



Greece Trip 2014

Oxford Section Overseas Trip to Greece Early September 2014

Trip Leaders

Rev. Derek Spears, Geoff Clough, Rob Allin and Steve Moxey

Our western civilisation is built on the foundations laid in classical Greece and Rome. In 2014 we are planning to visit Greece to see some of the ruins and to understand the history. We will be greatly aided by the Rev. Derek Spears, an Oxford section member and classics scholar, who will be acting as the tour guide. Derek has visited Greece many times and this is a fantastic opportunity to understand these ancient monuments and their context. Everyone is certain to learn a lot from the experience!

There are many requirements for this trip; relaxing break, good riding, history, food, culture so we have tried to create options for members to choose the type of holiday they want. The purpose of this flyer is to explain the ideas and to help gauge interest in the trip.



Derek will devise the detailed tour of Greece, based on his previous experience. There will be options for people to customise their itinerary. More details will be provided the tour will spend 9 days in Greece.

Based on previous experience the maximum size of this trip will be 25 people and associated motorcycles. Places will be on a first come first served basis. Geoff Clough will act as treasurer for the trip. Members will be able to register interest and pay an initial deposit to secure their place on the trip. If there are spare places available the trip will be advertised to other BMW Club sections. Prices will depend on the final numbers but we have **guide prices:** (1) couple sharing a room £1,400 (2) One person with one bike, single room £1,195 (3) One person with one bike, shared room £800. These prices do not include Dover-/ Calais crossing and 2-4 hotel stops en-route to Ancona, each way. The final dates will be chosen later leaving early September 2014.



Itinerary Reaching Greece via Ancona

To reach Greece we will use the ferry sailing from Ancona in Italy, which will be booked for the group. The distance from the UK to Ancona is about 1,100 miles. Members are very welcome to arrange their own travel to and from Ancona to take as much time as they desire. We have shown one itinerary, which is designed for those who would like to complete the holiday in approximately two weeks.

The accommodation in Greece will be high quality, typically 4 or 5 star hotels, and will be booked for the group. Members will be responsible for arranging their own travel to and from Ancona including the ferry/tunnel to/from France.

Whilst riding in Greece the tour leaders will produce riding sheets with destinations and descriptive information to assist participants. It is then envisaged that small groups will travel the route. The whole group will meet for breakfast, dinner and at major attractions for Derek to explain the history and archaeology.

Rather than travel into Athens by motorcycle, which would be very difficult the group will stay near to Athens at Glyfada and then use the tram to get to the major sights, led by Derek. There may also be optional trips available for those interested.



Travelling from the UK to Italy

The trip has been designed to allow members flexibility in travelling to Ancona in Italy, for the ferry crossing to Greece. It is possible to make the journey with only two overnight stops which gives a two week holiday or to take more time with a four night stop. It is also possible to use moto rail or for a partner to fly out to Italy or Greece to avoid the mileage on the back of the motorcycle! The core of the trip to and from Ancona will be the same for everyone. Members are also free to develop their own arrangements or to join in with one of the plans detailed below.

The FAST Option - Two Overnight Stops

Day	Overnight Stop	Mileage	Notes
Saturday	Troyes	392	Channel Tunnel to France, overnight stop
Sunday	Piacenza	507	Overnight stop, meet the rest of the group
Monday	Ancona	231	Short distance to ferry
Mileage from the UK		1,130	

The Return Journey to the UK is the Reverse of the Outbound Route

This route will require some high mileages, although the route is mostly autoroute and is suitable for those used to this type of travel. There will be **regular breaks**.

The LEISURELY Option - Four Overnight Stops

Day	Overnight Stop	Mileage	Notes
Thursday	Cambrai	270	Channel Tunnel to France, overnight stop
Friday	Dijon	272	Overnight stop
Saturday	Aosta	241	Overnight stop
Sunday	Bologna	243	Overnight stop, meet the rest of the group
Monday	Ancona	136	Short distance to ferry
Mileage from the UK		1,162	

The Return Journey to the UK is the Reverse of the Outbound Route

This route is designed to provide a leisurely journey with plenty of stops and lower daily mileages.

The Ferry from the Italy to Greece

The trip will reach Greece by ferry, sailing from the Italian port of Ancona to Greece. The sailing times are based on the schedule for 2013, so plans may need to be adjusted once the 2014 schedule is available.

The outbound sailing departs on Monday from Ancona at 14:00 and arrives in Igoumenista at 08:30 on Tuesday. This will allow the group to reach Delphi on Tuesday.

The return sailing will leave Patras on Thursday at 18:00 and arrives at Ancona on Friday at 17:00.

Cabins will be booked on the ship.

Greece Itinerary Details

Number	Day of the Week	Overnight Stop	Mileage	Notes
1	Tuesday	Delphi (Hotel Apollonia)	235	Visit the oracle at Delphi
2	Wednesday	Glyfada (Hotel Oasis)	138	Hosios Loukas, mosaics
3	Thursday	Glyfada	0	Visit Athens, Acropolis...
4	Friday	Glyfada	0	Visit to Athens continued
5	Saturday	Nauplion (Hotel Amalia)	104	Visit Corinth canal en route
6	Sunday	Nauplion	0	Theatre at Epidauros
7	Monday	Olympia (Best Western)	107	Travel to Olympia
8	Tuesday	Olympia	0	Visit museum at Olympia
9	Wednesday	Olympia	0	Temple of Apollo at Bassae
10	Thursday	Patra	78	Night on boat
Total Mileage in Greece			662	

The total mileage for the Greece Trip will be approximately 2,900 miles.

We look forward to seeing you in Greece in 2014!