

Frequently Asked Questions

What You Need to Know Prior to Your Gold Key in Athens, Greece

- 1) How far in advance do I need to book my Gold Key?
At least two months in advance. Post requires literature six weeks in advance of proposed meetings. All literature should be sent both electronically and via APO:
U.S. Commercial Service, U.S. Embassy Athens, PSC#108, Box 30, APO AE 09842
- 2) As a U.S. citizen, do I need to obtain a visa beforehand for business travel to Greece or can I get a visa at the airport upon arrival?
No visa is required for a U.S. citizen for a stay of up to three months.
- 3) What hotels does the local CS office recommend? Is a preferred (e.g. Embassy) rate available for Gold Key clients via the local CS office?
Hotels with Embassy rates within the vicinity of the Embassy are the Athens Hilton, Crown Plaza, Divani Caravel, and Grand Bretagne. These special Embassy rates are available through reservations made by CS Greece. The client needs to provide flight arrival/departure.
- 4) What are transportation options from airport to hotel and their approximate costs?
Transportation available to Central Athens:
Taxi - around \$30-\$40
Bus – around \$4.00- \$4.50
Metro – around \$7.00 - \$7.50 (service discontinued from February 14, 2009 for six months)
- 5) Where do the GKS meetings typically take place? At company offices, CS offices, elsewhere?
Initial meeting takes place at the office of CS Greece. Most business appointments take place at the offices of the companies. Some may take place at CS Greece.
- 6) Will someone from CS accompany me to the meetings?
A bi-lingual Commercial Specialist/Assistant will accompany client to all meetings.
- 7) Do I need a translator? If so, how much does this typically cost?
No translator is required. The bi-lingual Commercial Specialist/Assistant, if necessary, will be able to translate for the client.
- 8) Do I need to rent a car and driver for my meetings? If yes, how much does this typically cost?
Yes, a car and driver is required. Approximate cost is \$250.00 per day to be paid directly to the vendor by the client's credit card.
- 9) When will I receive the list of companies that I will be meeting with?
Approximately 5-7 days prior to arrival.
- 10) What is the dress code for business meetings?
Business suit/attire
- 11) Are there any cultural or other useful tips you can provide so that I can make the most of my Gold Key Service? Websites below may help:
<http://www.globalnegotiationresources.com/category/countries/europe/greece/>
<http://www.globalnegotiationresources.com/cou/Greece.pdf>

For additional information on local business culture, please refer to Chapter 8 of our Country Commercial Guide for Doing Business in *Greece*. Your local Export Assistance Center can help you access this informative report.