



Please see the **NOTICE ON PROGRAM UPDATES** at the bottom of this sample itinerary for details on program changes.



## GREECE: Turtle & Conservation Adventure™

Discover the emblematic species of the Greek Seas, the Loggerhead Sea Turtle, while you explore the coastlines of the Peloponnese and historical sites of Delphi and Athens.

### OVERVIEW

Set sail for Greece, where we will explore one of the world's oldest cultures and learn about important marine conservation work. Due to climate change and human impact on this ancient land, loggerhead turtles and other native wildlife are at risk of extinction.

Learn about the importance of preserving these magnificent creatures and their unique role in the marine ecosystems. Get to know Athens and discover its ancient sites, such as the Acropolis and the Ancient Agora. Immerse yourself in the coastal region of Messenia and learn all about loggerhead turtles. Wrap up your adventure with a visit to Delphi to explore the temple of Apollo and other historical sites, which have had significant impact on Greek mythology and history. Meet with warm locals, taste incredible Mediterranean cuisine and immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of this vibrant and warm culture!

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Visit the Acropolis in Athens and embark on a bike tour around the city
- ★ Visit the Messenia region and learn all about loggerhead turtles in the area
- ★ Assist on snorkeling mapping efforts for the conservation of the Posidonia seagrass
- ★ Explore Delphi and the Temple of Apollo
- ★ Visit a bee farm and learn firsthand about bees and their contribution to sustainability worldwide



## PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

June 27 - July 8 2024

**Tuition:** \$5,899

**Service Hours:** 10

**Max Group Size:** 24

**Age Range:** 14-18

**Student-to-Staff Ratio:** 6-to-1

**Airport:** Arrival (6am-6pm),  
departure (6am-2pm). Airport code  
ATH



### SPOTLIGHT ON SEA TURTLES AND SERVICE

Each year, Loggerhead Turtles come to the Messenia region in Greece to lay their eggs. You'll learn from local experts about the right techniques to safely rescue and transport an injured sea turtle. You'll also have the opportunity to snorkel in the area where turtles are seen most often - and while there's no guarantee that you'll see one, your chances are pretty high! For service, participate in beach cleanups in the area in order to keep nesting sites as healthy as possible. You'll also learn about the Posidonia seagrass and support a local organization that conducts snorkeling mapping to further promote the conservation of this species.



# SAMPLE ITINERARY: DAILY BREAKDOWN

*Actual schedule of activities will vary by program session.* The information detailed here is typical for what you can expect to experience; however, service work and activities vary depending upon the needs of our local community partners, various celebrations and customs, as well as the weather and specific needs of the student group.



## DAY 1: WELCOME TO GREECE!

Welcome to Greece! GLA staff will meet you when you land in the Athens airport and we'll travel together to your new home away from home. Get settled into your room and relax as you start getting to know your fellow travelers. Enjoy your first Greek meal with your new friends and get plenty of rest as we have an exciting full day of activities tomorrow!

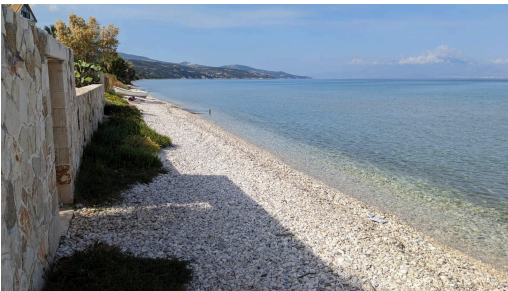
## DAY 2: ATHENS: ACROPOLIS & BIKE TOUR

After breakfast at the hotel, step outside into Athens proper to meet our guide. We'll spend the day visiting the modern city and exploring the ancient architecture that Athens has to offer, including the Acropolis, Panathinaiko Stadium, and the Temple of Olympian Zeus. To close our day, we'll embark on a bicycle tour around central Athens - the perfect speed at which to view the city; fast enough to get to new places, but slow enough to enjoy what you're seeing.



## DAY 3: TURTLE VISITOR CENTER & TRAVEL TO MESSENIA

We'll start the day by visiting a turtle visitor center in Athens. We'll learn about the conservation needs and challenges that organizations face around the country when trying to preserve these magnificent creatures. We'll then embark on a beautiful drive through the Peloponnese peninsula towards the Messenia region, our home for the next few days.



## DAY 4-7: TURTLES AND SERVICE

For the next 4 days we'll immerse ourselves in the work of turtle conservation, as well as the day-to-day life in the beautiful Messenia coastal region. You'll learn from local experts on how to rescue an injured sea turtle: this includes learning a series of knots as well as how to carry a turtle safely (using a dummy!). You'll practice these skills both on land and in the sea. You'll also have a few opportunities to snorkel in the area where turtles are seen most often - and while there's no guarantee that you'll see one, your chances are pretty high!



For service, you'll participate in beach cleanups in the area in order to keep nesting sites as healthy as possible. You'll also learn about the Posidonia seagrass and support a local organization that conducts snorkeling mapping to further promote the conservation of this species.





## DAY 8: ANCIENT OLYMPIA AND PATRAS

It's time to say goodbye to the Messenia region. Today we'll travel north towards Olympia - the most important religious and athletic center in ancient Greece. We'll end our day by visiting and spending the night in Patras, Greece's third largest city.

## DAYS 9-10: BEE FARM AND DELPHI ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

We'll start the day by embarking on a short drive towards a local bee farm. We'll tour the farm and learn all about bees and their importance in the local ecosystem. We'll put on our beekeeper suits and interact closely with the bees.

Next day we'll visit the world-renowned archaeological site of Delphi: a magnificent set of ruins built on a steep hill that include, among other sites, the Temple of Apollo. We'll end the day by driving back to Athens.

## DAY 11: LAST DAY IN ATHENS

Today we'll participate in a walking tour around the city led by members of an organization that works to improve the lives of the homeless population in Athens. In the afternoon we'll have time to buy souvenirs, pack, and have a closing activity as a group. At night we'll dress up and go out for a farewell dinner at a special location.

## DAY 12: DEPARTURES

Too soon, our trip to Greece has come to an end. We'll head to the airport after breakfast, staff will help get you checked in and see you off on your journey home.



## NOTICE ON PROGRAM UPDATES

Every year brings new and exciting opportunities for experiences we can offer students on our programs. While this program is being planned for 2024, some activities or details may change between now and the program start date. Please note that references from past participants and previously published information may not accurately reflect every aspect of this program. Refer to the sample itinerary above or to the GLA website for the most up-to-date version of program activities, and please note that further updates may be made between now and the program start date.

## TRAVELING TO GREECE

**CLIMATE** | Greece has a temperate climate, but there is some fluctuation in temperature and weather throughout the islands. For the most part, the temperature will be quite warm so make sure to pack plenty of light clothes. In the evenings it can cool down, so make sure to bring a layer or two!! Days will usually be in the mid 80's and sometimes up into the 90's. You'll receive a full packing list closer to your program start date.

**FOOD** | Greece is known for its amazing cuisine around the world. Expect lots of vegetables, olive oil, Greek yogurt, salads, feta cheese, and various types of meats. Greek dishes are delicious and packed with a variety of fresh and dried herbs.

# LEADERSHIP

Global Leadership Adventures started as an educational institute, so we continue to think and act like educators—not tour operators—as we deliver life-changing programs. We intentionally weave a leadership curriculum into the daily experience on our programs. Through group discussion, meaningful service, workshops, speakers and excursions, staff guide students to reflect on program events through the lens of leadership, and celebrate outstanding examples of leaders they encounter in the local community. Lending this context to the experience creates opportunities for students to dig deep into their vision, purpose and knowledge of themselves and the world.

## ABOUT GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ADVENTURES

**Global Leadership Adventures** was founded in 2003 by Fred Swaniker, a native of Ghana, TED Fellow and educational entrepreneur whose work has been praised by Barack Obama. Born as a global extension of the revolutionary African Leadership Academy, Global Leadership Adventures now operates programs centered around leadership, sustainable community service projects, and meaningful travel across Africa, Asia, Europe or the Americas. Through life-changing adventures, we strive to inspire the next generation to realize their potential to transform the world and their role in it.

GLA HAS BEEN FEATURED IN:

**The New York Times**

 **USA TODAY**

 **NBC NEWS**

**The Boston Globe**  
*seventeen*

## OUR EXPECTATIONS

### **Be present**

Our mission at GLA is “to inspire the next generation to realize their potential to transform the world and their role in it.” To that end, we expect GLA students to maintain high standards of personal behavior and to be open-minded. The culture may be different, sometimes shockingly so. GLA will challenge students as they are expected to work hard and be present physically and mentally for all activities. We also ask students to take a step back from regular use of technology - particularly their smartphones - so as to maximize their engagement with the program and their fellow participants. Students may get hot, dirty and bug-bitten along the way, but their contribution can transform the community. The goal is for each student to return home having had a life-changing experience.

### **No tolerance**

GLA has a no-tolerance policy towards drugs, alcohol, tobacco and disruptive behavior. Those who violate or are suspected of violating this policy will be immediately dismissed from the program at the sole discretion of GLA staff.

### **Community-Led experiences**

GLA makes every effort to offer thoughtfully crafted programs for teens and young adults. Detailed planning and exhaustive communications with partners are indispensable parts of our program development process. However, occasionally service and activities are adjusted from session to session, due to weather, changing needs of our local community partners and/or various cultural celebrations and customs. We expect participants to be open-minded and flexible, willing to embrace the experience when plans change. GLA makes every effort to communicate adjustments to students and families with advance notice. We expect you to be open-minded and flexible.

### **Mentorship**

GLA is not a therapy program. Our staff are highly skilled, professional, caring and fun, but they are not licensed therapists. GLA programs can be physically and emotionally demanding, and applicants should be in good physical and mental health.

## WE'RE HERE TO HELP

### Contact Us

Want to learn more about Global Leadership Adventures and our available programs? Our Admissions Team has expertise and insights into our slate of program offerings, and we're happy to answer any questions you might have. We have collectively visited or staffed many of our GLA programs around the world, and we have advice to share on everything from getting your travel documents together to what a typical day on a program is like. Call us at 1-858-771-0645 any time during office hours for assistance.

### Enroll Now

We encourage you to enroll on your 1st choice program as early as you can! In fact, our most popular programs fill early every year, and many students end up putting off the quick and easy application process only to end up on the waiting list. The best way to ensure that you save your spot is to place your deposit and apply early. You can easily enroll online at [www.experiencegla.com/enroll](http://www.experiencegla.com/enroll).