

Tour information:

A full day tour to the famous archaeological site of Delphi, which was considered in ancient times to be the centre, "omphalos", of the known world.

Tour starts:	08:00
Arrival at Delphi:	10:30
Guided tour at archaeological site & museum:	10.30 - 12.00
Lunch in Delphi:	12:45 - 14:45
Return to Athens:	19:00

Price per person: € 80

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Entrance Fees to all archaeological sites
- Experienced English Speaking Guide
- Transfer from and to hotel in A/C coaches
- Taxes
- Lunch

A minimum of 30 persons must be achieved for the excursion to take place. In case that we have to cancel the excursion those that have pre-booked it and paid for it, will be fully refunded.



Delphi lies 180 km northwest of Athens

Delphi "Now the serene sense is supping with the Gods" This was the sense of the poet Angelos Sikelianos, who between 1927 and 1930 revived the Delphic Festival, in Delphi the centre of earth, wishing to "instill the forgotten Delphic watchword in all human souls".

We will start our journey by driving through the fertile plain of Viotia, crossing the town of Thebes, connected with the tragedy of King Oedipus, continuing through the plains of Levadia and through the mountainous, ski-resort village of Arachova to reach mystical Delphi.

Characterised as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, Delphi blends harmoniously with the superb landscape and is charged with sacred meaning. It overlooks the valley of Phocis, or Pleistos, which is filled with olive and cypress trees, and the Gulf of Corinth. The views from Delphi are just as awe-inspiring today as it they were more than 3,000 years ago.



The name *Delphoi* is connected with *delph* "hollow" or *delphus* "womb" and may indicate archaic veneration of Gaia, Grandmother Earth, and the Earth Goddess at the site. Delphi is perhaps best-known for the oracle at the sanctuary that became dedicated to Apollo during the classical period.



Apollo spoke through his oracle, who had to be an older woman of blameless life chosen from



among the peasants of the area. The prophetess took the name Pythia and sat on a tripod seat over an opening in the earth. Intoxicated by hallucinogenic vapors, Pythia would fall into trance, allowing Apollo to possess her spirit and she prophesied. She spoke in riddles, which were interpreted by the priests of the temple, and people consulted her on everything from important matters of public policy to personal affairs.

One of the most famous oracles given was the one relating to advice regarding the Trojan horse, given to the Athenians by Pythia.



You will have ample time to visit Delphi's Archaeological Site and Museum. The Delphi Museum is situated right next to the ancient site of Delphi, and is a fascinating museum, filled with truly remarkable artifacts, statues and findings from excavations that have taken place in the site of Delphi. Here you can admire various oversized statues such as those of young men ("kouroi"), the world-famous "Charioteer of Delphi" and the "Naxos Sphinx". You will also see the famous "Omphalos Stone" which was placed at the exact point where Apollo slew the python before he took Delphi as his own.

After you have had time to absorb all the interesting ruins and indulge in the mystical ambience of Delphi, you will be driven back to your hotel. Arrival time in Athens is estimated at 19:00.

