

Intercultural Understanding Guide: Greek Culture

Geographic context:

• Greece, officially named as the Hellenic Republic is located in southeastern Europe.

Languages:

- The official language of Greece is Greek, which is spoken by the majority of the population.
- English is the next most spoken language. Other European languages such as Turkish, Macedonian and Albanian are also spoken by many.

Religion:

- In Greece, most of the population are Greek Orthodox.
- Most Greek Holidays and festivals are religious in nature.

Values:

- Greek society is characterized by its collectivist orientation.
- It is important to display loyalty to friends and family and fulfilling social responsibility.

Social norms/structure/hierarchy:

- Greeks commonly exhibit a strong inclination towards generosity.
- Politely declining their offerings may potentially lead to offense.

Communication style:

- Greeks often employ an elaborate, theatrical, and intense language style.
- While their communication style can sometimes be characterized by exaggeration, it's important to note that Greeks also frequently employ indirect modes of expression.
- They commonly express their emotions in the speech.

Demographics in Australia:

• According to the 2021 Australian Census, there are 92,314 Greeks currently living in Australia. There are also 424,124 Australians who have Greek ancestry.





Reference/s:

Cultural Atlas