



## Health & Safety Handout for Education Abroad Programs

**Program Name:**

Education Abroad: Greece, Crete, Santorini; A Look at Business and History

**Countries/Cities to be visited during program (overnight stays):**

Athens, Greece, Heraklion, Crete, Greece and Kamaria Beach, Santorini, Greece

*The EAO encourages students to take responsibility for their own safety and security by carefully reading the information, advice, and resources provided, including the following websites:*

**CDC Website (Health Information for Travelers):**

[https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/extended\\_student/greece?s\\_cid=ncezid-dgmq-travel-single-001](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/extended_student/greece?s_cid=ncezid-dgmq-travel-single-001)

**State Department Website (International Travel Information):**

Greece: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/greece.html>  
Students Abroad: <http://studentsabroad.state.gov/smarttravel.php>  
Traveling with Disabilities: <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/go/disabilities.html>  
LGBT Travel Information: <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/go/lgbt.html>

*You should be up to date on routine vaccinations while traveling to any destination. Some additional vaccines may also be required for travel. Routine vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot. The CDC may also recommend additional vaccines or medications depending on where and when you are traveling. Please consult with your doctor/medical professional if you have questions or concerns regarding which vaccines/medicines are right for you.*

**Country Specific Vaccinations/Medications:**



Please list required and recommended vaccines/medications per CDC website:

**Routine:** Make sure you are up-to-date on routine vaccines before every trip. These vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot.

Hepatitis A outbreaks occur throughout the world and sometimes in countries with a low risk for hepatitis A (including the US). You can get hepatitis A through contaminated food or water in Greece, so talk to your doctor to see if the hepatitis A vaccine is right for you.

You can get hepatitis B through sexual contact, contaminated needles, and blood products, so CDC recommends this vaccine if you might have sex with a new partner, get a tattoo or piercing, or have any medical procedures.

Rabies is present in bats in Greece. However, it is not a major risk to most travelers. CDC recommends rabies vaccine for only these groups:

- Travelers involved in outdoor and other activities in remote areas that put them at risk for bat bites (such as adventure travel and caving).
- People who will be working with or around bats (such as wildlife professionals and researchers).

- ***Familiarize yourself with attitudes, local laws, and customs of the countries to which you are traveling.***
- ***Remember that no matter how safe you feel there is crime everywhere. Pick-pocketing and theft of a purse or bag is most common. Use common sense; stay aware of your surroundings.***
- ***To avoid being a target of crime, do not wear conspicuous clothing or expensive jewelry and do not carry excessive amounts of money or unnecessary credit cards.***
- ***Avoid traveling alone or at night. Always tell someone your travels plans including your destination, hotel, dates of travel, and method of travel.***
- ***Avoid protest groups or other potentially volatile situations.***

City/region specific safety information:



Describe any health or safety risks (you MUST include any state department issued travel warnings, alerts or cautions) to which students may be exposed and need to be aware of prior to participation.

As of 1/10/2018: (Source: US State Department, <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/greece.html>)

Level I: Exercise Normal precautions.

**Crime:** Crimes against tourists, such as **pick-pocketing** and **purse-snatching**, occur at popular tourist sites, on public transportation (especially the Metro) and in Thessaloniki shopping areas.

Take the following precautions:

- Be discreet when discussing plans and organizing belongings upon arrival.
- Do not leave bags unattended, especially on the Metro and the Athens Airport train.
- Avoid standing near bus or train doors. Thieves often strike as the doors open then disappear into the crowd.
- Some clubs near Glyfada Square are associated with organized-crime.
- Never leave drinks unattended in bars/clubs.
- Protect yourself and your money by using well-lit, public ATMs.
- Internet scams with online thieves posing as loved ones or romantic interests abound.

**Country specific advice/tips for local travel:**



**Greece** is pleasant during May with temperatures averaging 76 °F during the day and 57°F at night. Wear appropriately light clothing, but bring a jacket. Wear sunscreen. (Source: Trip Advisor, <https://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g189400-s208/Athens:Greece:Weather.And.When.To.Go.html> )

**Criminal Penalties:** You are subject to local laws. If you violate local laws, even unknowingly, you may be expelled, arrested, or imprisoned. **Possession of a U.S. passport will not prevent you from being arrested, prosecuted, or jailed.** (Source: US State Department, <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/greece.html>)

- Penalties for possessing, using, or trafficking in **illegal drugs** are severe, and convicted offenders can expect long jail sentences and heavy fines.
- **Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs** could land you immediately in jail.
- You are not allowed to photograph military installations. If you do, police may arrest you.
- **Mace** or pepper-spray canisters are **illegal** in Greece. Such items will be confiscated and police may arrest or detain you.
- **Carry your passport** or some form of photo identification at all times. Police may detain you for questioning if you don't have proper identification with you.

#### Emergency Information:



### Medical Facilities

There are numerous medical facilities available in each city in addition to those listed.

- **Athens: Athens City Med**, Μεσογείων 2-4, Athens · 21 0777 4737
- **Chania, Crete: Iasis Hospital - Chania**, Μάρκου Μπότσαρη 80, Χανιά
- **Santorini: Central Clinic of Santorini**, Φηρά, Santorini · 2286 021728

### Police Stations

(Source: Sappho Travel, [http://www.sapphotravel.com/sappho/tourist\\_police.php](http://www.sapphotravel.com/sappho/tourist_police.php))

- **Athens:** Tourist Police Service, 4, P. Kanellopooulou Str, Athens, 10177, Tel: 210 6977386 or 210 6924929
- **Chania, Crete:** Police Authority [CHANIA](#) , [CRETE](#) , [GREECE](#), 32, Giamboudaki Street 73134, **Tel.:** +30 28210 46162, 42640 , **Fax:** +30 28210 41053
- **Santorini:** Tourist Police +30 22860 22239

### U.S. Embassy Athens

(Source: US State Department, <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/greece.html>)

91 Vasilisis Sophias Avenue  
10160 Athens, Greece

- Telephone: +30 210 721-2951
- Emergency After-Hours Telephone: +30 210 729-4444 or +30 210 729-4301
- Fax: +30 210 724-5313
- Email: [athensamericancitizenservices@state.gov](mailto:athensamericancitizenservices@state.gov)