



Sam Wai and Peter Schultz present
The 2022 Aegean History, Food, and Wine Adventure
11– 23 September 2022

Discover the history, cuisine, and viticulture of Greece on a 12-day global adventure led by Mr. Sam Wai, wine educator extraordinaire, and Dr. Peter Schultz, former Olin J. Storvick Chair of Classical Studies, Concordia College.

For 12 incredible days, the world's best food, wine, and adventure will be ours!

With Mr. Wai and Dr. Schultz as our guides, after a two-day adventure in breathtaking Athens, we'll explore the world-famous Greek islands of [Crete and Santorini](#). Our journey will take us over the lofty peaks of ancient Thera, across the sun-kissed landscapes of the Aegean, and through the ancient art of the Bronze Age and Classical Greece. Of course, all of this is a sidebar to the *true* focus of our adventure: the dining and wineries of the Aegean!

Sunday, 11 September – Day 0 - *Departure to Athens*

Our journey begins with our arrival to the conveniently located [Herodion Hotel](#) in Athens to acclimate, kick jet lag, and get ready to adventure! (The world famous [Tod Ganje](#), of Travel Incorporated, in Moorhead, is available and willing to help you with your travel plans.)

Monday, 12 September – Day 1 – *Athens*

For our first day together, we'll get acquainted with our neighborhood and then tour the Athenian Acropolis. We'll feast together Greek style at [To Kati Allo](#) for dinner before walking back to the Herodion where you may enjoy a nightcap at the rooftop cafe.

Tuesday, 13 September – Day 2 – *Athens*

Our second day in Athens begins with a tour of the Athenian Agora with world-renowned Classical archaeologist, Dr. David Scahill. Lunch and free exploration of the famous shopping district of Plaka follows. We will then meet at the [Acropolis Museum](#) for a tour of this most extraordinary of collections. Dinner tonight is at the exclusive [Kuzina](#), with a panoramic view of the Athenian Acropolis.

Wednesday, 14 September – Day 3 – *Departure to Crete*

This morning, we will depart on a mid-morning flight to arrive on Crete and check into the modern and efficient [Olive Green Hotel](#), an eco-friendly hotel with excellent service in the heart of the capital, Heraklion. After settling in, we will pay a visit to the [Historical Museum of Crete](#) which boasts two El Greco paintings and countless other treasures. Dinner tonight will feature a Venetian harbor sunset at [Herbs Garden Restaurant](#).

Thursday, 15 September – Day 4 – *Crete*

Today begins with a visit to the world-famous [Heraklion Archaeological Museum](#), most notable for its complete

collection of artifacts of the Minoan civilization of Crete. After a tour of the collections, we will depart for Knossos for a café lunch on your own and exploration of the most famous archaeological site on the island. After we've wandered the path of King Minos of antiquity, we will return to Heraklion to prepare for dinner. Dinner tonight will include olive oil and wine tastings and creative takes on traditional island fare from our knowledgeable host, Georgios Maltezakos, of [Tasting Crete](#).

Friday, 16 September – Day 5 – Crete

Today we will depart early for the West, visiting the picturesque port city of Rethymno. After a tour of [Arkadi Monastery](#), a site dating back to the 16th century which played an active role in the Cretan resistance to the Ottomans, we will lunch at a *cafeneion* so non-touristic that it has no name, but is affectionately called “Manolis’s Place” by the locals. We’ll enjoy free time in Rethymno before returning for Heraklion. Dinner tonight is on your own.

Saturday, 17 September – Day 6 – Crete

This morning we will walk to [Agia Ekaterini](#), an impressive building dating back to the second Byzantine period. Once an intellectual center for the arts, literature, and sciences, it now houses the Museum of Christian Art, which presents an overview of Cretan art from the 15th to 19th century including works from famed icon painter, Michael Damaskinos. Our lunch and wine tasting this afternoon will be at [Lyrarakis Wines](#), a family-owned winery surrounded by the idyllic Lassithi mountains and credited with the revival of ancient Cretan grape varieties: Dafni and Plyto. Dinner tonight will be at [Peskesi](#) — truly one of the finest restaurants in the Aegean with modern gastronomy rooted in ancient and local culinary traditions.

Sunday, 18 September – Day 7 – Departure to Santorini

We will depart on a mid-morning flight to meet our hosts, Dora and Nikos, in the Santorinian village of Kamari where we’ll settle into the family-owned, beach front [Nissia Apartments](#) and get acquainted with our neighborhood. We will then go to our first wine tasting at [Hatzidakis](#) winery, just a short drive from Kamari. Dinner tonight is at the very private [Metaxi Mas](#) — one of the best kept secrets on the island.

Monday, 19 September – Day 8 – Santorini

Our second day in Santorini begins with a free morning for relaxing, exploration, breakfast, shopping, and lunch. We will then meet for a tour of the ancient Hellenistic city of Thera for sightseeing and a lecture on the island’s myths and history. After, we will visit the church of [Panagia Episkopi](#), commissioned by the Byzantine Emperor Alexios I in the 11th century, [Santorini Brewing Company](#), and [Estate Argyros Winery](#). Dinner tonight is on your own.

Tuesday, 20 September – Day 9 – Santorini

We will begin our day with a tour of the [Tomato Industrial Museum](#) to learn about the history of perhaps the most famous agricultural product of the island. We’ll return for wine tasting and a light lunch at the picturesque [Gaia](#) winery. Afternoon is free. Dinner tonight is at the modern, gastronomic [Aroma Avlis](#).

Wednesday, 21 September – Day 10 – Santorini

Today, we will leave for our tour of the ancient Bronze Age town of Akrotiri, the “Pompeii of the Aegean.” Buried by volcanic ash from the eruption of ca. 1600 B.C.E., the archaeological site is one of the most important in Europe. Following our tour of the site, we will visit a local organic farm ([Faros Market](#)) owned by friends for a late morning snack, a lecture on traditional ingredients, and culinary tips on using them on our return home. Next we will visit the [Co-Op Store of Santos Wines](#), a great stop to shop for fabulous wines and Greek ingredients. We’ll spend the afternoon in the island capital of Fira, visiting the Archaeological Museum and exploring the town for lunch, shopping, and other delights! Dinner tonight is on your own.

Thursday, 22 September – Day 11 – Santorini

Our last full day in Santorini is free until the afternoon. If you’re looking for more adventure, Dr. Schultz will be leading a hike to the top of Profitis Ilias, the highest point in the southern Aegean. (It is a 3.5 hour hike, but we will take many

breaks.) In the early afternoon, we lunch and sample the elite wines of [Domaine Sigalas](#). The rest of the afternoon will be free time in the charming cliffside town of Oia. We conclude the day with a sunset dinner on the northwestern tip of the island at [Fanari Villas](#), an iconic Santorini experience.

Friday, 23 September – Day 12 – *Return*

In the morning, we depart for the airport for our return flight home, until the next time

Costs:

Three Days in Athens, Four Days in Crete, Five Days in Santorini: \$5,445 / person, double occupancy. Cost includes a pre-trip dinner with wine pairings and presentations on viticulture and archaeology at the Rourke Art Museum, all hotel accommodations, breakfasts, planned lunches and dinners, entry fees, intra-country air fare (Athens → Crete → Santorini), transportation for group outings, and wine tastings with Mr. Wai. **All international airfare for arrival in Athens and return from Santorini is on your own.**

Single occupancy surcharge: \$695

Deposits: \$1,995 is due 15 January 2022.

***Deposits are fully refundable until 15 March 2022.**

Final payments: \$3450 is due 15 April 2022.

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