

For members & guests of the



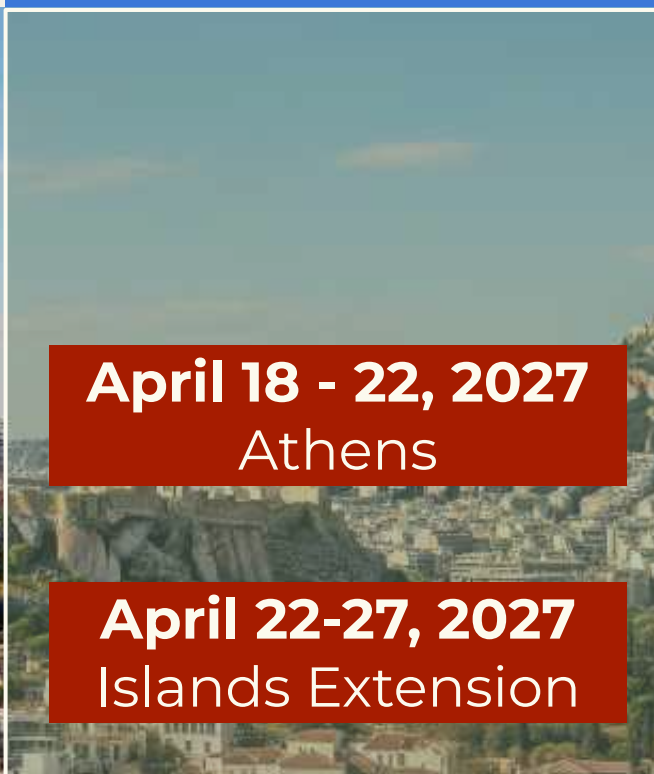
**ILLINOIS BAR
FOUNDATION**

Journey to Greece



April 18 - 22, 2027
Athens

April 22-27, 2027
Islands Extension



Space is limited.
Register Early & Save
5-7 IL MCLE Credits
Anticipated

Organized by
CLE 
ABROAD

www.cle-abroad.com/trip/ibf

4 & 9 Night Program Options



READY TO EMBARK

You are invited!

The **Illinois Bar Foundation** welcomes you and your guests for a cross-cultural journey to **Greece**. Our program will engage with local experts, scholars, and diverse professionals offering commentary on the Rule of Law, Greek legal and political systems, contemporary issues, international relations, history, architecture, and religion.

You do not want to miss the opportunity to experience Greece while earning CLE credits (anticipated)!

**FOR MORE INFO &
TO REGISTER PLEASE VISIT**
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INCLUDED

4+ Star Hotel Accommodations including daily breakfast (if selected)

Group Meals as described in itinerary (including tips)

Full time tour leader and specialized local guides

Lecture Series with experts, academics, cultural ambassadors (5-7 CLE Credits Pending/anticipated)

Select Private Charter, ground transportation & walking tours

Arrival Transfers

Admission to museums and public buildings listed in itinerary

Pre-departure Travel Tips

Greece domestic airfare (if on Island extension)

NOT INCLUDED

Round Trip international airfare to/from Greece

Departure Transfers

Travel Insurance

Tips for Guides & Drivers

Additional meals not included in itinerary

CORE PROGRAM

April 18 - 22, 2027

Day 1 ATHENS

- Arrivals
- Meet and Greet/Orientation
- Welcome Dinner

Day 2 ATHENS

- Changing of the Guard
- **Hellenic Parliament**
- Athens Walking Tour
- Group Lunch
- Acropolis Tour

Breakfast included at our group hotels

Day 3 ATHENS

- **Athens Bar Visit**
- **Supreme Court Visit**
- Panathinaiko Stadium
- Foodie tasting Tour

Day 4 DELPHI/FREE TIME

- Delphi Road Trip
- Group Lunch
OR
- Athens Free Time
- Group Dinner

OPTIONAL EXTENSION

April 22 - 27, 2027

Day 5 & 6 SANTORINI

- Transfer flight to Santorini
- Local Village Visits/Group Lunch
- Vineyard Visit
- Island Sailing Tour
- Optional: Wedding Show

Day 7 & 8 CRETE

- Transfer Flight to Chania
- Group Lunch
- Knossos Visit
- Old Town Walking Tour
- Tsagarolon Monastery

Day 9 ATHENS

- Transfer Flight to Athens
- Free Time/Shoppertunities

Pre-trip surveys provided to registrants to collect individual and group preferences. Requests welcome.

Itineraries subject to change, confirmations, and surprises.





DAY 1 ATHENS

Sunday - April 18, 2027

Upon arrival at **Athens International Airport (AIA)** please proceed to baggage claim to collect your luggage. Immediately upon exiting baggage claim, please look for a representative holding a **CLE ABROAD** sign.

Check into our hotel:

[Elia Ermou Hotel](#) (or similar)
[Petraki 6, Athina 105 63, Greece](#)
Phone: +30 21 0325 0100

Our hotel is nestled in **Plaka**, often called the “neighborhood of the Gods” for its wealth of nearby ancient Greek monuments. Enjoy sweeping rooftop views of Athens’ historic center, including the iconic Acropolis. You’ll find yourself just steps away from outstanding restaurants, lively bars, unique shops, and vibrant entertainment.

If you arrive early, you’re welcome to leave your luggage at the hotel and set out to explore at your own pace. Wander the picturesque streets of Plaka, browse world-class boutiques, and savor lunch at one of the many exceptional local restaurants.

3:30pm

Meet & Greet inside our hotel at the **MarketPlace View**. Greek Tapas and refreshments will be served.

Following our Meet & Greet, there will be a CLE presentation.

Evening

Meet at the hotel lobby and for our **Welcome Dinner**.

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DAY 2 ATHENS

Monday - April 19, 2027

Complimentary breakfast is served daily inside your hotel from 7:00am - 10:30am.

Morning

Meet in the hotel lobby and depart on foot for our short walk to our first activity. *Please be sure to wear comfortable footwear today as we will be on foot for most of the day. Your guides will advise you about weather and appropriate clothing with regular updates throughout the tour.*

Changing of the Guard ceremony: Schedules permitting, we witness the highly disciplined Evzone forces as they relieve their comrades in this ceremonial process outside the Hellenic Parliament Building.

Late Morning

Guided Tour inside the Hellenic Parliament & Lawmaking in Greece:

The Parliament of the Hellenes, commonly known as the **Hellenic Parliament**, is the contemporary unicameral legislature of Greece, located in the **Old Royal Palace**, overlooking **Syntagma Square** in Athens. The parliament is the supreme democratic institution that represents the citizens through an elected body of Members of Parliament. In our privileged visit, we learn about **lawmaking in Greece** today and its reserved powers as a member state of the **European Union (EU)**.

Classic Athens Walking Tour and Acropolis Visit

We tour over 2 thousand years old architecture in our visits to the **Parthenon**, **Temple of Athena**, and **National Archaeological Museum**.

Group Lunch at [The Cave of Acropolis Restaurant](#).

Afternoon

[Acropolis Museum](#) Tour.

Remainder of the afternoon and evening free.

Dinner on your own.



DAY 3 ATHENS/DELPHI

Tuesday - April 20, 2027

Today you can pack a day bag with your personal comfort items for our day trip. Your guides will advise us of weather conditions and appropriate attire on a regular basis throughout our tour.



Morning

- 1) **TRACK 1: Road Trip to Delphi.** Full day journey & Early Morning Departure.

Today we visit the **Pan-Hellenic Sanctuary of Delphi** (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), is located on the slopes of **Mount Parnassos**. It is the sanctuary of Apollo and one of the most sacred sites in the Ancient Greek world housing very well-known Oracles, offers the most amazing views of the olive groves of **Amphissa**, the **Corinthian Gulf**, and the **Peloponnese Mountains**.

Lunch at the quaint **Oistros Restaurant** is included today.

We visit the **Delphi Museum**, peruse the ancient statues and historical artifacts, explore the Athenian treasury, followed by the unforgettable Temple of Apollo, the seat of the Oracles, with the tour ending at the **Hosios Loukas Monastery**.

We return to the hotel at approximately 4:00 pm local time. Dinner on your own.

- 2) **TRACK 2: FOODIE TASTING TOUR IN ATHENS OR FREE TIME TO EXPLORE ATHENS, SHOP OR ENJOY HOTEL AMENITIES.**

Foodie Tasting Tour of Athens (3hr). This afternoon, we explore the vibrant streets of **Plaka**, one of the most iconic districts of Athens, while sampling a diverse array of traditional Greek cuisine. While enjoying glasses of ouzo, local wine, tapas and sweets, we discover unconventional locales and hidden gems.

Dinner on your own.

DAY 4 ATHENS

Wednesday - April 21, 2027

Morning

Meet in the hotel lobby and depart for our first visit.

The Athens Bar Association & Legal Practice in Greece
Meeting with **Bar President, Vervesos+ Dimitrios** and representatives of the **Athens Bar Association**, representing around 22,000 members. As part of our exchange, we enjoy a guided tour of the grounds where all members meet and deliberate.

Late Morning

Visit to the Court of Appeals of Athens, the higher-level court that reviews and decides appeals from lower courts in both civil and criminal cases, serving as an essential part of the country's judicial system.

This morning, alternatives (non-legal activities) will be available to non-attorney participants.

We continue with a guided tour inside the **Panathinaiko Stadium**, the site of the first Olympics and a unique archaeological monument in its own right. The stadium's roots trace back to the 6th century BC, when it hosted the Panathenaic Games, a religious and athletic festival held every four years in honor of the goddess Athena.

En route to our next activity, we pass through the **Athens National Gardens** located inside the **Zappeion Complex**.

Remainder of afternoon free.

Evening

Meeting in the hotel lobby and depart on foot for our Athens Farewell Dinner.



DAY 5 DEPARTURE DAY

Thursday - April 22, 2027

Participants departing today make their own way to the airport for their respective flights. The hotel can assist or you can use local taxis, or your preferred mobile app.

DAY 5 ISLAND EXTENSION-SANTORINI

Thursday - April 22, 2027

Morning

For those continuing: hotel check out and group transfer to **Athens El. Venizelos Airport** for check-in.

Depart on **Group Flight** for Santorini International Airport (JTR).

Late Morning

Upon arrival in Santorini, we set off by bus to the stunning black sand beach, the longest stretch of shoreline in the **Cyclades**. Enjoy some time on these unique volcanic sands.

Next, visit **Megalochori**, one of Santorini's most beautiful traditional villages. Here, you'll wander among classic Cycladic houses, neoclassical buildings, and dwellings built into volcanic rock. The village is dotted with charming white churches crowned by iconic blue domes.

Your journey proceeds to the **Akrotiri archaeological site**, known as the "*Pompeii of the Aegean*." Discover the remarkably preserved remains of this ancient Minoan city, buried by a volcanic eruption around 1600 BC. As you explore its streets and multi-level buildings, you'll get a captivating glimpse into Bronze Age life, perfectly suspended in time.



As we ascend the island, we visit the **Prophet Elias Monastery**, perched at Santorini's highest point, where breathtaking panoramic views stretch across the caldera and the shimmering sea below. On the descent, pass through **Pyrgos**—a picturesque village aptly named "Tower"—renowned for its distinctive charm and beauty.

The tour continues at a [local winery](#), where we'll discover the island's winemaking traditions and sample a selection of Santorini's renowned wines.

Finally, arrive in the picturesque **village of Oia**, perched atop red volcanic cliffs. Stroll along the cobbled lanes, past elegant homes and cliffside mansions, and soak in the legendary views of the Aegean Sea and the caldera—a perfect showcase of iconic Cycladic architecture.

Lunch

Late lunch at a popular local restaurant, and enjoy fresh seafood paired with local wines.

Late Afternoon

Hotel Check In:
[Kalisti Hotel](#) (or similar)
Fira 847 00 Santorini
+30 22860 022317

Evening

Dinner on your own

DAY 6 SANTORINI

Friday - April 23, 2027

Morning

Depart the hotel for the bustling **Athinios Port** featuring shops, busy restaurants and serves as the island's primary entry point for ferries and cruise ships. *Remember to pack swimsuits if you want to enjoy the Hot Springs today.*

We set sail from Athinios Port aboard a **KAIKI**, a traditional wooden fishing boat now favored for leisurely cruises—a unique way to experience Santorini's spectacular coastline. After a short 10-minute journey, we arrive at **Nea Kameni Volcano**, an island formed in the early 18th century and famous for its active geothermal features and hot springs. Enjoy time to explore and hike to the summit, where you'll be rewarded with panoramic views of the caldera and nearby islands.



We continue by boat to **Palea Kameni**, a volcanic island known for its natural hot springs rich in minerals that are believed to have therapeutic properties. We stop to soak in the unique geothermal waters amidst the stunning volcanic landscape.

Sailing on, we reach the small island of **Thirassia** that is part of the Santorini archipelago and offers a more tranquil experience compared to its bustling neighbor. Thirassia Island has a small population, with around 300 inhabitants who primarily live in the village of Manolas, which is situated on the island's hillside. The community is known for its traditional way of life, agriculture, and fishing, offering a glimpse into the quieter, more authentic side of Greek island living. Thirassia's small harbor is located in the village of Agia Irini, which serves as the main point of access to the island. The area around the harbor features a few tavernas and shops.

Free time to explore & lunch on your own. Some may choose to walk the "140 steps". This steep staircase connects the harbor at Agia Irini to the village of Manolas while some may choose to take a donkey ride up the steps.

Late Afternoon

Depart to the **port of Thirassia** and sail past the Oia's steep Volcanic cliffs & dramatic rock formations that rise above the caldera.



Arrive Athinios Port and return to the hotel.

Evening

Dinner on your own. [Click here to check out the CLE Abroad Dining Recommendations.](#)

OPTIONAL ADD ON 8:00 pm:

The "**Greek Wedding Show LIVE**" is an interactive experience showcasing the vibrant traditions and customs of Greek weddings circa Santorini 1940. The Papadopoulos family invites you into their 19th-Century home to celebrate with the locals, feast on wedding appetizers and an unlimited amount of wine with traditional music and dance on the families' outdoor patio. *Tickets subject to availability.*



DAY 7 SANTORINI/CRETE

Saturday - April 24, 2027

Morning

Please have luggage downstairs for collection. Coffee and Breakfast Pastry will be provided.

Transfer flight to Chania via Athens

Lunch

Upon arrival at **Heraklion** we head to our Group Lunch.

After lunch we'll board our coach and head to the renowned archaeological site of **Knossos**—a remarkable journey into the world of Minoan civilization. Just south of Heraklion, Knossos is celebrated as the legendary palace of King Minos and the mythical labyrinth home of the Minotaur.

As you explore the expansive site, you'll wander through a maze of multi-story structures, open courtyards, and ancient workshops that once formed the center of Minoan political, economic, and religious life. While many sections feature the controversial yet influential restorations of archaeologist **Arthur Evans** from the early 20th century, these reconstructions vividly evoke the palace's former splendor.

Continue on to the charming streets of **Old Town Rethymnos**, where we will gather at **Aki Vafi Cafe** for our afternoon discussion with **local attorney Manolis Petrakakis**. Our meeting will take place in the tranquil garden of Ali Vafi, a storied 19th-century mansion that once served as the residence of the Turkish merchant Ali Vafi and, in an earlier era, as quarters for Venetian cavalry. This unique historical setting offers a memorable backdrop for both learning and conversation.

Late afternoon

Continue to **Chania**, a historic city located on the northwest coast of Crete, which is the largest island in Greece; while Chania offers picturesque Venetian harbors and charming old-town streets, Crete encompasses a much broader region with diverse landscapes, cultures, and attractions beyond Chania itself.



Check in to [Kydon Hotel](#) (or similar)

Chania. Str. Tzanakaki ke Sofoklis Venizelos Square

Chania 731 34, Greece

Tel. +30 2821052280

Also known as *The Heart City Hotel*, this historic property is an upscale mix of classic and modern elements. It is perfectly situated near many landmarks and a short stroll to **Paralia Koum Kapi Beach**.

Evening

Dinner on your own.

DAY 8 CRETE

Sunday - April 25, 2027

Morning

Start your day with a guided walk through the captivating **Old Town of Chania**, where winding stone streets are lined with elegant Venetian mansions, remnants of Ottoman influence, and bustling local boutiques. As you explore, your guide will reveal Chania's rich and layered past, woven into its vibrant architectural tapestry. Then, continue to the Venizelos Tombs—a scenic hilltop memorial to Eleftherios Venizelos—where you can pause to enjoy sweeping views of Chania and the shimmering sea.



Next, visit the tranquil **Tsagarolon Monastery** (Agia Triada), a breathtaking 17th-century haven surrounded by olive groves and vineyards. Enjoy a 50-minute tasting experience where you'll sample local Cretan wines, estate-pressed olive oil, and classic accompaniments like rusk, fresh bread, apple slices, olives, sea salt, and oregano. Savor the authentic flavors of Crete while soaking in the monastery's peaceful ambiance and storied heritage.

Afternoon

Group lunch at [Ta Chalkina](#) in Chania Old Town.

Remainder of the afternoon is yours to explore or relax as you wish. Dinner on your own.

DAY 9 ATHENS

Monday - April 26, 2027

Morning

Relaxed morning to enjoy breakfast and the hotel amenities or to do some last-minute shopping. Lunch on your own today.

Afternoon

Hotel Check out and airport transfer. Check in at Chania Airport (CHQ) for Flight A3335 to Athens.

Late Afternoon

Depart Chania for Athens to enjoy one more night and explore the city as you wish. *Flight time is <1 hour.*

Check in

[Sofitel Athens Airport](#) (or similar)

International Airport, Athens, Spata 19019, Greece
+30 21 0354 4000

Dinner on your own today. Some may choose to dine in one of the [hotel's restaurants](#) including the Jenny Rooftop Restaurant Bar.

DAY 10 DEPARTURE DAY

Tuesday - April 27, 2027

Hotel Check out and walk <2 minutes to the airport based on your flights back to the USA.



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