



TRIP GLOBAL

7 Days in Greece: Athens & Santorini Itinerary

Athens, Greece & Santorini, Greece · September · 7 days

Tailored for couples - includes romantic spots, intimate dining, and couple-friendly activities

Three days in Athens, starting with the Acropolis and the Ancient Agora, then four days in Oia on Santorini. Look forward to sunset at Oia's viewpoint, wine at Antoniou and Gaia, and a boat trip to Thirassia and the hot springs.

Open the interactive trip: live map, photos and links

Before you go: [Get a Greece eSIM: data on landing](#)

What this trip might cost, per person for 7 days, flights extra:
Budget \$510 · Mid-range \$840 · Comfort \$1,300
Opening hours, prices and transport change. Please double-check bookings and times before you go.

YOUR TRIP AT A GLANCE

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DAY 1

Acropolis, Philopappos and Dinner at Psaras

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AFTER THE LAST DAY

Before you go: Athens, Santorini

Acropolis, Philopappos and Dinner at Psaras

Arrival day: an easy start close to your stay

Sunrise 7:07 AM

Golden hour 7:01 PM

Sunset 7:36 PM

Your base for 3 nights: Plaka, Athens

Climb the Acropolis first, stop at the Theatre of Dionysus on the way down, then head up Philopappos Hill for the view and dinner at Psaras.

GO

12:00 PM · 1 hour

Athens International Airport 'Eleftherios Venizelos' to Plaka

Take the metro line 3 (blue) from the airport to Syntagma, then walk south 10 minutes into Plaka. Cost is 11 euros, journey about 50 minutes. Slower but cheapest and metro is efficient.

- Airport Express Bus (X95) · 1 hour · \$6.55 per person
- Metro (Line 3 to Syntagma, then walk) · 1.5 hours · \$11 per person
- Shared shuttle (online booking) · 45 minutes · \$20-25 per person

[Book a transfer](#)

PREFER A GUIDE? · 3 HOURS

Acropolis and Parthenon early-access tour

Beat the crowds with a guide who tells you what the ruins actually were, not just that they're old.

[Book this tour](#)

1



2:15 PM · 2 hours

Acropolis

\$22 per person for timed ticket · Open 8 AM-8 PM

Walk straight uphill from Plaka through ancient streets to the Acropolis entrance. The Parthenon is the core, but wander the slopes for quieter views and fewer crowds at 2 PM than later. Greek ticket: 14 euros.

Insider tip: Enter from the west side (Dionysiou Areopagitou entrance) and climb the steep marble steps first thing; the later you arrive, the more bodies clog the summit.

[Book tickets](#)

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

2

4:30 PM · 1 hour

Theatre of Dionysus

Included with Acropolis ticket · Open 8 AM-8 PM

Ancient Greek theatre below the Acropolis, often quieter than the main site and included with the Acropolis ticket. Sit in the stone seats and imagine 17,000 Athenians watching plays 2,400 years ago. A 5-minute walk downhill from the Acropolis.

Insider tip: Come here first if you're visiting the Acropolis early next morning; most tourists skip it, so you'll have the stones to yourself.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

DAY 1: ACROPOLIS, PHILOPAPPUS AND DINNER AT PSARAS (CONTINUED)

3

6:15 PM · 1.5 hours

Philopappos Monument viewpoint

Free

A short uphill walk from Plaka through pine trees to a marble monument overlooking the city. The view west toward the Acropolis silhouettes at sunset is golden-hour gold. Climb the steps inside the monument for a wider view. Free.

Insider tip: Arrive by 6:50 PM to catch the full sunset glow on the Acropolis; the light shifts fast, so don't linger in Plaka.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

4

8:00 PM · 1.5 hours

Psaras

\$27-38 per person for dinner · Open 6:30 PM-midnight

Family-run fish taverna tucked in a Plaka alley, with a tiny courtyard and honest grilled octopus, sea bream, and local white wine. About a 10-minute walk downhill from Philopappos, back into the lanes.

Insider tip: Ask the owner what fish came in today; order that grilled whole and a carafe of house white. Expect 30-40 euros per person.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

If you land early (optional, close to your stay, before the plan above)

Panathenaic Stadium: Ancient marble stadium 15 minutes' walk east from Plaka, built in 1896, host to the first modern Olympic Games. Peaceful in early morning before crowds.

National Garden of Athens: Quiet botanical refuge 10 minutes north of Plaka, full of pine and palm. A good breakfast-time walk if you arrive before 10 AM.

[Open Day 1 as a route in Google Maps](#)

DAY 1: ACROPOLIS, PHILOPAPPOS AND DINNER AT PSARAS (CONTINUED)

Where to stay in Plaka, Athens

Book a room in Plaka proper, between Adrianou Street and the Acropolis base: you're steps from ancient sites, the Plaka market, and the metro. Avoid the touristy north end near Syntagma; stick to the quieter lanes south of Ermou Street.

Hotel Acropolis House

Budget · Guesthouse · \$

Family-run Plaka guesthouse, steep stairs, character. Rooftop breakfast, no frills, friendly owners.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)

Plaka Hotel

Mid-range · Hotel · \$\$

Heart of Plaka, rooftop bar with Acropolis views. Renovated rooms, helpful staff, good value.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)

Electra Palace Athens

Mid-range · Hotel · \$\$

Plaka location, rooftop pool and bar. Steps from museums and agora ruins.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)

Fresh Hotel

Mid-range · Hotel · \$\$

Psyrri edge, rooftop restaurant and bar. Modern comfort, neighbourhood vibe.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)

Hotel Grande Bretagne

Luxury · Hotel · \$\$\$

Syntagma edge, Acropolis views from rooms, mid-range splurge. Walk to Plaka in 5min.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)[All stays in Plaka, Athens](#)[Holiday rentals](#)

Where to eat

Kostas Souvlaki

Greek Street Food · Lunch · \$

Tiny, standing-room counter near Monastiraki. Pork souvlaki with pita, tzatziki, onions. Skip chains.

[Google Maps >](#)

Ama Lachei

Modern Greek · Dinner · \$\$

Plaka side street, white walls, thoughtful cooking. Horta salad, grilled fish, local wine. Book ahead.

[Google Maps >](#)

TOURS & DAY TRIPS FROM ATHENS

FULL DAY

Santorini day trip with Oia sunset

You get the caldera views, the iconic sunset moment, and a proper dinner in Oia without the hassle of overnight logistics.

[Book now](#)

4-5 HOURS

Caldera boat trip with swimming

Cruise past volcanic cliffs, stop at Nea Kameni to swim in warm volcanic springs, and float past Palea Kameni for the geothermal mud.

[Book now](#)

DAY 1: ACROPOLIS, PHILOPAPPOS AND DINNER AT PSARAS (CONTINUED)

HALF DAY

Winery tour and tasting in Attica

Small producers make excellent Assyrtiko and Agiorgitiko wines outside the tourist markup; the views over vineyards to the sea are the bonus.

[Book now](#)

3 HOURS

Street food and neighbourhood walk in Psyrri

Local chef shows you where to find proper meze, teaches you about the neighbourhood's art scene, and you eat as you go.

[Book now](#)

Ancient Agora and an Evening in Plaka

Sunrise 7:07 AM

Golden hour 7:01 PM

Sunset 7:36 PM

Sleep in Plaka, Athens · night 2 of 3

Spend the morning at the Ancient Agora and the Stoa of Attalos Museum, then wander Plaka's lanes and stay for dinner.

1

10:45 AM · 1.5 hours

Ancient Agora of Athens

\$15 per person for entry · Open 8 AM-8 PM

Walk where Socrates debated and Athenians voted. The Temple of Hephaestus is the star: a near-perfect ancient building. It's a short walk north from the museum.

Insider tip: Skip the museum inside the Agora; the temples and colonnades are the real draw. Walk the whole perimeter for full context.

[Book tickets](#)
[Open in Google Maps >](#)

2

12:15 PM · 45 minutes

Stoa of Attalos Museum

Included with Ancient Agora ticket · Open 8 AM-8 PM

Small, quieter museum inside the restored Stoa. Pottery, coins, and everyday objects tell a better story than big pieces. It's steps from where you're standing in the Agora.

Insider tip: The courtyard is a rare shaded spot in central Athens. Sit here and grab a coffee before lunch.

[Book tickets](#)
[Open in Google Maps >](#)

3

7:00 PM · 2 hours

Plaka evening stroll and dinner

\$22-33 per person for dinner

Wander the backstreets and narrow staircases of Plaka as the light softens. Pick a small taverna on a quiet corner for dinner. Walk down from Philopappos (15 minutes) or take the bus back.

Insider tip: Walk along Adrianou Street just after sunset. The lit doorways and ivy-covered walls feel intimate. Eat where you see Greeks, not tour groups.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)
[Open Day 2 as a route in Google Maps](#)

DAY 2: ANCIENT AGORA AND AN EVENING IN PLAKA (CONTINUED)

Where to eat

Avli Tou Psyrri

Greek mezze and small plates · Breakfast · \$\$

Cosy courtyard spot. Order Greek yogurt with honey and walnuts, fresh orange juice.

[Google Maps >](#)

O Thanasis

Greek taverna · Lunch · \$

No-fuss classic near the Agora. Grilled lamb chops and horta (boiled greens). Sit outside.

[Google Maps >](#)

Kuzina

Modern Greek · Dinner · \$\$

Rooftop terrace overlooks Acropolis at dusk. Order slow-cooked lamb and local wine.

[Google Maps >](#)

Syntagma, the Benaki Museum and the National Library

Sunrise 7:07 AM

Golden hour 7:01 PM

Sunset 7:36 PM

Sleep in Plaka, Athens · night 3 of 3

A slower day in central Athens: start at Syntagma Square, spend time in the Benaki Museum, then see the Attica Department Store and the National Library.

1

8:00 AM · 1 hour

Syntagma Square

Free

The grand neoclassical plaza anchors Athens' political life. Watch the Evzone guards change (on the hour), admire the Parliament building's Doric columns, and grab coffee at a side cafe. A 15-minute walk or short metro ride from Plaka.

Insider tip: Arrive just before 11:00 AM for the official guard change; the 8:00 AM one is shorter.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

2

9:15 AM · 2 hours

Book ahead

Benaki Museum

\$15 per person · Open 10 AM-6 PM

Four floors of Greek art and design from antiquity to now, with far fewer queues than the Acropolis Museum. The rooftop cafe overlooks the Acropolis and Lycabettus Hill. On Syntagma, a 5-minute walk north.

Insider tip: Book tickets online to skip the line. Hit the rooftop first for morning light and fewer people.

[Book tickets](#)
[Open in Google Maps >](#)

3



11:30 AM · 1.5 hours

Attica Department Store

Free to browse · Open 10 AM-9 PM

A local institution since 1914, not a tourist trap. Wander the food hall on the ground floor for charcuterie, cheese, and pastries, then grab lunch at a standing-room counter. A 10-minute walk south from Syntagma.

Insider tip: Skip the retail floors. Go straight to the food hall and order a feta and honey pastry with coffee.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

4

1:30 PM · 1.5 hours

National Library of Greece

Free · Open 9 AM-8 PM

Modern building with stunning views from the rooftop terrace over Athens and towards the Acropolis. Quieter than museums, with a good cafe. A 15-minute walk or metro ride west from Syntagma.

Insider tip: Head straight up to the rooftop; it's free and the views beat most tourist viewpoints.

[Book tickets](#)
[Open in Google Maps >](#)

Open Day 3 as a route in Google Maps

Where to eat

Tzitzikas and Mermigas

Greek · Lunch · \$\$

Packed with locals. Order saganaki, lamb meatballs, horta. Skip tourist spots.

[Google Maps >](#)

Ama Lachei

Greek · Dinner · \$\$

Small plates, natural wines. Fish, greens, feta. Syntagma side street gem.

[Google Maps >](#)

Oia Main Street, Amoudi Bay and Sunset

Sunrise 7:01 AM

Golden hour 6:54 PM

Sunset 7:28 PM

Your base for 4 nights: Oia, Santorini

Walk Oia's main street, go down to Amoudi Bay, then come back up for sunset at the viewpoint and dinner at Sunset Restaurant.

GO

11:30 AM · 2 hours 30 minutes

Athens International Airport Eleftherios Venizelos to Oia

One-hour flight on Aegean Airlines or Sky Express (EUR 40-70 one way). Land at Santorini Airport; take the public bus (EUR 1.80) to Oia, 15km north. Total travel time about 2.5 hours.

- Bus and Ferry (most budget) · 3.5-4 hours total · \$25-35 per person
- Ferry only (from Rafina port) · 2.5 hours · \$40-50 per person
- Flight (fastest) · 1 hour flight + transfers · \$80-120 per person

[Compare flights](#)

1

2:00 PM · 1 hour 30 minutes

Oia Main Street

Free

The village's heart: a narrow pedestrian lane with white-washed houses, blue domes, galleries and cafes cascading down the cliff. Get your bearings, grab a coffee, and soak in the light. Start from the main entrance (bus stop) and wander downhill toward the caldera.

Insider tip: Walk down now while the crowds are light; most of Oia empties out by 3pm before the sunset rush.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

2

3:45 PM · 1 hour 30 minutes

Amoudi Bay

Free

A postcard cove at the foot of Oia's cliffs with a small pebble beach, tavernas and a natural pool for a dip. Descend the steep stairs from the village (300+ steps). Perfect for a late-afternoon swim before dinner.

Insider tip: Swim early; by 5pm the light turns too harsh. The water is warmest in September, around 26°C.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

3

6:45 PM · 1 hour

Oia Sunset Viewpoint

Free

The most famous vantage point in Greece: the caldera drops away to your left, and the sun sinks into the Aegean in shades of pink and gold. Position yourself 20 minutes before sunset (7:28 PM) to claim a spot on the cliff-edge or a restaurant terrace.

Insider tip: Skip the main promenade; head to the quieter corner south of the central square near the Church of Panagia for fewer crowds and clearer sightlines.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

4

7:45 PM · 2 hours

Book ahead

Sunset Restaurant Oia

\$33-55 per person for dinner · Open 7:45 PM onwards

A casual, mid-range spot right on the caldera edge with grilled fish, salade horiatiki and cold Assyrtiko wine. Book a table overlooking the cliffs and time it for just after sunset when the sky turns purple and the lights of the town flicker on below.

Insider tip: Reserve ahead via phone or walk in around 7:45pm; sunset is the busiest time, but the restaurant keeps serving well into the evening.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

PREFER A GUIDE? · 2-3 HOURS

Private couple's dinner with views

Book a taverna with a caldera-facing table for two (not a group table); Amoudi Bay near Oia has excellent seafood at less touristy prices.

Book this tour

Open Day 4 as a route in Google Maps

Where to stay in Oia, Santorini

Book a room or studio in central Oia, uphill from Amoudi Bay. You're steps from the sunset viewpoint, the main pedestrian street for dinner, and the morning light hits the white cliffs best from here.

Chelidonia Rooms

Budget · Guesthouse · \$

Budget clifftop rooms with shared terrace. Basic but the views and location are all you need. Book months ahead.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)

Kapari Rooms

Budget · Guesthouse · \$

Simple, clean rooms slightly back from main square. Budget-friendly Oia option.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)

Tzortzopoulos Rooms

Budget · Guesthouse · \$

Family-run, simple and clean. Central Oia location, excellent value.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)

Oia Mare Villas

Mid-range · Guesthouse · \$\$

Family-run clifftop rooms with caldera balconies. No pool but sunset views from terrace are your evening entertainment.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)

Ikies Traditional Houses

Mid-range · Guesthouse · \$\$

Cave dwellings with private pools. Sunset visible from your terrace. Steps from the caldera rim.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)

Oia's Sunset Rooms

Mid-range · Guesthouse · \$\$

Traditional blue-domed room in main village. Sunset view from terrace included.

[Book now](#)[Google Maps >](#)[All stays in Oia, Santorini](#)[Holiday rentals](#)

Where to eat

Kastro Restaurant

Greek Mediterranean · Lunch · \$\$

Perched on the cliff edge. Order grilled octopus and local Assyrtiko wine. Arrive by 1pm before the crowds.

[Google Maps >](#)

1800

Modern Greek · Dinner · \$\$

Reserve a table facing the caldera. Try the fava (yellow split pea dip) and lamb in tomato. Eat by 7pm for pre-sunset light.

[Google Maps >](#)

DAY 4: OIA MAIN STREET, AMOUDI BAY AND SUNSET (CONTINUED)

TOURS & DAY TRIPS FROM SANTORINI

4 HOURS

Caldera sunset cruise with swimming

You'll anchor near hot springs, swim in the warm volcanic water at sunset, and see the caldera from the water rather than overlooking it.

[Book now](#)

4-5 HOURS

Santorini wine tasting tour

Visit two or three family-run wineries in the volcanic interior, taste Assyrtiko and Vinsanto, and skip the tourist wine bars in town.

[Book now](#)

3-4 HOURS

Fira to Oia cliff walk

The most romantic walk on the island, hugging the caldera edge with views that get better every 20 minutes; start early to avoid afternoon heat.

[Book now](#)

HALF DAY

Red Beach and ancient Akrotiri day trip

The red volcanic sand is unique, the water's warm, and the Bronze Age ruins next door give you history without the Fira crowds.

[Book now](#)

Fira and Sunset from Central Oia

Sunrise 7:01 AM

Golden hour 6:54 PM

Sunset 7:28 PM

Sleep in Oia, Santorini · night 2 of 4

Take a day trip to Fira, come back to Oia for sunset from the viewing platform, and have dinner at Roka.

1

10:30 AM · 2.5 hours

Fira

Free

The administrative heart of Santorini has its own quiet charm away from Oia's circus. Walk the main square, duck into the archaeological museum if you want a quick indoor break, then grab lunch at a proper local taverna with no tour groups. A 15-minute bus ride or taxi from Oia (EUR 3-5).

Insider tip: Eat at Faverna, a family-run spot one block back from the main square. Order the stifado (beef stew) and local wine.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

2

6:15 PM · 1.5 hours

Sunset viewing platform (central Oia)

Free

The famous spot everyone queues for. Yes, it's packed. But it's packed because the view is real and the moment matters, especially for a honeymoon. Arrive by 6:15 PM to claim a decent spot; the terrace fills fast after 6:45 PM. From the castle ruins, walk down to the main shopping street and follow the crowds to the central platform (5 mins).

Insider tip: Bring a small bottle of wine from your room. The terraces sell overpriced bottles (EUR 25+). Settle in early and watch the light change for 45 minutes before the sun hits the horizon.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

3

8:00 PM · 2 hours

Book ahead

Roka Restaurant

\$38-55 per person for dinner · Open 8:00 PM onwards

Dinner after the sunset, while the sky is still burning pink and orange. Sits on the caldera rim with an honest kitchen and a short, local wine list. Book a table for around 8 PM so you eat in the afterglow. Walk from the sunset platform (2 mins) or from your accommodation.

Insider tip: Reserve ahead by calling or asking your hotel. Request a table on the terrace. Order the grilled octopus and whatever fish is fresh that day.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

Open Day 5 as a route in Google Maps

DAY 5: FIRA AND SUNSET FROM CENTRAL OIA (CONTINUED)

Where to eat

Mama Thira

Greek · Lunch · \$\$

Quiet taverna off the main square. Order horta and grilled octopus, eat on the terrace.

[Google Maps >](#)

Astra Cafe

Mezze and Greek · Dinner · \$\$

Book a table facing the caldera for sunset. Saganaki and local wine. Reserve by 4pm.

[Google Maps >](#)

Antoniou Winery, Perivolos Beach and Gaia Winery

Sunrise 7:01 AM

Golden hour 6:54 PM

Sunset 7:28 PM

Sleep in Oia, Santorini · night 3 of 4

Taste wine at Antoniou, take a long beach break at Perivolos, then finish the afternoon at Gaia Winery.

1

9:45 AM · 1.5 hours

Book ahead

Antoniou Winery

\$22-27 per person for tasting · Open 10:00 AM-6:00 PM

Small family winery perched on the caldera rim with views across the volcanic landscape. Taste four local wines (assyrτικο, vinsanto) in a quiet cellar, learn how volcanic soil shapes Santorini's unique style. Take the 9:30 AM bus from Oia (line 3, 15 minutes to Kamari direction, ask the driver for Antoniou). Book ahead for the 10:00 AM tasting.

Insider tip: Go hungry. Pair wines with local cheese and olive bread from the winery's small pantry.

[Book tickets](#)
[Open in Google Maps >](#)

2

1:00 PM · 2 hours

Perivolos Beach

Free

Black volcanic sand, shallow warm water, and far fewer tourists than Kamari next door. Rent sunbeds and an umbrella, swim for an hour, then grab lunch at the taverna behind the beach. From Antoniou, catch the 12:15 PM bus toward Kamari (5 minutes), walk left along the main road for 3 minutes.

Insider tip: The water's warmest on the east-facing shore. Lunch here is cheap and good: grilled octopus or simple moussaka.

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

3

4:00 PM · 1.5 hours

Book ahead

Gaia Winery

\$20-24 per person for tasting · Open 11:00 AM-6:00 PM

Modern winery with a dramatic tasting room overlooking vines and caldera. Taste five wines including a premium assyrτικο and late-harvest vinsanto, learn about the winemaker's philosophy. Return bus from Perivolos to central Kamari (10 minutes), then a taxi uphill to Gaia (5 minutes, 8-10 euros). Book the 4:00 PM tasting.

Insider tip: Ask to sit on the terrace. The 5pm light is soft and golden; the view is worth the tasting alone.

[Book tickets](#)
[Open in Google Maps >](#)
[Open Day 6 as a route in Google Maps](#)

DAY 6: ANTONIOU WINERY, PERIVOLOS BEACH AND GAIA WINERY (CONTINUED)

Where to eat

Thalami

Greek mezze · Lunch · \$\$

Casual spot in Kamari. Order saganaki and grilled octopus after wine tasting.

[Google Maps >](#)

1800-Floga

Greek seafood · Dinner · \$\$\$

Perched on Oia cliffs. Reserve ahead. Fava dip and grilled fish at sunset time.

[Google Maps >](#)

Caldera Boat Trip and Kamari Beach

Sunrise 7:01 AM

Golden hour 6:54 PM

Sunset 7:28 PM

Sleep in Oia, Santorini · night 4 of 4

Sail the caldera to Thirassia and the hot springs, then relax at Kamari Beach and have a last dinner at 1800 Voted Restaurant.

1

8:30 AM · 4 hours

Book ahead

Caldera Boat Trip (Thirassia and Hot Springs)

\$49-71 per person · Open 8:30 AM start (4-5 hours)

The honeymoon essential. A morning departure from Amoudi Bay takes you across the caldera, stops at Thirassia island for swimming, then to the hot springs near Palea Kameni where you'll float in warm mineral water surrounded by volcanic rock. Back by early afternoon. Book with a local operator the night before or ask your hotel.

Insider tip: Bring reef shoes for the hot springs rocks and sunscreen that won't wash off. The water is warm but salty.

Book tickets

Open in Google Maps >

2

1:00 PM · 2.5 hours

Kamari Beach

Free

A black sand beach on the east coast with calmer water and fewer crowds than the red sand beaches. You'll arrive here late afternoon after the boat trip. It's a 20-minute drive or bus ride from Oia, perfect for a final swim and to rinse off the mineral water. Tavernas line the shore.

Insider tip: The southern end near the ruins is quieter. Order grilled fish at one of the tavernas and eat with your feet in the sand.

Open in Google Maps >

3

6:00 PM · 2 hours

Book ahead

1800 Voted Restaurant

\$44-65 per person for dinner · Open 6:00 PM onwards

Return to Oia by 5 PM. This rooftop restaurant sits at the cliff edge with an unobstructed caldera and sunset view. Book a table for 6 PM, order light plates (saganaki, grilled octopus, local cheese), and watch the light change from gold to pink to purple. The sunset ritual ends here, not in a crowded square.

Insider tip: Ask for the corner table when you book. The saganaki is fried on the spot. Book ahead or call at 4 PM to secure a sunset slot.

Open in Google Maps >

Open Day 7 as a route in Google Maps

DAY 7: CALDERA BOAT TRIP AND KAMARI BEACH (CONTINUED)

Where to eat

Fira Taverna

Greek · Breakfast · \$

Spanakopita and coffee before your boat. Local spot, no tourists yet.

[Google Maps >](#)

Amoudi Bay Taverna

Greek seafood · Lunch · \$\$

Sit on the rocks post-swim. Grilled octopus and white wine, sea views.

[Google Maps >](#)

1800 Floga

Mediterranean · Dinner · \$\$

Back in Oia. Fava dip and lamb. Reserve a table, not the sunset terrace.

[Google Maps >](#)

What's the best time to watch the Oia sunset?

Arrive by 6:30pm in summer; sunset is around 7:20pm in September. The main terrace is mobbed. Instead, position yourselves on the quiet side stairs (head up the narrow lane to the right of the main square) for better photos and breathing room.

Which caldera boat trip should I book?

Book a small-group morning or afternoon trip (not the massive dinner cruises). Anemi Tours and Caldera View offer 4-5 hour cruises with swimming at Nea Kameni and Palea Kameni hot springs, plus wine tasting and lunch, around EUR 60-75 per person.

Where should I stay for the best honeymoon vibe?

In Athens, stay near Syntagma or Plaka for walkability. In Santorini, book a small hotel or villa in Oia or Firostefani (less touristy than central Oia) with a caldera view. Book ahead; September is still peak season on the islands.

Will I need to book popular restaurants ahead?

Book Oia restaurants for sunset dining 1-2 days ahead via phone or email. In Athens, local tavernas in Psyrri and Gazi take walk-ins, but arrive by 8:30pm before they fill up.

What's the weather like in Athens in September?

Expect 28-32°C (82-90°F) and almost no rain. Pack light cotton clothes, sunscreen you'll actually reapply, and a thin layer for evenings when the temperature drops.

Do people speak English in Athens?

Spoken here: Greek. English is solid in hotels, restaurants, and tourist areas. You'll hit patches in local neighbourhoods where it thins out, but people are patient.

Useful phrases:

- Kalispéra (kah-lees-PEHR-ah): Good evening
- Efharistó (eh-fah-rees-TOH): Thank you
- To logharíasmó, parakaló (toh lo-gah-REE-ahs-moh pah-rah-kah-LOH): The bill, please
- Kalí horá (kah-LEE HOR-ah): Enjoy your meal
- Óchi (OH-hee): No

Is Athens safe for visitors?

Athens is generally safe, but watch your bag on crowded metro cars and avoid Omonia Square late at night. The one real thing to know: petty theft on public transport happens.

What's the emergency number in Greece?

Call 112 for police, ambulance or fire. It's free and works from any phone, including a foreign mobile.

Do you tip in Greece?

Round up to the nearest euro or leave 5-10% at restaurants if the service was solid. Taxis: not expected, but loose change is fine. Tip in cash, not card.

BEFORE YOU GO (CONTINUED)

What do only locals know about Athens?

- Skip the Plaka tourist restaurants and eat where locals do: head to Psyrri or Gazi for better food at half the price.
- The Acropolis at sunrise (6.30am-7am) gets you in before the heat and the tour groups.
- Hop on a ferry to Hydra or Aegina for a proper beach day and lunch on the water without flying to Santorini.
- Visit a local winery in Attica (30 mins from the city) instead of paying tourist markups in town.

BEFORE YOU GO: SANTORINI

When exactly is the best time to watch the sunset in Oia?

The sun sets around 7.15pm in early September, 7pm by month's end. Arrive by 4pm to claim a spot; if you're there for sunset, you're there too late. The light show starts 20 minutes before.

Which caldera boat trip should we do?

Book a small-group afternoon cruise that includes Nea Kameni (the volcanic island), a swim in the hot springs, and Palea Kameni. Skip the mega-boat tours. Cost is EUR 45-60 per person and takes 4-5 hours.

What's the best beach for September?

Kamari or Perivolos on the east coast: warmer, less crowded than Perissa, and the water's still 25-26°C (77-79°F). Vlychada is emptier but less swimmable; it's better for the drama of the red cliffs.

Do we need to book restaurants ahead?

Only if you want dinner in Oia at 8.30pm. For tavernas elsewhere, walk in before 8pm or after 9.30pm. Lunch spots rarely need a booking; go between 1-3pm.

What's the weather like in Santorini in September?

Expect 25-28°C (77-82°F) with low humidity and almost no rain. Pack light clothes, sunscreen (the sun reflects off white buildings), a thin layer for breezy evenings, and comfortable walking shoes for cobbled streets.

Do people speak English in Santorini?

Spoken here: Greek. English is widely spoken in tourist areas, less so in smaller villages and tavernas away from the main routes.

Useful phrases:

- Kalispéra (kah-lee-SPEH-rah): Good evening
- Efharistó (eh-fah-ree-STOH): Thank you
- To logariásmó, parakaló (toh loh-gah-ree-AHS-moh pah-rah-kah-LOH): The bill, please
- Yíamas (YAH-mas): Cheers
- Pó's ta skiniá (pohs tah skee-NEE-ah): How are things?

Is Santorini safe for visitors?

Santorini is very safe. Watch your footing on steep, narrow streets, especially after dark or with a few glasses of local wine.

BEFORE YOU GO (CONTINUED)

What's the emergency number in Greece?

Call 112 for police, ambulance or fire. It's free and works from any phone, including a foreign mobile.

Do you tip in Greece?

Tipping isn't expected but is appreciated. Leave 5-10% at restaurants if the service was good, or round up the bill. Tap on card machines are becoming common; the suggested amounts are often high, so adjust down if you prefer.

What do only locals know about Santorini?

- Book Oia's sunset spot by 6pm at the latest, ideally by 5.30pm; sit on the edge with a drink rather than standing in the packed square.
- Skip the pricey main caldera boat tours and instead take the local ferry from Athinios port to Thirassia Island for a quieter, cheaper day on the water.
- Eat your main meal at lunch when tavernas offer better prices and fresher fish; dinner in the tourist zones is marked up significantly.
- Walk the cliff paths between villages (Fira to Oia is stunning) early morning or late afternoon to avoid the heat and crowds.