

Duke
TRAVELS

With **Dr. Michelle Connolly**,
Professor of the Practice
of Economics

IMPRESSIONS OF LIFE IN THE GREEK ISLANDS

May 22 - June 2, 2025



Chora, Andros's attractive main town, dramatically sited on a narrow rocky promontory jutting into the sea.

Duke TRAVELS

Dear Duke Travelers,

We invite you to join our springtime sojourn on four of Greece's most beautiful islands: Crete, Naxos, Andros, and Santorini. Explore their ancient sites and picturesque villages, learn about their remarkable history, and savor their distinctive cuisine. Spring is the perfect time of year to visit these islands without the summer crowds. Temperate weather encourages a profusion of wildflowers and aromatic herbs.

Among the highlights are the renowned Bronze Age site of Akrotiri on Santorini and the Minoan Palace of Knossos on Crete. Equally inspiring are the verdant hillsides of Andros and Naxos with their own stories. Encounter a broad range of architecture, from the ruins of the prehistoric era to Classical, Byzantine, and Medieval structures to the clean lines of contemporary Greek residences. Survey rugged landscapes that produce some of the world's best olive oil, wines, and cheeses, and dine in a variety of charming venues featuring local cuisine. Sailing from island to island is one of the great pleasures of a Mediterranean sojourn.

Your itinerary begins in Andros, one of the most attractive islands in the Cyclades, renowned for its natural beauty and traditional way of life. On Naxos, birthplace of Dionysus, explore the island's ancient Greek and Venetian heritage as well as an array of local delicacies. On Santorini, explore the village of Fira, with its whitewashed houses and churches perched high on the cliffs above the caldera. The island of Crete, which witnessed the birth of Europe's first civilization, is also one of the world's great garden spots. Tour the Minoan Palace at Knossos, the extraordinary Heraklion Museum, and the delightful town of Rethymno, pausing to sample the olive oil for which Crete is justly famous.

Joining you on this journey will be Duke's Professor of the Practice of Economics, **Dr. Michelle Connolly**, who will share her expertise in talks and discussions throughout the journey.

We hope that you can join this very special tour of Greece, custom-designed for Duke Travelers.

Forever Duke,



Beth Ray-Schroeder '83
Senior Director, Duke Travels
Duke Alumni Engagement and Development

*What past travelers have to say... "The itinerary and the emphasis on smaller and locally embedded hotels and restaurants gave a great flavor of Greece...the trip surpassed all our expectations."
- Dr. Gary Gereffi P'06 and faculty leader on Duke's "Greece Through the Ages," April 2023*

FACULTY

DR. MICHELLE CONNOLLY



Michelle Connolly is Professor of the Practice in the Economics Department at Duke University where she has taught for 27 years. She teaches Undergraduate Honors Research and Intermediate Macroeconomics where she jokes that for a macroeconomics professor,

Greece is the gift that keeps on giving. Her lectures will be on Greece's entry into the Euro Zone, its debt crisis and the subsequent Euro Zone crisis when it looked like Greece might have to exit the Euro Zone in 2015.

Dr. Connolly served as Chief Economist of the Federal Communications Commission in 2006-2007 and 2008-2009, and as a research economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York from 1996 to 1997. She has testified before Congress and participated in White House Panels and Roundtables on Spectrum Issues and International Trade Policy. In 2011, she was awarded the Howard D. Johnson Trinity College Teaching Prize.

Her current research focuses on telecommunications policy, particularly spectrum policy and broadband policy. Michelle Connolly received her B.A. (1990) and Ph.D. (1996) in economics from Yale University.

THALASSA JOURNEYS TOUR GUIDE

ARISTOTLE KOSKINAS



Aristotle Koskinas served as the expert guide on Duke's 2024 tour in Greece with Thalassa Journeys to great acclaim. He studied classical archaeology at the University of Ioannina in Greece and has participated in many excavations conducted by the Greek Ministry of

Culture. Aristotle has worked since 2003 as a licensed guide in Greece. He is an accomplished narrator and participates (by invitation of the National Archaeological Museum and the Greek Narration Festival) in their yearly narration events.



INTELLIGENTE
ARTE PUNTA E NE DE LAINE

QUINTO PAVIMENTO
MUSEO PALAZZO DELLA

Il Museo Palazzo della Quinta Pavimento è un'area di circa 1.500 mq. che ospita una collezione di opere d'arte e di oggetti di uso quotidiano. Le opere sono disposte in modo da permettere al visitatore di apprezzare la bellezza e la ricchezza della civiltà minoica. Le opere sono divise in due sezioni: la prima sezione è dedicata alle opere d'arte e la seconda sezione è dedicata agli oggetti di uso quotidiano. Le opere sono disposte in modo da permettere al visitatore di apprezzare la bellezza e la ricchezza della civiltà minoica.

ITINERARY



Thursday, May 22, 2025

DEPART THE US

Depart the United States for Athens, Greece.

Friday, May 23

ATHENS/ANDROS

Arrive in Athens and transfer to the nearby port of Rafina, where we will board the ferry to Andros (2hrs). Upon arrival, transfer to the



lovely boutique *Hotel Micra Anglia*, situated in Chora, the island's main town. Enjoy a welcome dinner in the evening. (D)

NOTE: In order to make the departure of the ferry boat to Andros, you should arrive in Athens no later than 1:30pm, local time.

Saturday, May 24

ANDROS

Although Andros is one of the most attractive islands in the Cyclades, it has eschewed mass tourism. Perhaps this is due to the wealth generated by its long tradition in shipping that has made it possible for the islanders to be prosperous without the need to derive income from tourism. Whatever the reason may be, the fact is that Andros has retained its considerable natural beauty and traditional way of life. A mountainous and verdant island, with fertile and well-watered valleys, Andros's hillsides are dotted with picturesque old villages. Explore in the morning Chora, the island's attractive main town, dramatically sited on a narrow rocky promontory jutting into the sea, its headland crowned by a fort built by the Venetians in the 13th century. The town's striking Neoclassical architecture reflects the shipping prosperity. There are two outstanding museums in town we will visit, the Archaeological Museum, which displays artifacts from the island's ancient sites, and the superb Goulandris Museum of Contemporary Art, home to paintings by prominent international artists and works by notable Greek sculptors. Lunch will be served at a seaside taverna. Spend the afternoon at leisure. Andros is a walker's paradise. There are well-marked paths you may wish to choose from for a walk through beautiful landscapes. (B, L)

Sunday, May 25

ANDROS

Explore Andros's scenic interior, with its old monasteries and villages. Begin in Stenies, a beautiful village where its lanes are closed to traffic, and which is known for its stately architecture. Further up the hill is the extensive Monastery of Aghios Nikolaos, whose buildings date from the 16th century. The village of Apikia features the Sariza spring, its water famous throughout Greece for its therapeutic qualities, while in the shaded square of nearby Menites water gushes from the marble mouths of lions. Continue to the whitewashed fortress-like Monastery of Panachrantou, founded in the 10th century. Its position high on the slope of the Messaria Valley affords spectacular views. Descend to the village of Korthi, known for its stone towers and mansions dating from the 17th and 18th centuries. A short distance away is the inviting bay of Korthi with a seafront esplanade. (B, L)

Monday, May 26

ANDROS/NAXOS

Sail from Andros to Naxos (2hrs, 10mins). Situated in the middle of the Cyclades, Naxos is notable for its ancient history and monuments, attractive old villages, early Christian churches with painted interiors, and an active contemporary life that includes vibrant agriculture. The island was the birthplace of Dionysus, the god of wine, and the place where the Athenian prince Theseus abandoned Ariadne. Upon arrival, enjoy dinner and then check in at the *Hotel Naxos Resort*. (B, D)



The picturesque town of Naxos.

Tuesday, May 27

NAXOS

Tour in the morning Naxos's main town, its narrow alleyways fanning out from the Kastro, a fortress built by the Venetians, who held the island from 1207 to 1537. Visit the Della Rocca-Barozzi Venetian Museum, a tower house dating to the 13th century, and the archaeological area of Mitropolis. Facing the town is a small islet, connected to the town by a causeway, on which are the remains of an unfinished 6th-century BC temple. Surviving is the temple's monumental gateway. Spend the afternoon at leisure for independent activities. (B)

Wednesday, May 28

NAXOS

Spend the day exploring the island's attractive interior, starting at the Temple of Demeter, which was constructed in the 6th century BC. Continue to Chalki, an attractive village that features distinctive architecture. Here, we will visit the Fish and Olive Gallery that displays exquisite ceramics made by the owners. Then on to Apeiranthos, a picturesque village perched on a high cliff, where we will enjoy lunch at a restaurant that serves local specialties. After lunch, drive to Panaghia Drosiani, one of the oldest and most revered churches

in Greece, which consists of a series of cave-like chapels. Nearby, we will visit an ancient marble quarry, where we will see two unfinished monumental statues from around 570 BC. (B, L)

Thursday, May 29

NAXOS/SANTORINI

Naxos is famed for its cheeses, and this morning we will visit an artisanal dairy farm that produces some of these cheeses. We will have the opportunity to learn about the traditional and sustainable method of their production and taste them as well. Later, we board the fast *Seajet* boat to Santorini, where we will spend the night at the *Orama Hotel & Spa*. Dinner will be at a restaurant notable for its home-cooked Greek dishes. (B, L, D)

Note: The visit to the dairy farm will operate only if the present boat schedule from Naxos to Santorini will also be in effect in 2025.

Friday, May 30

SANTORINI/HERAKLION, Crete

Known in classical antiquity as Thera during the Bronze Age, Santorini was a flourishing trading center inhabited by a prosperous society. In the late 17th century BC, a massive volcanic eruption collapsed half of the island and buried its main town in a thick



Apeiranthos village, Naxos



Santorini

layer of ash and pumice, thus preserving its houses, streets and squares as they existed 3,700 years ago. In the morning, tour the excavated ancient town, now called Akrotiri, and then enjoy time to explore the village of Fira on your own, or join our guided tour of the Museum of Prehistory, which houses an amazing collection of artifacts excavated at Akrotiri. After lunch at a local restaurant, board the *Seajet* for Heraklion, Crete. Upon arrival, check-in to the *Hotel Megaron*, our home for the next three nights. (B, L, D)

Saturday, May 31

HERAKLION/ELEFThERNA/REThYMNO/HERAKLION

Drive in the morning through impressive country to Eleftherna, situated at the foothills of Mount Ida, the island's highest and most imposing mountain range. An important ancient city, Eleftherna was occupied from prehistoric times to the medieval period. After exploring the site and visiting the interesting museum, continue to Rethymno, one of Crete's most characteristic and charming towns that is known for its well-preserved old architecture, where lunch will be served at a local restaurant, followed by time at leisure. Among other attractions, Crete is known for its extensive olive groves that produce high quality olive oil. Before we return to the hotel, we will enjoy an olive oil tasting session. (B, L)

Sunday, June 1

KNOSSOS & THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

This morning, tour the Palace of Knossos, the largest and most magnificent Minoan palace in Crete. Clustered around a spacious courtyard, the palace contains a maze of rooms, passages and stairways that may have inspired the concept of the labyrinth. More than any other palace, Knossos reveals the brilliance and refinement of Minoan civilization. After our tour of Knossos, visit the Archaeological Museum of Heraklion, whose eye-opening exhibits reinforce the impression gained at Knossos of the remarkable achievements of Minoan culture. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure in Heraklion, during which you may wish to visit the market to browse among the stalls that sell a variety of Cretan products, including its famed herbs. Enjoy a farewell dinner at the Peskesi restaurant, one of Crete's finest, which specializes in the centuries-old cuisine of the island. (B, D)

Monday, June 2

HERAKLION/USA

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport for flights homeward. (B)

OPTIONAL PRE-TRIP EXTENSION IN ATHENS:

May 20-23, 2025

Depart the USA on May 20 to arrive in Athens on May 21 for a two-night stay at the *Athens Capital Hotel* (or similar). Also included are tours of the Acropolis, the Acropolis Museum and the ancient Agora, and time at leisure. Also included are airport/hotel/port transfers on May 20 and 23, two breakfasts, one lunch and one dinner.

Rate: \$1,490 per person, double occupancy
Single room supplement: \$390



In the old town of Rethymno, Crete

RATE PER PERSON

\$6,790 per person, double occupancy
Single room supplement: \$1,390

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

- Fine hotel accommodations throughout: Three nights at *Hotel Micra Anglia* (or similar), Chora, Andros; three nights at the *Hotel Naxos Resort* (or similar), Naxos; one night at the *Orama Hotel & Spa* (or similar), Santorini; and three nights at the *Hotel Megaron* (or similar), Heraklion, Crete.
- Lectures and discussions with Duke's Professor of the Practice of Economics, Dr. Michelle Connolly.
- Full breakfast each morning at the hotels.
- Six lunches and five dinners at local restaurants with wine or beer and soft drinks.
- Boat ride to Naxos, Andros, Santorini and Heraklion, Crete.
- Airport/hotel/pier transfers and handling of luggage on the program arrival and departure dates.
- All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary with a professional English-speaking guide.
- Entrance fees to museums, archaeological and historic sites.
- The services of an experienced Thalassa Journeys Trip Director.
- Gratuities to guides, drivers and porters.
- All local taxes and service charges.
- Complete pre-departure material.

NOT INCLUDED: International airfare; travel insurance; expenses of a personal nature; any items not mentioned in the Itinerary and the Program Inclusions.



Samples of the nourishing Greek cuisine.

REGISTRATION

DUKE 25L-0522

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for \$ _____ (\$ 1,000 per person) as a deposit to hold _____ place(s) on **IMPRESSIONS OF LIFE IN THE GREEK ISLANDS** May 22 - June 2, 2025, with Duke Travels. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.

To reserve your place, please contact **Duke Travels at (919) 684-2988 or duketravels@duke.edu**, or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person by mail with credit card or a check payable to **Thalassa Journeys** and mail with this registration form to:

Duke Travels, Box 90572, Durham, NC 27708-0572

If you mail in your reservation, please give Duke Travels a call so that space can be held.

AmEx Discover Visa Master Card

No. _____

Exp. _____ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code _____

Preference at hotels:

Double accommodation Double Bed Single Bed
 Single accommodation *Bed configuration cannot be guaranteed.*

I/we wish to register for the optional extension in Athens.

FIRST MIDDLE LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

FIRST MIDDLE LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

ADDRESS

Each participant must sign below: I/We have read the "General Information" section and agree to its terms.

CITY/STATE/ZIP

TELEPHONE (HOME)

(CELL)

SIGNATURE

DATE

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

DATE

GENERAL INFORMATION

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Payment can be made by personal check or charged to a credit card.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations are subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received 61-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to 100% cancellation penalties. Requests for cancellations must be made in writing. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate.

INSURANCE: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

ITINERARY: The itinerary, accommodations and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Thalassa Journeys.

RESPONSIBILITY: Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the traveler and Thalassa Journeys. Thalassa Journeys acts solely as agents for the traveler with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the traveler's safety and satisfaction, but, we neither assume nor bear any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in carrying the traveler or in affecting these tours. We are not responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the traveler, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the traveler's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the traveler beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour's itinerary and to substitute hotels, transportation methods, or lecturers if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the traveler certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other travelers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person's health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other travelers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the traveler's risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be affected exclusively in the state or federal courts presiding in Florida, pursuant to applicable Florida law.

RATES: Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change.

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Monumental gate of the unfinished
6th-century B.C. temple, Naxos

