



From

Prices valid until  
30th December 2024

days

Duration

Tasmania

Destination

Level 1 - Introductory to  
Moderate

Activity

## Uncovering Ancient Greece | Summer School course

### Uncovering Ancient Greece summer school course

Top Five Questions for consideration across the week:

- Who were the Greeks, where did they come from, where and what has been their influence especially on us?
- Where do the Homeric legends fit both in myth and in reality?



- How did it all develop between 800BCE to 322BCE?
- What made Greece so great and so lasting in our culture and memory especially Athens in the 5<sup>th</sup> Century BCE?
- What lasting appreciable characteristics have defined the Greeks for us then and now?

Bertrand Russell, in his 1946 masterpiece *The History of Western Philosophy*, noted that *in all history, nothing is so surprising or so difficult to account for as the sudden as the rise of civilisation in Greece.*

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### Other Questions:

- We are told too that the Greeks invented democracy and theatre, both tragedy and comedy. How did that happen?
- Can Greek theatre provide realistic historical evidence in our study of the ancient Greeks?

**Leader:** Dr Philip Dutton

Philip began reading in Ancient Greek history aged seventeen and has continued ever since as both a passion and professional pursuit. He teaches *Ancient History: Greece* in the History School at University of Wollongong and continues to lead tours to Greece for Odyssey Travel. He has previously presented studies in Ancient Greece for Odyssey in Hobart in previous summers.

### The Method and Pre-reading

This course will use a variety of approaches including discussion, spontaneous research, direct presentation, read and report, audio-visual programs, maps, illustrations and images to deal with the range of questions. You will not be constantly lectured and you will be asked to conduct *on the spot* research, as if in a research team, to find answers.

You would benefit from a reading of the story of Ancient Greece generally by reading a book on the subject of your own choice from your



local library, an *iBook* such as HDF Kitto *The Greeks* (1955). There are simply too many to name. In addition, see if you can find copies there also of *Thucydides: The Peloponnesian War* and *Herodotus: The Histories*. A silent, bilateral aim of this course is to bring you in touch with our first great historians – also Greek.

## Summer School classes for mature and senior travellers

Odyssey offers a collection of week-long learning programs offered each January in Hobart, Tasmania. Courses are refreshed for each year's programs. Classes are limited to 15 people.

Over the last twenty-five years, Odyssey's small group Summer School Program has given countless travellers an unforgettable educational and travel experience. Each summer, we prepare and offer fun and challenging special interest courses and programs designed to give travellers the options and opportunity to learn about history, religion, Australian culture, and the arts, among many other topics. These courses are designed in such a way that enthusiasts can deepen their knowledge of a particular topic or be initiated into new understandings on a subject.

These programs offered are tailor-made for mature-aged and senior travellers who are eager to explore in-depth a particular topic. Summer school learning programs for mature and senior travellers who are and remain curious about the world. Read more about our [philosophy of the Odyssey Summer Schools](#).

## Highlights

1. Discover who were the Greeks and where they came from
2. Learn the Homeric legends then and now
3. How did it all develop between 800BCE to 322BCE?

Uncovering Ancient Greece | Summer School course

<https://www.odysseytraveller.com>



4. What made Greece so great and so lasting in our culture and memory especially Athens in the 5th Century BCE?
5. What lasting appreciable characteristics have defined the Greeks for us then and now?

## Itinerary

### Day 1

**Locations:** Hobart

**Overview:**

After checking in to the Ibis, we come together for a welcome dinner at the Ibis Styles restaurant (TBC). This gives you the chance to meet your program leader, catch up with old friends and meet other people hoping to discover all that they can about Ancient Greece.

**Accommodation:**

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

### Day 2

**Locations:** Hobart

**Overview:**

We begin by introducing ourselves, our interests and our aims before proceeding to the first basic questions that identify the Greeks as Greeks even from Homeric times and the legends of Troy.

In the afternoon we plot as best we can how Greece looked even from pre-Homeric times and how it came to disappear as a culture into a Dark Age lasting at least 300 years.

**Accommodation:**

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar



### Day 3

**Locations:** Hobart

**Overview:**

After reviewing the previous day, we pick up our progress to witness the kind of Greece that emerges from around 800BCE and help explain the Dark Age and simply what and why it came about in the first place. We look again at Homer for some understanding.

Why do we see a different Greece emerge from the Dark Age from 800BCE and in what ways?

**Accommodation:**

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

### Day 4

**Locations:** Hobart

**Overview:**

This morning, following review, we consider the development of characteristic and politically contrasting Greek city-states especially over the 100 years from 620BCE to 510BCE. This session will end with some ideas about how Athens managed to become the first model of democracy and what were its strengths and weaknesses by both ancient and modern measures?

Depending upon time and arrangements, will shall consider the emergence of the golden age of Athens in thought, word, deed and art including theatre.

**Accommodation:**

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

### Day 5

**Locations:** Hobart

**Overview:**

Enter the Persians! Today we look closely at Athens' great 5<sup>th</sup> Century BCE in all aspects of political, cultural and economic achievement

despite being tested early by the Persians from 490BCE only to be defeated in a drawn out war with Sparta from 431 to 404BCE.

Why did the great pan Hellenic alliance against the Persians lead ultimately to a breakdown and to war between the major Greek city-states as a result? We read the historians of the period, Herodotus and Thucydides, to help us find answers.

**Accommodation:**

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

**Day 6**

**Locations:** Hobart

**Overview:**

We take an imaginary tour around the Acropolis, Attica and other ancient Greek centres.

In the evening we conclude our course with a farewell dinner at the Customs House Hotel Restaurant, starting at 6:00pm.

**Accommodation:**

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

**Day 7**

**Locations:** Hobart

**Overview:**

After breakfast, we say our farewells and the program draws to a close

## Inclusions / Exclusions

**What's included in our Tour**

- 6 nights in full en suite accommodation
- 6 breakfasts and 2 dinners.
- Lectures and handouts as indicated.

- Services of a study leader and lecturers.
- Complimentary wifi.

#### **What's not included in our Tour**

- Comprehensive travel insurance.
- Costs of a personal nature.

#### **Level 1 - Introductory to Moderate**

Participants must be able to carry their own luggage, climb and descend stairs, moderate walking on uneven surfaces for 3 - 5 kilometres per day. Suitable for most fitness levels.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.