

MPR Custom Travel™ announces



FOLLOW THE GODS

11 DAYS IN GREECE
WITH KEVIN KLING

MAY 4 - 14, 2014 MPR.ORG/TRAVEL

Dear Story-loving travelers,

This letter is a cordial invitation to join me on a journey into the origins of storytelling - Follow the Gods: 11 days in Greece, May 4 - 14, 2014.

As a Minnesota Public Radio listener, you clearly appreciate the art of great storytelling. Together, we will immerse ourselves in the sights, sounds and delicacies of Greece. From spontaneous storytelling in ancient theaters to ad hoc workshops on sun-kissed islands, stories of gods and goddesses will be told, shared and explored. I can't tell you how much fun it's been to work with MPR Custom Travel™ to create an adventure where we will gain perspective into the legends which comprise this nation's mythology.

All guests are encouraged to listen to Homer's "The Odyssey" audio book narrated by Ian McKellan, which is, in my humble and enthusiastic opinion, a masterpiece. We'll discuss it as a group at a pre-trip dinner at MPR headquarters. As part of an MPR fellowship program, our trip includes a Travel Scholar fresh off a local win of The Moth™, the acclaimed live-stage storytelling competition and national public radio program. The Travel Scholar will inspire you with passion for the subject and offer creative approaches to develop your own stories...and

perhaps find the courage to share them with me and fellow travelers.

I have always wanted to lead a trip like this with curious, courageous, life-long learners and world travelers. Our custom itinerary is full of rich experiences, each an opportunity to create a whole new story, which begins the moment you register.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kling

Pre and Post-tour Events

April 22, 2014 - Enjoy a light supper and discussion of the audio book Homer's "The Odyssey" hosted by Kevin Kling at Minnesota Public Radio headquarters.

June 16, 2014 - Reunite with the group and enjoy light cuisine and a beautifully produced presentation of your trip hosted by Kevin Kling at Minnesota Public Radio headquarters.

Your Host

Kevin Kling, well-known playwright, storyteller and author, has been an artist in residence for the past three years at Minnesota Public Radio's Fitzgerald Theater with the productions *Of Mirth and Mischief*, *Scarecrow on Fire*, and ending with this season's *Gulliver Unravels*. He's a featured storyteller on NPR's *All Things Considered*™ and a man whom the Guthrie's Artistic Director Joe Dowling calls "one of the most beloved members of our theater community." Kevin's new book "On Stage with Kevin Kling" comes out in November 2013 featuring plays, poems and essays that put readers on stage alongside this master.



Travel Scholar

As part of an MPR fellowship program, you will be joined by a Travel Scholar, a young scholar or student whose area of study is part of the subject matter being examined on the trip. Travel Scholars are chosen by a panel of selected judges. Travelers will value the insights and contributions of the Travel Scholar and we know the Scholar will deeply appreciate the insights of all travelers.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

SUN 04 MAY

Depart U.S.

Depart Minneapolis/St. Paul and connect in Philadelphia with the overnight, transatlantic flight to Athens via US Airways. (Meals in-flight)

MON 05 MAY

Athens/Delphi

Upon morning arrival in Athens, meet your professional, licensed guide and travel to Delphi with time to stop for lunch on own en route. Hotel rooms will be available at mid-afternoon, so store your luggage and take a stroll. Delphi was the first "United Nations" and had enormous influence in the ancient world. After hotel check-in and time to refresh, gather for a welcome dinner. Hotel Amalia (Meals in-flight, D) <http://www.amalia.gr/delphi-hotel>

TUE 06 MAY

Delphi

Kevin begins his mythical storytelling today during visits to the museum and archaeological sites of the ancient oracle spectacularly situated in the cliffs on the flank of Mt. Parnassos. In Greek mythology, Delphi was the site of the Delphic oracle, the most important oracle in the classical Greek world, and a major site for the worship of the god Apollo after he slew the Python, a dragon who lived there and protected the navel of the Earth. After touring enjoy the shops and restaurants that line the main street of Delphi. Hotel Amalia (B)

WED 07 MAY

Delphi/Nafplion

Depart Delphi and travel to Thebes for a privately hosted visit to the Bucknell College archaeological dig. The mythological birthplace of Hercules and Oedipus, home to a large Bronze Age palace, and the seat of major political and military force until its destruction by Alexander the Great, Thebes was a dominant power for centuries. Continue across the Corinthian Isthmus to the Peloponnese and Nafplion, an unusually well-preserved

Venetian town beautifully situated overlooking a lovely bay. Hotel Nafplia Palace (B,D) www.nafpliapalace.gr

THU 08 MAY

Nafplion

Today explore the archaeological site of Mycenae - the imposing ruins of the greatest city of the Mycenaean civilization, which dominated the eastern Mediterranean world from the 15th to the 12th century B.C. and played a vital role in the development of classical Greek culture. Our reading of "The Odyssey" will take on new meaning in this city so closely linked to the Homeric epics. Then to Epidaurus to visit the sanctuary of the god of healing, Asclepius. The health-giving smell of thyme and pines still lingers, but only the foundations remain of the vast complex. The theater is an exception - this is the best-preserved ancient theater in Greece and the works of playwrights such as Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes are still performed here. Perhaps Kevin will share a story amidst the perfect acoustics. Hotel Nafplia Palace (B)

FRI 09 MAY Nafplion/Cruise Embarkation

Embarkation: 11 AM

Mykonos: 6PM-11PM

Transfer to Athens' port of Piraeus this morning for embarkation. You'll be sailing with Louis Hellenic Cruises on a three-night Greek Islands Cruise. First port of call will be Mykonos late this afternoon. This is the popular yet dreamy island of whitewashed buildings and blue seas, which is often depicted as the essence of the Greek Isles. Louis Hellenic Cruises (B, L, D)

SAT 10 MAY

Cruise

Kusadasi: 7AM-12PM

Patmos: 4PM-9PM

Arrive in Kusadasi where you may choose to visit Ephesus, one of the largest and most famous archaeological sites in the world. Ephesus was an

important city in the Roman Empire and is one of the "Seven Wonders of the World." The roots of this impressive site go back to the 13th century B.C. Sail to Patmos. This island is known as the site of the apocalyptic Revelations of Apostle John the Theologian, written here during his exile from the Roman Empire. The cave where he lived is now the site of the Monastery of the Apocalypse. The Monastery of St. John, built on one of the island's highest points, houses priceless icons and manuscripts in its Treasury. Louis Hellenic Cruises (B,L,D)

SUN 11 MAY

Cruise

Crete: 7AM-11:30AM

Santorini: 4:30PM-9PM

Crete is the largest and the most rugged of the Greek islands. It is also the home of the great Minoan Civilization and the mythological home of Zeus. The port of Heraklion is just three miles away from the fantastic ruins of the Palace of Knossos. Discovered in 1899 and partially reconstructed, the elaborate Palace is believed to be the mythical Labyrinth of King Minos and the seat of ancient Minoan culture. Kevin will recall the story of Theseus who traveled to Crete to kill Minotaur, the legendary monster who lived in the labyrinthine palace of Knossos. The island of Santorini is perhaps the most breathtaking of all the Greek Islands. The town of Thira is replete with whitewashed houses, narrow streets, open-air cafes and glittering boutiques clinging to steep cliffs, accessible by cable car or mule. Louis Hellenic Cruises (B,L,D)

MON 12 MAY Disembarkation/Athens

Arrive in port early this morning and board the coach for a southbound drive to Cape Sounion at the tip of the Attic Peninsula. Here stands the 5th century B.C. Temple of Poseidon, god of the sea. Next to the sanctuary site of Artemis-Ifigenia (daughter of Agamemnon) is a brand new mu-

seum focusing on Artemis the goddess and the heroine Ifigenia. The museum specializes on the every day life of women and children in antiquity. Lastly visit the famous battlefield at Marathon where the Athenians defeated in 490 B.C. the overwhelming Persian army. The first Marathon runner was the foot soldier who was dispatched to Athens on a mission to announce the victory to the citizens. Continue to Athens for hotel check-in. Hotel Divani Palace (B) <http://www.divanis.com/acropolis>

TUE 13 MAY Athens

Embark on a tour of Athens, ancient and modern – Kevin will weave his stories into the day. Visit the famed Acropolis on its rocky outcropping overlooking Athens. Here stands the striking Parthenon and the Erechtheum, which marks the legendary site of the contest between Athena and Poseidon for possession of the city. See the Temple of Hephaestus, the lame god of volcanoes and metalworking – this first marble temple in Athens was built two years before the Parthenon and looks upon the Agora, the commercial hub of Athens. Drive past the Parliament and the Olympic Stadium. Gather this evening for a farewell dinner at an authentic taverna in the lively Plaka district. Hotel Divani Palace (B, D)

WED 14 MAY Return to U.S.

Transfer this morning to the Athens airport for the return flight to the U.S. Pass through immigration and customs in Philadelphia before connecting with the continuing flight to Minneapolis/St. Paul. Arrive home this same day enriched with your discoveries of Greece in the company of Kevin Kling. (B, Meals in-flight)

Code: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Itinerary subject to change.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- PRE AND POST-TOUR SPECIAL EVENTS:** A pre-tour light supper and book club discussion, and a post-tour reunion, both at Minnesota Public Radio headquarters.
- AIRFARE:** Round-trip economy class airfare from Minneapolis/St. Paul via US Airways or other ARC/IATA approved scheduled carrier.
- ACCOMMODATION:** Six nights accommodation in four-star hotels, double occupancy, with private facilities. Hotels as listed or similar.
- CRUISE:** Three nights accommodation onboard a Louis Cruises ship, outside cabin category XA, double occupancy, with private facilities. Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily onboard the cruise ship.
- MEALS:** Breakfast with three lunches and six dinners as outlined in the itinerary.
- GROUND TRANSPORT:** Transfers and transportation by deluxe motorcoach during the land portion of the tour.
- SIGHTSEEING:** Extensive sightseeing throughout; entrance fees included.
- PORTERAGE:** Luggage handling of one piece per person.
- EXPERT GUIDES:** An experienced English-speaking tour guide from arrival in Athens through departure from Athens.
- GRATUITIES:** Gratuities to shipboard staff, drivers and guides (for your convenience, \$104 per person has been included).
- TAXES:** Airport/foreign departure taxes (currently \$128 per person).
- PORT CHARGES/FUEL SURCHARGES:** (currently \$125)
- ALL THE INFO YOU NEED:** Comprehensive documentation including travel accessory, bag tags, name tags, flight and land itineraries, destination literature, customs information, travel tips and more.

COST SUMMARY



***\$4999**

*For reservations received Dec. 10, 2013 or after. Group Flights from St. Paul/Minneapolis

Tour Gratuities (\$104).....Included
 Airport/Departure Taxes (\$128).....Included
 Port Charges/Fuel Surcharges (\$125).....Included
 *Costs per person based on double occupancy in USD

Optional Individual Supplements

Single Room.....\$760
 Cruise category upgrade XB.....\$50
 Cruise category upgrade XC.....\$80
 In addition to base tour cost.

Costs: The tour cost is per person based on current airfare from Minneapolis/St. Paul (other cities available), double occupancy, tariffs and currency valuations as of July 2013, a minimum of 25 travelers, and subject to confirmation. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed price and/or itinerary, they are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. Single room supplements may have limited availability and are on a request basis only. Not all bookings have been made and all space/rates are subject to availability at time of booking.

Items Not Included

- Cruise shore excursions.
- Fuel surcharges and/or tax increases levied since the pricing of this tour.
- Beverages other than coffee/tea at breakfast.
- Any meal or sightseeing item not listed in the itinerary.
- Optional insurance for health, baggage, and trip cancellation/interruption. Please refer to the Travel Insurance section.
- Passport fees. A passport valid six months beyond date of reentry to the U.S. is required.
- No visa is required for U.S. citizens; non-U.S. citizens may require a visa.

RESERVATION APPLICATION (G#140513) • CLIP AND MAIL OR FAX

Greece • May 4-14, 2014 • Minnesota Public Radio • Attention: Nicole Greenly • 480 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101 or Fax: 651-222-2065

(Name as it appears on passport)

1. _____ Male Female Date of Birth _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name Month/Day/Year

2. _____ Male Female Date of Birth _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name Month/Day/Year

Address (no P.O. boxes) _____ Tel. (Day) _____ (Eve.) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Email _____

Roommate _____ I will pay the supplement for a single room. I/we request cruise category: XA XB XC

Advise if we can assign you a roommate or single supplement. Accolades can assist in finding roommates; however, this cannot be guaranteed and the supplement may apply. (Subject to availability)

FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS (please check one)

- I/We will take the group flights from Mpls/St. Paul.
- I/We will need assistance with flight arrangements from _____ airport to join the group.
- I/We will make all of my own flight arrangements.
Please contact Accolades for land-only rates.

DEPOSIT/TRAVEL INSURANCE (please check one)

Please reserve _____ space(s) for me/us; we choose the following deposit option:

\$ _____ **\$673 per person inclusive of travel insurance.**

\$ _____ **\$400 per person without travel insurance.**
 I/We decline now, but understand it can be purchased later. without the pre-existing waiver.

Form of Payment

Check

Charge my deposit(s) to

Credit Card # _____

Exp _____

Security Code _____

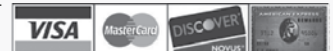
Name as it appears on credit card: _____

Please make checks payable to Minnesota Public Radio.

I/We have read and understand the conditions of this brochure. Parent or guardian signature is required for travelers under age 18.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____



140513/200C/J/T

TOUR CONDITIONS

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: Your reservation and deposit of \$400 per person are requested immediately to fulfill the group deadline requirements. Note that space is limited and reservations are taken on a first come, first served basis. A second payment of \$1000 is due December 30, 2013. Final payment is due February 28, 2014. For credit card payment MPR accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover.

REFUND POLICY: All cancellations must be in writing. There is no refund for partial or unused land arrangements. Note: Airline tickets will be issued well in advance prior to departure and may be nonrefundable. The following penalties will apply: Up to December 29, 2013 - \$100 per person administrative fee plus any unrecoverable deposits; December 30, 2013 - April 19, 2014 - Deposit plus any unrecoverable payments to hotels, tour operators or airlines; April 20, 2014 or after - No refund.

CHANGES TO GROUP FLIGHTS: The group airfare contract for this tour may not allow travelers to make any date or itinerary changes. If you are considering other dates or cities, please submit your request in writing well in advance to secure the best rates and schedule, but no later than December 30, 2013. A minimum fee of \$175 per person will apply for changes to group flights in addition to a possible airfare increase.

LATE BOOKINGS: Passengers registering within thirty days of tour departure will be charged a \$50 per person fee. Tour payment in full is required before we can request and confirm space. This fee does not cover any additional airline or ground service charges.

ACCOLADES TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is included as an option with the initial tour deposit and is highly recommended. Accolades offers a competitive policy from an independent company. By purchasing insurance at the time the tour deposit is made, you can be covered for events that may cause you to cancel or interrupt your trip, e.g., pre-existing medical conditions (certain restrictions apply). If you decline travel insurance at the time of reservation, you may purchase it within 14 days with the pre-existing conditions waiver or you may purchase it later without the pre-existing conditions waiver. You may contact Travel Insured International for further information before making your decision: 800-243-3174.

GTD TRAVEL INSURANCE INCLUSIONS

Trip Cancellation.....	up to Tour Cost*
Trip Interruption.....	up to 150% of Tour Cost**
Travel Delay.....	\$750
Missed Connection.....	\$300
Baggage.....	\$1,000
Baggage Delay.....	\$200
Medical Expense.....	\$50,000
Evacuation/Repatriation.....	\$500,000
Accidental Death.....	\$10,000
Political Emergency Evacuation.....	\$100,000
ID Theft Resolution Services.....	included
Assistance Service.....	included

* a maximum of \$5000 per person
 ** a maximum of \$7500 per person

Cost of this optional GTD Travel Insurance is \$273 per person. Additional coverage provided as needed; the full cost of your tour must be covered. NOTE: Residents of Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah and Washington will receive a state-specific Description of Coverage, which can also be requested by calling 866-684-0218.

PRE-EXISTING medical conditions and other circumstances are covered when insurance is purchased at the time of reservation / deposit. Contact Travel Insured for more info. 800-243-3174

CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY

Group Travel Directors (GTD) dba Accolades International Tours for the Arts provides customized travel planning throughout the world for group travelers who have a variety of reasons and goals for travel. The goals and/or opinions of these groups do not reflect or imply the position of GTD in any matter. Brochure contents may not be duplicated without permission from GTD. In offering these travel arrangements, Group Travel Directors, Inc. (GTD) acts solely as an agent for the sale of air transportation and other travel related services. GTD maintains no control over the personnel, equipment or operations of any entity furnishing services, products or accommodations. GTD assumes no responsibility or liability for, and shall not be expected, asked or required to pay for any injury, damage, expense, personal injury, property damage, inconvenience or any other loss experienced by reason of: (1) any intentional, wrongful, negligent or unauthorized act or omission on the part of any supplier, its agents or employees; (2) any defect, breakdown or other failure of any vehicle, equipment, service, product or other instrumentality which is owned, operated or otherwise used by a supplier; (3) any intentional, wrongful, negligent, or unauthorized act or omission on the part of any other party not under the direct control of GTD; (4) financial problems causing nonperformance by any supplier; or (5) any other cause, condition or event whatsoever beyond the direct control of GTD. GTD cannot guarantee any rates, bookings or reservations of any supplier. Your retention of tickets, reservations or bookings after issuance shall constitute a consent to the foregoing provisions. All prices quoted are subject to change if airlines or ground operators increase their prices, the U.S. dollar is devalued significantly against foreign currencies, the group falls below minimum numbers, or a fuel surcharge, government tax or user's fee is imposed. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. GTD reserves the right to withdraw from any tour any tour member whose conduct is incompatible with the interests of the group as a whole. The above Conditions and Responsibility also includes Kevin Kling, American Public Media, Minnesota Public Radio and their representatives.

NOTE TO OUR TRAVELERS:

Please be assured that Accolades continually monitors industry events, such as airline strikes and bankruptcies, etc. If any such events affect your tour, you will be notified. At the time this tour was developed there was not a U.S. State Department Travel Warning in effect for this destination; please refer to the following website for current information or call Accolades. http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html

For more information, contact:

Janet Tollund
 Accolades International Tours for the Arts
 Minneapolis, MN 55431-2593
 tel: 952-885-2133 or 800-747-2255, ext. 133
 fax: 952-881-6276
 email: jtollund@gtd.org
 www.gtd.org

or

Nicole Greenly
 Minnesota Public Radio
 American Public Media
 480 Cedar Street
 St. Paul, MN 55101
 tel: 651-290-1500
 fax: 651-222-2065
 www.mpr.org/travel

