Arcadia Center in Athens, Greece
Housing Information

Your housing in Athens will be arranged by the Arcadia University Center for Education Abroad and is included in the cost of the program fee. You should complete the housing preference form and return it to us as soon as possible. We will use this form to match you with your roommates.

The Basics
Our housing consists of self-contained apartments located in residential apartment buildings in a neighborhood convenient to downtown Athens. Each apartment is equipped with single beds, chairs, closets and study tables. Basic kitchen equipment is included such as cutlery, crockery, glassware and cookware. There is a refrigerator and an oven with stovetop.

Each apartment can accommodate sharing from 3-5 students. Typically, there is no more than one student apartment in any building, but all apartments are located close to our Athens Center. A cleaning service will be provided once a week; however, you will be responsible for keeping your room clean and laundering your own sheets and towels. You will also be asked to help preserve the general order of kitchens, bathrooms and common areas.

You will share common living room, kitchen and bathroom facilities, and you will be responsible for the cleanliness of your apartments and for purchase and preparation of food. Greek apartments typically have limited storage space, so you should not pack more than you will really need during your stay in Greece.

Utilities
All of the apartments are centrally heated. Your program fee covers the cost of electricity, water and heat. Greek water heaters are electric and must be manually switched off when not in use. You will be instructed in this custom during orientation and it is expected that you adhere carefully to these instructions.

Phones
Student apartments are equipped with telephones. You will be expected to use a pre-paid calling card, a chronokarta, for every telephone call you make from the apartment telephones. Your orientation package will include a pre-paid calling card and replacement cards are easily available for purchase in the neighborhood. They will enable you to call locally or directly to the U.S. There is also a pay phone available at the Center which works with a different sort of pre-paid card, one circulated by OTE, the Greek telephone company. Public telephones also operate with these same cards.

Sheets and Towels
Blankets, a quilt and a pillow are provided. You must bring your own sheets, pillowcase, towels, and washcloths. Do not bring fitted sheets, as mattresses in Greece are not the same size as in the States. Flat twin-size sheets will be the most useful.

The Center provides sheets and towels for summer program students only.

Laundry
All apartments are equipped with washing machines. There are drying racks on the balconies to dry your clothes.

Being a Good Neighbor
You will share apartment buildings with Greek neighbors, so you will have an opportunity for informal interaction with host country families. This will be a big change for some of you more used to dormitory or student apartment complex living. It is very important that you and your fellow apartment-mates remember your obligation to be good neighbors and to respect the social customs of the host country. The mid afternoon siesta, for instance, is still very much a part of Greek life, especially for older Greeks and quiet hours are actually set by law (2pm – 5pm and 11:30pm to 7am). These and other Greek customs will be explained to you during orientation.
The Neighborhood
The Arcadia Center is in a neighborhood called "Pagrati." It is less than a mile from Constitution Square, the edge of the downtown area. Pagrati lies between the Olympic Stadium and the Hilton Hotel to the south of Vas. Konstantinou Avenue, one of the city's major arteries.

The neighborhood is residential, containing a number of small shops and businesses on the ground floors of apartment buildings, usually six stories high. Nestled among these buildings can still be found the smaller nineteenth-century stucco homes of old Athenian families. The contrast between the older and newer buildings mirrors, very closely, the contrast in the society of which they are a part. In Greece today, small shops and family storefront enterprises compete for commercial success with the larger businesses and multinational corporations which European Community membership seems to encourage.

Products from throughout Europe are abundantly available in Athens for those who can afford them. Available for everyone at extremely reasonable prices are the items traditional to Greece. These include fresh fruits and vegetables, cheese, bread and olives. Utilitarian articles of clothing, handicrafts and other basic necessities of life are sold in weekly neighborhood open markets.

Housing Between Breaks
Students can stay in their apartments during any of the regular semester breaks. If you are studying in Athens for the full year, you can also stay in an apartment during the December/January semester break. If you change your apartment from the fall to the spring semester, you must move into the apartment BEFORE the holiday break so that the other apartment can be cleaned and ready for the spring students.

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06/21/05
Arcadia Center in Athens, Greece
Housing Preference Form

Please return this form to our office immediately by fax or mail! Our fax number is (215) 572-2174.

Name ________________________________________  Male / Female
E-mail ________________________________________  Date of Birth _____________________________
Home college _________________________________  Major/minor _____________________________

I would like to enroll for (check one):
☐ Academic Year  ☐ Fall Semester  ☐ Spring Semester  ☐ Of Gods & The City  ☐ On The Trail of Alex…

Please circle any term that generally applies to you (this helps us match roommates):
Extroverted  Introverted  Quiet  Noisy  Night-Owl  Early-Bird  Studious
Tidy  Not-so-tidy  Easy-to-Please  Vegetarian  Athletic  Artistic  Independent

And/Or:
In order to help us match roommates, please describe yourself as honestly as possible. No one but the Arcadia Study Abroad Office will read this.

Do you smoke? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Would you be willing to share a room with a smoker? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Would you prefer to live in a same-sex or mixed-gender apartment? Please circle one.

Please list any allergies or medical conditions that may affect your housing assignment:

I understand and accept the Arcadia University Housing Policy.

Signature: _________________________________ Date: __________

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