 **Rick Steve’s Europe: Athens and Side Trips**

**Begin Part 1**

About five centuries before Christ Athens was the center of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ World.

In the extreme \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Europe is Greece.

We’ll start up there at the historic, cultural and literal high point of any trip to Athens, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The Parthenon was perhaps the finest temple in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

While the Acropolis was the center of ritual and ceremony, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was the beating heart of ancient Athens.

The Temple of Haphaestus, one of the best preserved and most typical of all Greek temples, dates from about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The earliest style, Doric has flat, practical plates as capitals. In the next order, Ionic, the capitals are decorated with understated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The final order, Corinthian, popular later on with the Romans, features leafy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, boldly decorated with no apologies necessary.

Like so many great civilizations, Ancient Greece \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and then faded.

And for a quick, inexpensive bite to eat, drop by a corner Gyro and Souvlaki stand. Gyro means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, referring to the slowly spinning round of meat, roasted pork or chicken shaved as needed.

Athens is getting more and more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ -friendly.

200 years ago, Athens was just a humble town of about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, huddled at the base of the Acropolis. But when the Greeks won their independence from the Ottoman Turks in the early 1800’s, they chose little but historic Athens to be their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

In 1843, a riotous crowd jammed this square, demanding a syntagma, or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The king gave a speech from this balcony, granting his people, whose ancestors invented the concept - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The population of Athens exploded. The flow of people into the sprawling city continues and 4 million people – roughly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Greeks – call Athens home.

The one must see site outside of central Athens is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Archaeological Museum.

This extraordinary collection lets you follow the sweep of Greek art history from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ B.C. to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ A.D.

List three things you can see in the museum:

**Begin Part 2**

A two-hour drive northwest of Athens takes us to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, one of the most important sites in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ world.

Ancient Delphi, perched high on the slopes of Mount Parnassos, was not a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It was the site of the Oracle of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, god of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Zeus wanted to know where the center of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was. He let two eagles fly from the two opposite ends of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and this is where they met, here in Delphi.

Here in Delphi, we had the Pythian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. /these were competitions concerning \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ events as well.

Its main town, also called Hydra, is home to about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the island’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ residents.

Hydra was a Greek \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ power, famous for its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

One of the Island’s greatest attractions in its total absence of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A fleet of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shuttle people to outlying hamlets and beaches.

Perhaps nowhere else does the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ timeline of Europe reach so far back while being so \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.