

Centre for Continuing Education

The Greek Islands, an easel and you

with Michael Winters



The Ochre House, Leros, gouache by Michael Winters

**Proposed itinerary of art activities, on
the Greek islands Leros, Patmos & Lipsos,
conducted by artist Michael Winters,
17 days, 13-29 June 2010
Cost: \$5192 per person (twin share) land
content only**

(as at 30 June 2009 and subject to change when 2010 prices are available)

Travel arranged through

Active Travel Pty Ltd.

ACT Licence No. 18800213

Phone: (02) 6249 6122

Proposed itinerary of art activities.

For the days we will spend in Athens I suggest the use of a visual diary and the use of pencil and coloured pencil, easy mediums to use and to carry.

Day 1

Depart Sydney/Melbourne/Brisbane to Athens (flights not included in tour cost)

Day 2

Early morning arrival into Athens. You will be met and transferred to your Athens hotel. Hotel check-in is not until 14:00 but tour guests will be able to leave their bags and have a light breakfast at the hotel before departing on an easy tour of Cape Sounion - driving along the coast road, past the popular beaches of Glyfada, Vouliagmeni and Varkiza to the southern-most point of Attica, Cape Sounion, where the white marble pillars of the Temple of Poseidon stand. On the way, enjoy a splendid view of the Saronic Gulf and the small islands offshore.

As tour guests will be tired from their travel to Greece this evening is at leisure.

Overnight: Plaka Hotel or similar
Meals: Light breakfast and dinner

Day 3

After breakfast, you will be taken on an introductory tour of Athens. Starting at Constitution Square (Syntagma) in the centre of the City, see the Houses of Parliament, the Memorial to the Unknown Soldier and the National Library. Drive down Herod Atticus Street, past the Presidential Palace guarded by the famous Evzones. See Hadrian's Arch, visit the Temple of the Olympian Zeus and make a short stop at the Panathenaic Stadium. Finally, visit Athens' crowning glory, the Acropolis and a visit to the Museum of the Acropolis completes this tour.

Afternoon at leisure.

This evening you will be met and driven to the port of Piraeus, passing by the Zeas Marina, a haven for private yachts, and a short stop at the famous Mikrolimano where you will enjoy a drink of ouzo with Greek appetizers. Then you will drive back to Athens, to the old area of Plaka, for dinner in a typical Greek Tavern with bouzouki music and Greek Folk Dances. This evening will finish at midnight.

Overnight: Plaka Hotel or similar
Meals: Breakfast

Day 4

Early this morning you will be met and transferred to Athens Airport for your flight to Leros. On arrival in Leros you will catch a taxi or transfer to your hotel in Alinda. Once at the hotel and rested a short walk to nearby vantage points will be undertaken to orientate people and give some overview of the island. A drawing project will be undertaken, close to the hotel, paying attention to the village and the Crusader Castle. A late afternoon walk to the nearby Belleni Castle Museum, will finish the day. The Museum is housed in a castle built by a wealthy Egyptian Greek as his summer home.

Overnight: Hotel Marilen
Meals: Breakfast and lunch

Day 5

A bus tour of the island will take place to allow people to see the islands various realities. Midway through the tour we will spend some time at the islands main port, Lakki, while there a series of watercolour studies will be done of the ports architecture. This part of the island was totally rebuilt during the Italian occupation of the island and offers examples of Neo Fascist architecture. We will then drive to the main village, visit the Crusader castle then spend time wandering the village, sketch book in hand.

Overnight: **Hotel Marilen**
Meals: **Breakfast**

Day 6

A half day of artistic activity, spent in the village, the day will be spent using a range of black and white mediums, concentrating on architectural details of the village.

Overnight: **Hotel Marilen**
Meals: **Breakfast**

Day 7

A full day of artistic activity, spent at Pandelli, one of the islands fishing villages. Pandelli also offers a small beach, for those who would enjoy a swim. The artistic purpose of the day is to use water based materials and to pay attention to both the fishing fleet as well as the panorama that includes glimpses of the neighbouring island of Kalymnos. Lunch could be taken on the beach.

Overnight: **Hotel Marilen**
Meals: **Breakfast and lunch**

Day 8 - Sunday 20 May 2007

A day trip to the nearby island of Patmos and its historical monastery. As well as a visit to the monastery, time will also be spent wandering the village that surrounds the monastery. The village, because of its closeness to the monastery and its religious importance, is kept free of modern intrusions, such as advertising and gives an atmosphere of being untouched. Time will be put aside, to draw using coloured pencil and pen to record elements of both the monastery and the village. Patmos is also the part time home of Canberra artist Frank Knight, known for his illustrations of Australian fauna. Should Frank be on Patmos at the time, we will pay him a visit. Leros can be seen from Patmos, so some watercolour studies of the panorama will be undertaken.

Overnight: **Hotel Marilen**
Meals: **Breakfast**

Day 9

A half day of artistic activity, spent on the waterfront at Agia Marina. Agia Marina offers many aspects of the village, from the curve of the bay and the mountains opposite, to the jumble of houses as they spread down the hillside. The mediums for the day will be dry mediums, that of pencil and coloured pencil, to allow people to record the architectural groupings of the houses to the landscape forms that surround them. Also, we will visit the Archaeological Museum of Leros, which is in walking distance from Agia Marina.

Overnight: **Hotel Marilen**
Meals: **Breakfast**

Day 10

A full day of artistic activity. Basing ourselves at a friends' house in an area known as Rachi, which is situated on the spine of the island and offers views of the island in all directions, a series of water based works will be undertaken, to allow people to take with them, works that portray an overview of the islands various typographies. Also, we will undertake a walk to the village from Rachi, that allows you to see the village from various positions.

Overnight: **Hotel Marilen**
Meals: **Breakfast**

Day 11

A half day of artistic activities. The time will spent at a more remote part of the island, Blefouti, it offers a bay of bright blue and a sense of little habitation. The aim of the day is a series of both pencil drawings and water colours, to capture both the landscape and the blueness of the sea.

Overnight: **Hotel Marilen**
Meals: **Breakfast and lunch**

Day 12

A day trip, to the small, nearby island of Lipsos. The island has few cars and only one village and also allows for easy walks. I would envisage a series of small drawings being done using, both pencil and coloured pencil as well as watercolour. The drawings should set out to both capture the architectural detail of the village as well as the islands landscape.

Overnight: **Hotel Marilen**
Meals: **Breakfast**

Day 13

A half day of artistic activity, based at one of the islands beaches, Xerokambos, which is situated at the islands, most southern end. From there the next island of Kalymnos is clearly visible and a series of works can be done that show the relationship of the 2 islands. Also the area has quite mountainous terrain, that can be included in a series of drawings. As this will be our last day on the island, we can enjoy a celebratory drink on the beach.

Overnight: **Hotel Marilen**
Meals: **Breakfast**

Day 14

You will be transferred to Leros Airport for your flight back to Athens. On arrival in Athens you will be met and transferred to your hotel for 2 nights in Athens.

Overnight: **Plaka Hotel or similar**
Meals: **Breakfast and dinner**

Day 15

This morning you will be collected from the foyer of your hotel between 7.30am and 8.00am for departure from Athens to Delphi via the National Highway. Passing by Thebes, Levadia, stop briefly in the picturesque mountain village of Arachova, built on the southern slopes of Parnassos, famous for its attractive hand-woven carpets and quilts, as well as its red wine and cheeses. Visit the Museum of Delphi with its many antiquities including the world-famous Bronze Charioteer, the Naxian Sphinx

and Statue of Antinous. Visit the archaeological site of the Sanctuary of Apollo, home of the legendary Pythia (Priestess of the Oracle). After lunch in Delphi you will return to Athens, arriving at approximately 6.30pm.

This evening we say farewell to Greece with a dinner at a local Greek taverna. Transfer back to hotel after dinner

Overnight: Plaka Hotel or similar

Meals: Breakfast

Day 16

Morning at leisure.

You will be met and transferred to Athens Airport. (Flights not included in tour cost).

Day 17

Arrive in Sydney/Melbourne/Brisbane (flights not included in tour cost)

To conclude, the artistic itinerary I have set out is a mixture of full and half days “in the field”. I have chosen places that offer various views and contrasts of the island, however, weather and the unforeseen may mean some of the program may have to change.

Also, I hope to arrange several “soirees” at peoples home and other venues at night for you to see other aspects of island life. These will have to be arranged closer to the time and I will inform you of these later.

Finally, my hope is that you enjoy the experience and come back, both culturally and artistically enriched.

NEW

Information Night, 5.30pm Monday 7 September 2009 at the ANU

*Please **register** your interest in attending by contacting the Centre for Continuing Education, ANU on Ph: 02 61252892 or email: Lindsaye.Brown@anu.edu.au*

AND

Michael invites all those who have committed to the 2010 tour to a **FREE** half day workshop at Strathnairn Homestead, Holt, ACT on Tuesday 8 September 2009

For full details please contact Lindsaye Brown at the CCE (see above)

Price includes:

- 14 nights twin share accommodation on tour in 3 star superior accommodation
- Airport/hotel transfers throughout tour
- Breakfast daily
- Three picnic lunches in Leros
- Welcome dinner in Athens on Day 1 and Farewell dinner on Day 15
- Half day city tour of Athens
- Athens by Night tour
- Return airfares from Athens to Leros with Olympic Airways
- Transportation on Leros where specified
- Two return ferry tickets from Leros to two different outer Greek islands
- Delphi day tour
- Tour escorting and tuition with Michael Winters
- Tips and gratuities for touring in Athens and for coach driver in Leros

LAND ONLY:

Price per person twin share APPROXIMATELY: \$5192.00 PLUS:

Airfares, airport taxes, insurance and airport levies and applicable fuel surcharges

Single supplement: \$718.00

Price does not include:

- Airfares, airport taxes, insurance and airport levies and applicable fuel surcharges
- Meals not specified in itinerary
- Personal expenses or spending money
- Touring, sightseeing or activities not mentioned in the itinerary
- Travel insurance - This is compulsory for all tour guests wanting to join the tour
- Tips and gratuities not specified in the itinerary

NB. The above quotes are based on 2009 prices and are subject to change when the group is confirmed and 2010 prices are available for tour pricing purposes.

Michael Winters

Michael has been a practising artist and teacher for over 30 years. He has taught at the College of Fine Art, UNSW, Institute of the Arts, ANU, the Macgregor Summer School, University of Southern Queensland, Goulburn and Bathurst TAFE and conducted many workshops in outback Queensland. On leaving art school in 1965, Michael first visited Greece and his love of Greece has seen him return many times especially to the island of Leros, where in 1979 he spent 18 months painting full-time. He returned with his family in 1982 and spent a further 2 years there producing work for exhibitions in both Greece and Australia. It was during this time he was invited to exhibit his work in Crete by the Australian Embassy in Athens. Following this the Panhellenic Union of Greece reproduced thirteen of his Leros paintings for their 1985 calendar. Michael returned to Greece in 1994 and 1995. During his visit to Leros in November 1995 he was made an honorary citizen of the island in recognition of his long creative involvement with the island.

IMPORTANT: Please contact Active Travel for advice on flights to connect with this tour.

Email: martine@activetravel.com.au

Phone: (02) 6249 6122 (Martine Chaytow)

Also note that deposits and expressions of interest for this tour are required no later than 19 November 2009