

A Children's Guide to Greece



About Greece

Age 12-14

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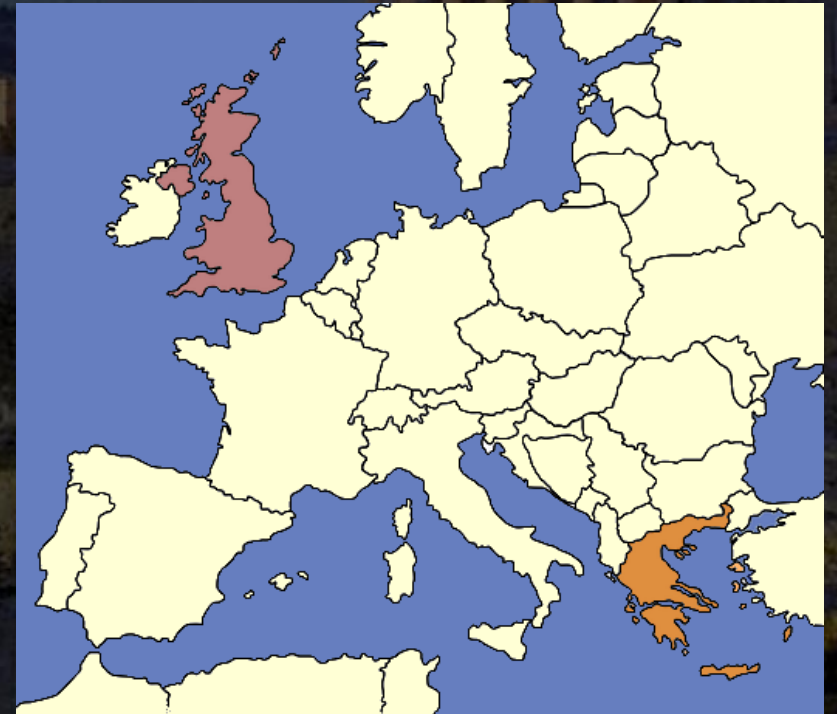
There are lots of fun and interesting things to know about Greece.

Did you know that ancient Greek children slept in wicker baskets until they were 7 years old or that Greeks used to lie on their sides to eat dinner?

If you travelled back in time 3,000 years you would find children playing with yo-yo's, the second oldest toy known in history.

The Olympics originated from Greece in 776 BC and had only 1 event, running, for the first 13 years. Later more events were added such as a torch relay race and running in full body armour.

Did you know that the Marathon also originated in Greece? Runner Pheidippides ran 280 miles from Athens to Sparta and then back to Marathon to ask for help from the Spartans against an attack from the Persian army.



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Greek mythology is full of wonderful creatures and these include 2,000-year-old tales of the one-horned unicorn. The famous Pegasus was a winged horse and a bizarre fire-breathing creature called Chimera had the head and body of a lioness, a snakes tail and a second head of a goat!

The English word 'giant' originates from the Greek word 'gigantes' and ancient mammoth bones found in Greece were once believed to be the bones of giants.

You may want to try and learn the full Greek National Anthem, although no one yet has learned all 158 verses!

There is a wealth of historical sites to visit in Greece and throughout its islands including museums and archaeological sites. The variety of historical events and cultures that have affected Greece make discovering its past extremely interesting. Past civilisations that have influenced the region include the Minoans, ancient Greeks, the Romans and the Ottomans.



Attractions

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Acropolis - Athens

Situated high above Athens, the Acropolis is a site full of ancient architecture from the classical period of Ancient Greece. The Acropolis of Athens is open daily from 8AM and houses the new Acropolis Museum, the Parthenon temple dedicated to the goddess of the city and the ancient theatre of the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, which is still used for concerts today.



Delphi

The UNESCO World Heritage site of Delphi is the most important oracle of the god Apollo and home to the Pythian Games, which were one of four games that became the precursor to the modern Olympics. This site has many buildings and structures dating back to 1600 BC and including the Temple of Apollo and the ancient theatre of Delphi that could seat up to 5,000 spectators.



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Knossos - Crete

Knossos is the largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete with the ruins of the ancient Minoan civilisation. The partially restored palace was undoubtedly the political and ceremonial centre of the Minoan civilisation and comprises of a maze of rooms close to a central square and Throne Room. There is architecture, pottery, art and Minoan Pillars that are unique from those found anywhere else in Greece.



Acropolis - Rhodes

The Acropolis of Rhodes is an archaeological site located close to the city with superb views and a variety of ruins to explore. The main monuments include the Temple of Pythian Apollo, a stadium for athletic competitions that were part of the Haleion Games held in the honour of the god Helios and underground places of cult.



Phrases

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Basics

Yes	Neh
No	O-hee
Hello	Ya-sou
Goodbye	Ya-sou
Please	Pa-ra-ka-lo
Thank you	Ef-hari-sto
My name is	Me lene
What's your name?	Pos-se lene
Beach	Plage
Hotel	Xe-non-do-he-o

Numbers

One	En-ne
Two	Thee-o
Three	Tree-a
Four	Te-se-ra
Five	Pen-de
Six	Ex-ee
Seven	Ep-ta
Eight	Oc-to
Nine	E-ne-a
Ten	De-ka
One hundred	Ekato

Colours

Red	Kokino
Blue	Bleh
Green	Praseeno
Yellow	Keetrino
Black	Mavro
White	Aspro

Restaurant

I want	Thelo
How much is it?	Po-so ka-ni
The bill please	Lo-ghar-ia-smos
What is that	Ti eine afto
Bread	Pso-me
Salad	Sala-ta
Dessert	Glika
Steak	Briz-ola
Fish	Psa-ri
Fruit	Frou-ta
Water	Ne-rho

Conversations

Good morning	Kali-mera
Good evening	Kali-spera
Good night	Kali-neek-ta
What time is it?	Ti hora eine
Help	Vo-eeth-ia
Do you speak English?	Mila-te Agglikla
I don't understand	Den katalave-no
Excuse me/sorry	Signo-mi
Toilet	Ee tou-a-let-ta

The Greek words are written in phonetics.

Phonetics are written as the words would sound in English, so simply say what you see.

Printable Questionnaire

Q1. Which of these events were in the very first Olympic Games?

- Egg and spoon race Running Long jump

Q2. In what did ancient Greek children sleep in until they were 7 years old?

- Hammock Chariot Wicker basket

Q3. Which of these toys originated in Greece over 3,000 years ago?

- Yo-yo Hungry Hippo Playstation

Q4. How many verses does the Greek National Anthem have?

- 1 158 2,000

Q5. Which of these landmarks will you find in Greece?

- Acropolis Leaning Tower of Pisa Eiffel Tower