



GEORGE LAKIS
PHOTOGRAPHY

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Greek Treasures

The Greece of travel books is mainly blue and white like its flag: Blue Mediterranean skies, azure seas, white-washed chapels and sun-bleached stair-stepped villages. However, the true Greece is much more colorful with a myriad of treasures to behold.

In this catalogue of images, Greek born photographer George Lakis presents a vibrant medley of ancient architecture, culture and charm representative of the friendly Mediterranean country that is roughly the size of Alabama. From the crowded streets of Athens where one third of the population resides, to the peasant fruit stands of mountainous Elati in the heart of Greece, Lakis focuses his lens on capturing the very essence of all that is Grecian.

Ancient Architecture

Most of what we know today about Greek architecture comes from the few remaining buildings of the Classical, Hellenistic and Roman periods. From its commanding position atop the Acropolis, the Parthenon is amongst the most well known structures of ancient Greece. Completed between 447 and 432 B.C. at the height of the Classical building period, the Doric-fluted columns of the Parthenon are awe-inspiring and suggestive of the structure's societal importance.

Visitors to Greece's peninsular mainland or to any one of the hundreds of small islands dotting the Aegean Sea at the country's southern end will find treasures to fit their particular taste. There are the larger-than-life goddess statues of the Propylaea, the red tile roofs of the Monastery of Our Lady Queen of All from the 15th Century, as well as castles balanced on rocks on the water, and stone churches built into the sides of mountains.

Culture

The culture of the early Greeks greatly influenced the arts, language, philosophy, politics, theater and sports of today's modern western society. Lingering whispers of that refining age are still visible in places such as the round open Theatre of Dionysus or in some of the many sacred buildings scattered all across the land. Ancient Greek life was dominated by religion. The result is a country replete with the world's biggest and most beautiful temples that also served a political purpose.

Statues of stone, marble and limestone saturate the museums of Greece. These were the materials most in abundance in ancient times, and which also proved to be the most durable. The statues, some of which are of god-like size, such as those adorning a corner of the Propylaea on the Acropolis of Athens, represent mythical tales of Gods and heroes, as well as historical events and feats. Greek culture and art was unprecedented for the age and has yet to be outdone by modern man.

Charm

Greece, of course, is more than interesting architecture. The Greeks themselves offer a fascinating study. Lakis does not forget them as he snaps pictures of weather beaten fishermen repairing their nets, elderly women resting on shady benches and street shoppers comparing prices. In Greece, the pace is relaxed, the food is delicious and the surrounds are beyond compare.





Greek Treasures

Ancient Ruins



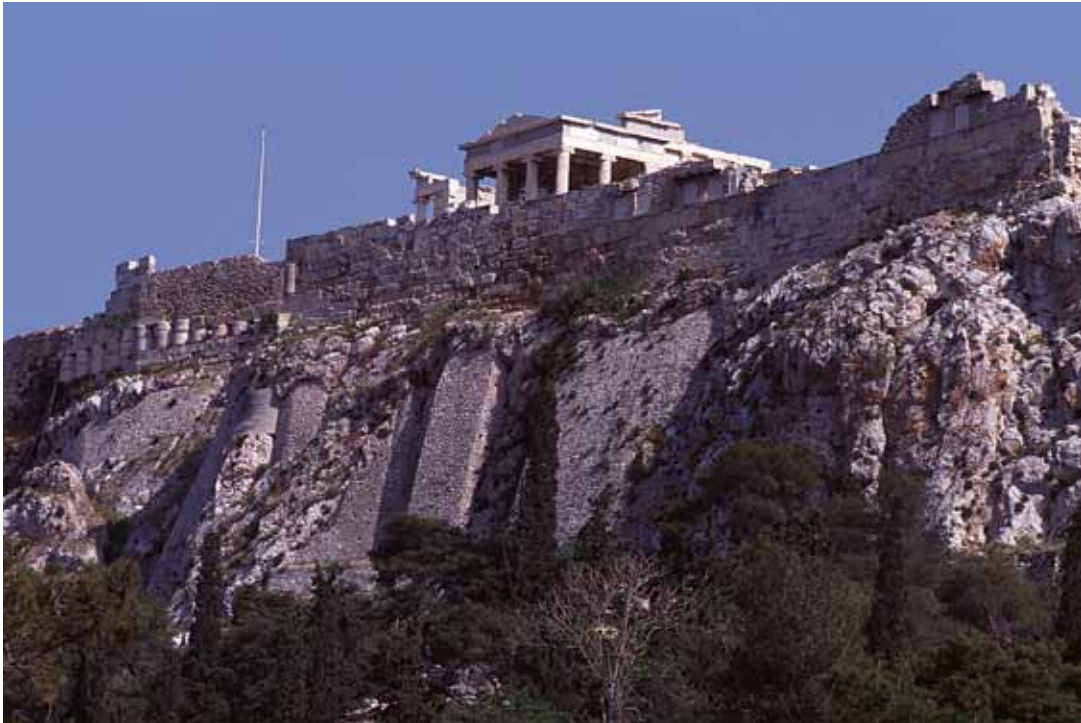
Greek Treasures

Ancient Ruins





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Greek Treasures

Historic Architecture



Greek Treasures

Historic Architecture





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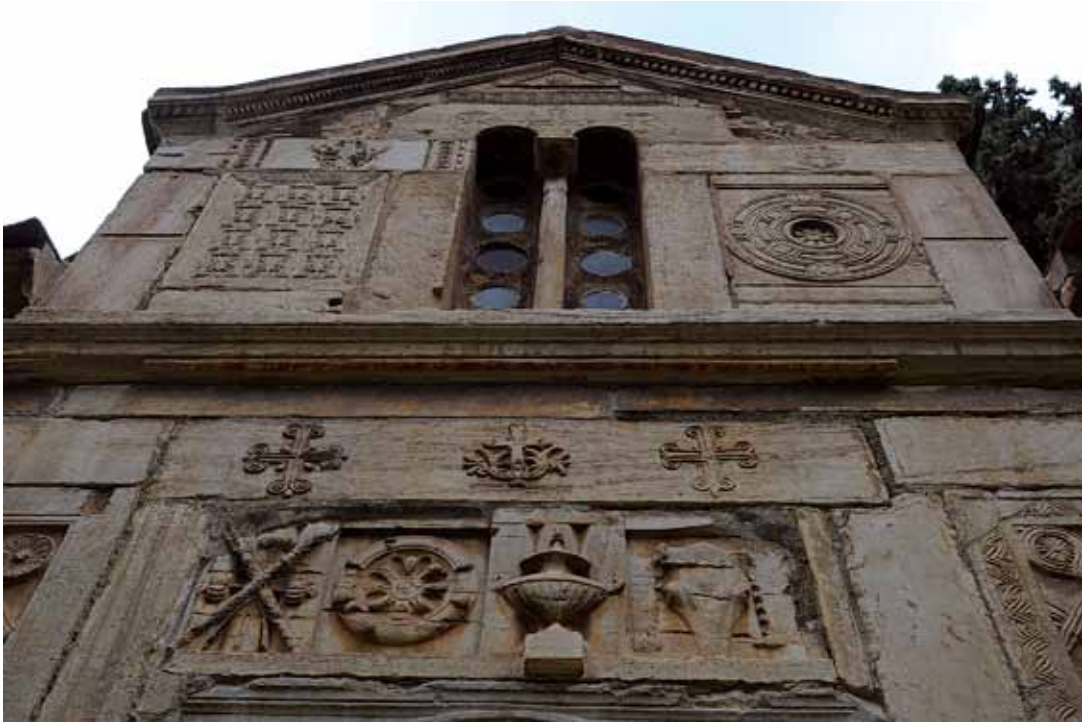
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Greek Treasures

Flowers



Greek Treasures

Flowers





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