

12 Pre - Santorini island (Greece): four days in a volcano

Excursion Leaders: P. Nomikou (University of Athens), **T. Druitt** (Université Blaise Pascal & CNRS), **D.Papanikolaou** (University of Athens).

Proposed Excursion Dates: 'A' 8-11 of July 2023

Definitive cost per head: 750€ (price includes accommodation, tickets for museums/archaeological sites, boat to Nea and Palea Kameni, bus transportation, 4 lunches, 3 dinners, visit in a winery)

Accommodation arrangements: Hotel

Proposer Contact Details:

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Description

Santorini volcano is a unique scientific natural laboratory because it preserves important evidence of geological, archaeological and paleontological remains of the Minoan plinian eruption, which took place in the Late Bronze Age. The eruption is famous for its impact in the demise of the Minoan civilization of Crete and on the Bronze-Age Mediterranean world in general. It comprised four phases, producing "plinian" pumice in the first phase, phreatomagmatic pyroclastic surges in the second and third phase and subaerial flows in the fourth phase. It generated at least 50m-thick cover of pyroclastic deposits on Santorini and left behind the spectacular caldera seen today. The post-Minoan active volcanic islands of Kameni (last eruption in 1950) occur at the centre of the caldera. The prehistoric town of Akrotiri, an archaeological site that has been called the "Pompeii of the ancient Aegean" was blanketed with thick deposits of tephra of the Minoan cataclysm eruption. Within the excavated area of the city 35 buildings have been identified so far. The caldera walls and the Kameni islands will be visited by boat.

