

## Travel Suggestions

### Travel Documents

Make copies of the following 7 documents listed below

- leave the copies at home with your parents, and
  - bring the originals with you.
1. Passport (Make 3 copies of the page with your photo on. Leave one copy with your parents, give one to Dr. Janavaras, and take one with you).
  2. International Student ID card.
  3. Driver's License.
  4. Credit Card(s). Contact your credit card company and let them know that you are going to Greece.
  5. Airfare ticket (Note: check-in for international flights--3 hours prior to departure).
    - Be certain to bring your frequent flyer card or number with you to provide to the attendant at your check-in: you will earn approximately 11,000 miles for this trip. Currently, NWA offers a free flight, once a passenger travels 25,000 miles on the airline.
  6. Flying Schedule.
  7. Itinerary.

### Personal

1. Personal medications.
2. Personal care items (cheaper to bring with you than purchasing in Greece).
3. Food (treats... for the flight and airport in Amsterdam).
4. Camera/film.
5. European Converter with a transformer (hair dryer, etc.).

**NOTE: Do not bring any knives (even Swiss), nail files, or other sharp items on board the plane: if these items are in any carryon purses, luggage, etc., the objects will be confiscated at the check-in if you try to bring them onboard the plane. Put these items in your luggage than you will check-in at the check-in counter.**

### Attire

1. Jeans / sweat shirts / sweaters / (leather jacket!) for **Travel**. (The Europeans dress up more than U.S. For example: Women wear boots and nice sweaters, men wear nice pants and a collared shirt or sweater).
2. Sport Coat/suit/tie for **business meetings**.

### **Weather:**

It should be sunny and the temperatures should range around 65-75 degrees.

The water may be on the cool side for swimming purposes.

### Spending Money/Euros

1. You may need around 30 Euros per day for personal spending, depending on your life style! You should take a credit card with you (Visa, Master Card, and Am. Express). Shopping in Greece is fun and prices are very reasonable! Bring your money!
2. **You should purchase a few Euros, two weeks prior to departure**, from a bank with an international department such as Wells Fargo and US Bank (I would recommend a **minimum of 100 Euros**. When in Greece, you can get more from ATMs using your credit card).
3. A good number of shops are small and do not want to pay the bank fee for credit cards for small purchases (they get charged a fee of 3% of the purchase). Therefore, such shops will not accept credit cards. So if you want to shop at small stores make sure that you have Euros with you.
4. **Make sure that your credit card company knows that you're going to Greece** and how long, so they don't block your account (They may think that your card was stolen).
5. Check with your bank about extra fees for using credit and debit cards in other countries.
6. Phone cards to call the USA can be purchased rather cheaply in Greece. However, do not use them in hotel rooms if they charge for phone use. Use them from outside payphones. (Make sure to get the right card for calling outside of the country. It is also best to get the cards in Greece).

### Customs

1. If you bring a laptop with you, you may want to tell customs it's yours even if you got it from a friend that you trust. (They will keep you at the airport until they contact the person you got it from, even if it takes days to verify that you have permission to use it).
2. If you have metal items like belts, buckles on boots, can of deodorant etc., it is best to pack them in your bags and not bring them on the plane. (If you set off the metal detectors at the airports you will be searched, and it gets very personal!!)
3. In the U.S., you have to take off your shoes at the airport, so you may want to wear shoes that are easy to get off.
4. You do not need to worry about Greek Customs, because you will go through EU Customs in Amsterdam.
5. If you are under 21 years old and bring any beer, wine, etc. into the U.S. from Greece, customs may take it away when you check in through Customs in the U.S. (So if you bring back alcoholic beverages as gifts for friends and family, you may want to have someone over 21 to bring it in for you).
6. When coming back to the U.S. and going through customs you may want to write on the customs form a total amount you spent and not an itemized list of what you got in Greece. (Because they may want to go through everything to make sure you

put the right price on each item and this could take a long time, but with just a total amount this is less likely.)

### **Behavior**

1. Be on time. If you are late you may miss the Tour Bus, Cruise or Flight!(you must be there at least one and a half hours before the flight, or they will not let you on it!!)
2. You are expected to act responsibly, professionally and in a business-like manner.
3. Respect the local culture, customs and traditions.
4. Excessive drinking, boisterous and arrogant behavior is discouraged and will not be tolerated (As the ancient Greeks said: **“NOTHING IN EXCESS” & “KNOW THY SELF”!**!).
5. Keep a low profile and avoid politics but socialize with the locals. Greeks love life and like to have fun!
6. Learn a few Greek words and Phrases. It makes the World of Difference.
7. Learn as much as you can about Greece before departure

### **The Greeks**

1. Greeks are very sociable, hospitable and love to party (dance!), but they do not have to drink to have fun.
2. They also stay out late at night...a little different life style so to speak!
3. They are very family oriented, love their country and are very proud of their rich heritage and culture.
4. They are more formal than Americans.
5. They love to argue/debate, question and engage in geopolitical discussion.
6. They love sports...soccer, basketball (baseball is gaining in popularity).
7. On the Low to High Context Culture continuum, Greeks are positioned in the upper half.
8. They have friendly relations with other countries in the area and are working on getting along with the Turks and all other minorities, especially after the war in Kosovo.