



Greek Country Guide

Page 1 of 5 Important Information Prior to Travelling to Greece Current DFAT Travel Advice Tourist Visa Conditions

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

Exercise normal safety precautions in Greece. Use common sense. Look out for suspicious behaviour. Forest fires often occur during June to September. See [Natural disasters](#). A number of West Nile virus (WNV) cases have been reported throughout Greece. Protect yourself against mosquito bites. See [Health](#). Avoid protests and demonstrations, as they may turn violent. See [Safety and security](#).

Be alert in tourist areas and on public transport (especially buses and trains to and from Athens Airport). Petty crime, such as pickpocketing, bag snatching and slashing of luggage, is a serious issue. See [Safety and security](#). Drink spiking is a significant risk on major tourist islands such as Mykonos, Santorini and Ios. See [Safety and security](#). To drive in Greece you need both an International Driving Permit and your current Australian licence. See [Local travel](#). Check with your travel insurer to ensure activities such as car hire, quad bikes, motorcycles, jet skis or adventure sports are covered by your insurance policy. Ensure you hold the right licence for the vehicle you will use. See [Travel insurance](#). A very high number of serious injuries and deaths occur every summer from quad bike accidents on the Greek islands. Avoid quad bikes. Always wear a helmet. See [Laws](#).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Greece at www.smartraveller.gov.au.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against Hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to the Greece. Vaccination against Hepatitis B should be considered by frequent travellers or those intending on a long stay, whilst vaccination against typhoid fever should be considered particularly if travelling to areas with poor sanitation and personal hygiene. Tick-borne encephalitis is present throughout many areas in Europe, predominately in forested regions. Whilst no vaccine is available in Australia, travellers visiting risk areas and planning outdoor activities during summer might consider vaccination once in Europe.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual Influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner for your specific risk to preventable diseases and appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to the Greece should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

Greek Representation in Australia

Embassy of Greece, Canberra

9 Turrana Street
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

Tel: (02) 6273 3011
Web: www.mfa.gr/australia

Consulate of Greece, Sydney

L 2, 219 Castlereagh Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Tel: (02) 9264 9130
Web: www.mfa.gr/sydney

Greece also maintains consulates and honorary consulates in all other states and territories.

For the contact details of these missions please visit the website of the consulate in Sydney listed adjacent.



Greek Country Guide

Page 2 of 5 Important Information while Travelling in Greece

Time Differences between Greece and Australia

Greece is Greenwich Mean Time +2 hours (+3 during daylight saving). The applicable time zone is Eastern European Time (EET) or Eastern European Summer Time (EEST). Daylight saving is observed from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October.

Greece, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) = Perth 6pm, Darwin 7:30pm, Brisbane 8pm, Adelaide 8:30pm, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 9pm.
Greece, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) = Perth 5pm, Darwin, Adelaide 6:30pm, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 7pm.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Greece: +30

To Dial Australia Call:
00 61 <City> <Number>

Australian Reverse Charges Direct:
008 006 111

Travelex Card Services: 00 800 4413 1396

Visa Global Assist: 00 800 44 121 092

MasterCard: 00 800 11 887 0303

American Express Travellers Cheques:
00 800 44 127 569

Emergency Services:
All - 112 (English is usually available)
Ambulance - 166
Fire - 199
Police - 100

These services may not have English speaking staff. To avoid delay it is best to seek the assistance of a Greek speaker to call the emergency services.

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals, and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _____

Name: _____ Passport #: _____

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Card Number: _____

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Card Number: _____

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in Greece

Australian Embassy, Greece
Level 6, Thon Building
Cnr Kifisias and Alexandras Ave
Ambelokipi
ATHENS 115 23

Tel: (+30 210) 870 4000
Fax: (+30 210) 870 4055

Web: www.greece.embassy.gov.au

Australian Honorary Consulate,
Thessaloniki

13 Fragon Street, Suite 709-710
THESSALONIKI 546 26

Tel: (+30 2310) 553 355 ext 6
Fax: (+30 2310) 545 235

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians in Greece are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian Embassy in Athens, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



Greek Country Guide

Duty Free Allowances

Duty Free limits when entering Greece from a non EU state:
Alcohol: 1 L spirits (>22% alc vol) or 2 L other beverages; as well as 4 L of still wine and 16 L of beer.
Tobacco: 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250 g of tobacco.
Other Goods: Up to a value of €430 for air and sea travellers, €300 for others and €150 for those under 15 years.

Duty Free limits when entering Australia:
Alcohol: 2.25 L.
Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
Other Goods: Up to \$900 (\$450 for minors).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Greece/Europe and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For more detailed information on European Customs, please visit www.ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/individuals, or for information on Australian customs please visit www.homeaffairs.gov.au.

Electrical and Telephone Adaptors

Electrical Socket type: European
Voltage: 220-240 volts
Modem Plug Type: American and Greek

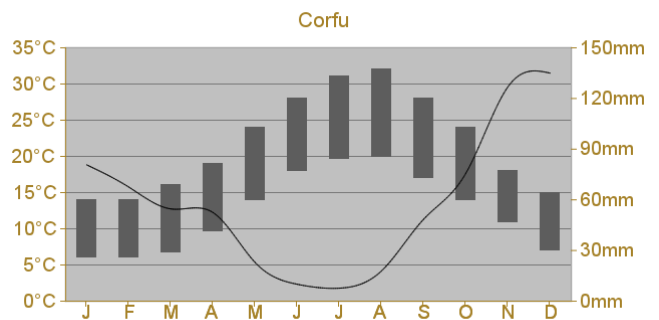
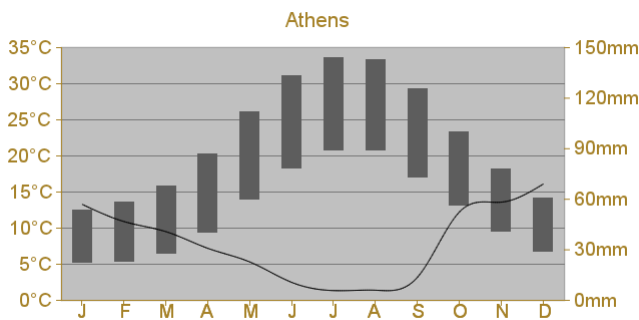


Source: Korjo Travel Products. To purchase electrical/modem adaptors, or for further information on this matter, please view the Korjo adapter guide at www.korjo.com.au.

Greek Public Holidays 2018

01 Jan: New Year's Day	01 May: May Day
06 Jan: Epiphany	28 May: Whit Monday
19 Feb: Ash Monday	15 Aug: Assumption
25 Mar: Independence Day	28 Oct: National Holiday
06 Apr: Good Friday (Orth)	25 Dec: Christmas
09 Apr: Easter Monday	26 Dec: Boxing Day

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Greece



Source: Hellenic National Meteorological Service (HNMS). For local forecasts please go to www.hnms.gr.

TRAVEL ADVICE COPYRIGHT INFORMATION - Source Document: Travel Advice for Greece. Author: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Commonwealth of Australia. The Travel Advice information presented in this report is copyright Commonwealth of Australia. This advice is a synopsis only, more information relevant to specific issues is available from the website listed below. This material has been reproduced by permission, but does not purport to be the current official or authorized version. The Commonwealth does not warrant that the information is accurate, comprehensive or up to date, and you should make independent inquiries, and obtain appropriate advice, before relying on the information in any important matter. A current version may be obtained from www.smarttraveller.gov.au.



Greek Country Guide

Exchange Rate

Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 0.63 Euro
 1 Euro (EUR) = 1.58 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 0.61 Euro
 1 Euro (EUR) will cost 1.65 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

Purchasing-Power Parity

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Euro in Greece and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing-power of the currencies.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 3.76 Euro
 Big Mac Greece: €3.35 (EUR) = 5.31 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in Greece is therefore 11% less expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

Currency Cheat Sheet

This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above.

€0.50 = \$0.82 AUD	€10 = \$16.47 AUD	€100 = \$164.73 AUD
€1 = \$1.65 AUD	€20 = \$32.95 AUD	€200 = \$329.47 AUD
€2 = \$3.29 AUD	€30 = \$49.42 AUD	€300 = \$494.20 AUD
€3 = \$4.94 AUD	€40 = \$65.89 AUD	€400 = \$658.94 AUD
€4 = \$6.59 AUD	€50 = \$82.37 AUD	€500 = \$823.67 AUD
€5 = \$8.24 AUD	€60 = \$98.84 AUD	€600 = \$988.40 AUD
€6 = \$9.88 AUD	€70 = \$115.31 AUD	€700 = \$1,153.14 AUD
€7 = \$11.53 AUD	€80 = \$131.79 AUD	€800 = \$1,317.87 AUD
€8 = \$13.18 AUD	€90 = \$148.26 AUD	€900 = \$1,482.61 AUD
€9 = \$14.83 AUD	€1,000 = \$1,647.34 AUD	

Notes and Coins

The legal currency of Greece is the Euro, which is abbreviated using the symbol € (for example €100). The subunit of the Euro is the cent, of which there are 100 in every Euro. The following units of currency are the most common in Greece but other versions and denominations are also in circulation (including a purple €500 note and other nations' coins). Pictures are not to scale.





Greek Country Guide

About Greece

Full Name:	Elliniki Dimokratia (Hellenic Republic).	Significant Dates:	
Independence:	1830 (from the Ottoman Empire)	3000 BC	- Crete is the first major civilization in the region.
Size:	130,647sq km (60% the size of Victoria).	776 BC	- First Olympic Games held at Olympia.
Population:	11 million (Athens 3.3 million; Thessaloniki 830,000; Patras 220,000; Heraklion 180,000).	431-404 BC	- Peloponnesian War among Greek city states. Sparta and her allies eventually defeat Athens.
Religion:	Greek Orthodox (official) 98%, Muslim 1.3%.	336-323 BC	- Alexander the Great spreads Greek culture and philosophy throughout the known world.
Language:	Greek (official) spoken by 99% of people.	145 BC	- Romans invade and conquer the Greek Empire.
GDP Per Capita:	US\$26,300 (Australia US\$40,800).	1453 AD	- Ottoman Turks take control of Greece.
		1821-32	- War of Independence against Ottoman Turkey.
		1941-45	- Greece occupied by Germany in World War 2. Over 100,000 die from famine.
		1946-49	- Greek Civil War.
		1967-73	- The Regime of the Colonels rules Greece.

