

Greece

RODERICK BEATON

Greece

Biography of a Modern Nation

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*In loving memory of my parents, who first introduced me
to Greece, and supported me as I went on to discover
more and more wonders of the Greek world*

*Janet Mary Beaton
24 July 1922–15 April 2018*

*Duncan MacGillivray Beaton
13 September 1922–7 April 2018*

Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη

Τα μάτια μου δεν είδαν τόπον ενδοξότερον από τούτο το αλωνάκι.

My eyes have seen no land more glorious than this small threshing-floor.

Dionysios Solomos, *The Free Besieged* (1826–9)

Those principles which are now in action in Greece will gradually produce their effect, both here and in other countries . . . I cannot . . . calculate to what a height Greece may rise. Hitherto it has been a subject for the hymns and elegies of fanatics and enthusiasts; but now it will draw the attention of the politician.

Lord Byron, speaking at Missolonghi, Greece (1824)

A nation? says Bloom. A nation is the same people living in the same place . . . Or also living in different places.

James Joyce, *Ulysses* (1922)

A people that has within it a spirit, when it reaches the final depth of despair, finds the strength to react against itself. It reacts suddenly without any warning and without at all preparing the ground . . . The time is ripe for bold pioneers.

Giorgos Theotokas, *Free Spirit* (1929)

