

HALF DAY TOUR ANCIENT CORINTH

1) CORINTH CANAL

- The Corinth Canal is a man made canal that connects the Gulf of Corinth in the Ionian Sea with the Saronic Gulf in the Aegean Sea. It cuts through the narrow Isthmus of Corinth and separates the Peloponnese from the Greek mainland, arguably making the peninsula an island.
- The canal was dug through the isthmus at sea level and has no locks. It is 6.4 kilometres in length and only 21.4 metres wide at its base, making it impassable for many modern ships. It is currently of little economic importance becoming mainly a tourist attraction.
- It was completed in 1893 but due to the canal's narrowness, navigational problems and aperiodic closures to repair landslides from its steep walls, it failed to attract the level of traffic expected by its operators.

2) ANCIENT CITY OF CORINTH

- Corinth was a city-state on the Isthmus of Corinth, the narrow stretch of land that joins the Peloponnese to the mainland of Greece, roughly halfway between Athens and Sparta. The modern city of Corinth is located approximately 5 kilometres (3.1 mi) northeast of the ancient ruins.
- Ancient Corinth was one of the largest and most important cities of Greece, with a population of 90,000 in 400 B.C. The Romans demolished Corinth in 146 B.C., built a new city in its place in 44 B.C. and later made it the provincial capital of Greece.

3) ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

- The Archaeological Museum of Ancient Corinth is located within the archaeological site of Ancient Corinth and was constructed between 1931-1932 with intentions to display the numerous recent archaeological excavations.
- The building was designed by architect Stuart Thompson, constructed by the American School of Classical Studies in Athens with respect to a generous donation made by Ada Small Moore. Thompson's design of the museum derived from the architectural model of the "Chicago school".
- Early excavations of the archaeological site of Ancient Corinth began in 1896 and has since continued.

4) TEMPLE OF APOLLON

- The Temple of Apollo is one of the most significant monuments of Ancient Corinth was built approximately 540 B.C. Acting as an emblem for the Greek city of Corinth, this monument dominated Ancient Corinth, reflecting its growth and prosperity. Further investigations discovered the remains originated from the Early Neolithic period (6500-5750 B.C.) through to early modern age.

5) UPPER CORINTH CASTLE

- "Upper Corinth Castle", the acropolis of ancient Corinth, is a monolithic rock overseeing the ancient city of Corinth. In the estimation of George Forrest, "It is the most impressive of the acropolis of mainland Greece." With its secure water supply, Acrocorinth's fortress was repeatedly used as a last line of defense in southern Greece because it commanded the Isthmus of Corinth, repelling foes from entry by land into the Peloponnese peninsula.