

**Athens: Thursday;** Transport to Thebes and hotel. Walkthrough Thebes, see sights, eat / drink. Then to hotel. Presentation of tour / on antiquity's development and communication culture. Thebes: One of the most important power centers of ancient times, and central city mythology: the birthplace of Zev, the birthplace of Ødipus, and the city where the "Milky Way" originates. "The Muses" (9 knowledges) birthplace. Pindar the poet's city. Hotel on the battleground of Alexander the Great attack.



Hotel: <http://www.philoxenia-thiva.gr/>

**Friday:** Minibus at 09:00. To the Valley of the Muses (origin; music, museum); the earthly cradle of knowledge. We fill water in the fine little "amphora" (classical jar), from the spring "Olmeios", one of Hesiod's "sacred springs". Hesiod is the source of mythology, and stimulator thinking / knowledge. (We may see The Muses running in the valley)



12.00. To modern Thespia for food/drink. We go to the statue at Thespia, looking out over the place of ancient Thespia. The statue commemorates the 700 thespians who fought and died in the battle of Thermopylae (film "300"). Narsissus, the boy who fell in love with his own mirror, and starved to death, came into mythology from here.



At 13.00 To Lefktra and see the victory monument after Theben's victory over Sparta 371 b.kr



14.00. To Plataea where we visit the ruin of Plataea. About their heroic history, and struggle for life. We see the battlefield where the Greeks had victory in the last decisive battle against the Persians in 479 BC., (Athens was rebuilt as the democratic “golden age”). Then to modern Plataea for refreshments. Visits of Ancient Warriors at Plataea. We eat and drink in antiquity battle camp. They tell about technique, about battle and leadership. Plataea was destroyed by Sparta and Thebes, but rebuilt by Alexander the Great. Two speeches from ancient times are read here; «Plataeas Defense speech» (Thukydidis), and "Oath of Plataea".



At 1615. To Thebes for restaurant and leisure. About Alexander the Great massacre of Thebes, on the way to hotel.



Saturday:

kl. 09:00. We cross the battlefield (Film: Plataea; last scene '300'), from Plataea, towards Athens, about 43 km., One stop at the ruin and fort of Eleutherai, where Myron the "discusthrower" came from. Eleutherai was considered by the Athenians as the origin of the theater.

One hour break/restaurant at the village of Inoi.



Sunday:

10.00. Marathon Museum, and the tomb of the fallen Plataeans after the Marathon battle. These were the first to defend democracy in history, against a foreign power. The tombs are open and the remains visible. We go to the Marathon beach for swimming and tavern.



(Film; «Rise of an Empire» 1. scene: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2up4-CJ-ok>)

16.30: Driving to Acropolis: Parthenon, Erechteion.



19.30.; Pnyx, public assembly plateau. About people and management.



Monday:

10:00 AM: Athens National Museum. (Pictures below). Then Agora, Socrates' favorite place / prison, execution site, and social policy institutions. About Cleisthenes reform.



12:00 AM: Cerameicos: Outer Wall; "Themistocles

Wall", torn down by Sparta 404 BC, and graveyard in ancient times.



