hotel.

COST: \$30 including bus, guide and hike entrance.

### **TOURS FROM MYKONOS**

### Horseback Riding Tuesday, April 20th and Wednesday the 21st



With this tour you will get to run your horse if you'd like and get to take your horse along a secluded beach while getting your photo taken. We will be with Fanis from Horseland. Fanis Rouvas is professional-riding instructor, horsetrainer & breeder. In winter, he works with horses in Kaimaktsalan (Vorras), one of the most impressive mountain settings in Northern Greece. He has worked with & cared for horses for over 15 years. His techniques are safe & his love for horses apparent. His horses are well-cared for, well-fed, personally trained

& groomed to maintain healthy bodies & balanced minds. His experience with horses is certainly unmatched in Mykonos. He's a cool guy and will be taking special care of us as we've been coming to him for this tours for many years now. We will even stop on a secluded beach to ride and take some great photos. We will have a morning tour and an afternoon tour. He's got just 8 horses so please sign up early. This can also be done in the afternoon of April 26th after Delos (please let us know your preference). We start off and finish at his home. Don't be surprised if he offers you more to drink back at his place. Website: <a href="http://www.mykonoshorse.com/">http://www.mykonoshorse.com/</a> COST: \$90

## **Paradise Beach**



#### Tuesday, April 20th

Today we recommending you get yourself to Paradise Beach. This is a popular beach set in a beautiful cove. The beachfront bars there are fun and play chill music to relax you on their chaise lounges. Have lunch and some drinks. The fun way to get there is to rent either a quad or a scooter. I will lead the way and will negotiate a group rate on some quads. The other option would be to group together to take taxis. There is also a public bus that takes people there. There are also

some other stops along the way that are worthy of a stop that we can discuss. **NOTE:** if you're going horseback riding in the morning you can always take a taxi or ask Fanis to drop you off here to meet the group.

# Half Day Cruise to Delos Island

#### Wednesday, April 21st

Where light was born. It is strongly believed by many, that this Ancient Archeological Island possesses and releases a heightened sense of light and energy, the very reason for ancient Greece's belief that Apollo, God of Light and Music, had to have been born there?

It's a <u>UNESCO world heritage site</u>. It's an ark of history, floating lazily on the waters of the Aegean Sea, just a few miles away from cosmopolitan Mykonos. It's a chance to walk around the revival of the glory of the Greek civilization. It's the head priest of the Cyclades, the birthplace of the immortals.



Imagine: The entire island of Delos, also known as the biggest open air museum in Europe, is an Archeological monument to what was the holiest place in the Aegean Sea. Currently, the only inhabitants on this historical island are the archaeologists who continue to conduct excavations, as well as the guards who are in place to protect it. Come with us and allow our guides to explain the spiritual, historical and cultural importance of Delos. With no traces of

modern civilization you will be encompassed by the natural environment and will experience a serene, peaceful, luminous, and pure atmosphere. Witness how the ancient civilians lived their way of life. Visit their houses, walk into their living rooms, kitchens and bedrooms. Also witness Europe's first Synagogue, first Egyptian Temple, first Indian Temple and other Temples from many foreign Religions. And let's not forget, The Lions Terrace, Cleopatras House and The Temple of Apollo. So come and experience a glimpse of what it may have been like to live on Delos three thousand years ago. Duration:- Departure 10 am Return 12.20 noon.

COST: \$42 includes guide, boat and entrance

## **TOURS FROM SANTORINI**

## Santorini by land and Sea

Visit: Akrotiri – Volcano – Hot Springs – Thirassia

### Friday, April 23rd

This tour will include a land tour by bus, then a sailing tour on a beautiful, traditional Greek wooden boat.





First we visit the important archaeological site of <u>Akrotiri</u> which was closed for many years but reopened in 2012. Akrotiri Excavations brought to light a Minoan town preserved under the pumice for 3000 years. Our expert guide will lead an interesting and informative tour in the ancient town. From there we will visit a very cute town called Pyrgos where we will have time to walk to the top along winding, narrow walkways. Excellent photos! We will also go to the mountaintop of Profitis Ilias where we will enjoy an incredible view.

Then we go by bus to Athinios Port. There you will board the beautiful traditional boat that will sail on to reach the lava islet Nea Kameni where we leave the boat and walk an ascending soil path to approach the crater of the still active **Volcano**. Then back to the boat and we sail to the second lava islet called Palea Kameni. There we find **Hot Springs** and we can have a swim in the green Sulphur waters or even take a bath in the warm therapeutic mud. After a half hour the boat will sail to the nice traditional island **Thirassia**. There we can have free time for lunch, explore the island or swim at the beach next to the port. This is one of the best days of the entire trip. You've got to do this! **Cost:** \$65

You may also bring your own drinks on board the boat. We can stock up in the harbor before boarding.

## Free Day in Santorini



#### Saturday, April 24th

Nothing to sign up for here. I do suggest once again renting a scooter, quad, renting a car or hiring a driver. There are a lot of interesting and beautiful places to see in Santorini including <u>many wineries</u>, the <u>Red Sand Beach</u> and historic towns. I will help facilitate and can lead.

Another idea is to just enjoy a nice walk with your camera. I liked the walk I did to the nearby town of <u>Firostefani</u>. Less touristy, quiet and very picturesque.

#### Saturday, April 24th, 5:30 pm - Best Sunset in the world - Oia

Later today we will board a bus for Oia featuring one of the best and most <u>famous sunsets in</u> <u>the world</u>. Oia is built along the rim of the caldera wall. You can walk in the village and enjoy the magnificent panoramic view. People gather along the walkways, cliff and walls to enjoy the epic sunsets here. We will give you time to stroll and dine after the sunset. No need to sign up – it's our treat.

# PLEASE USE THE TOURS FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR TOURS

Use this form to mail in your check or fax your credit card:

#### Please sign up for the tours by March 20th

Name:	
4/17 Crete Bus Tour with Knossos \$4	45
4/18 Crete Bus Tour with Hike and villages\$	30
4/20 Horseback riding \$   Circle one: Morning tour 4/21 Afternoon Tour 4/21 Afternoon of 4/22 \$	90
4/21 Delos \$4	42
4/23 Santorini by Land and Sea \$	65
NOTE: It's possible to do the Delos tour on 4/22 and the horseback riding in the afternoon	ıe
Total enclosed:	
Mail to: Singles in Paradise, P.O. Box 130126 Carlsbad, CA 92013-0126	
Bill my credit card: Add 3% for credit cards and fax to 858-964-1726	
Card #: Expires:	
You can also just email us to give us instructions to bill your credit card for the tours you'd like to sign up for.	•

We will be sending out a form with a grid as we get closer to the trip where you can see what everyone has signed up for.