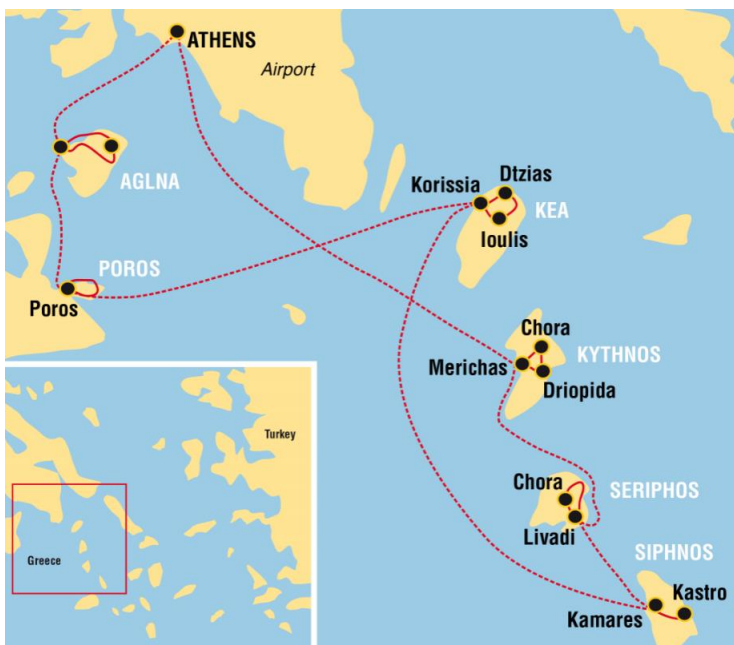


Cycling Europe

SECRET ISLANDS OF THE GREEK CYCLADES
FROM PIRAEUS (ATHENS)
8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS 160KM BY BICYCLE, 2020



The Cyclades, comprised of more than 30 islands, were the cradle of the first European civilised society 5,000 years ago. It is also here that Greece shows its most authentic and traditional side in all its variety: Gleaming white cubic houses with blue shutters and labyrinth lanes show the typical architecture of the island towns. The rugged coastlines show impressive geological formations, turquoise-blue sea and fantastic sandy beaches. The Saronic Islands lie between the Greek mainland and the Peloponnese Islands. Learn about the Greek Liberation Struggle of 1821 – 1830, which shaped Greece as we know it today. Experience the fascinating mixture between antiquity and modern times by bike and boat and experience the authentic beauty of the Greek Aegean.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Saturday ATHENS: Boarding in Piraeus (Marina Zeas)

Check-in from 2 p.m. The boat will be moored at Marina Zeas, in the yacht harbour of Piraeus, only 25 km from Athens Airport. Dinner is on board tonight, and the boat will stay overnight in Piraeus.

Day 2: Sunday Kythnos Island

Early in the morning sail to Kythnos Island - famous for its cheese and honey since ancient times. The first cycling tour starts in the harbour of Merichas and will first lead you to the capital Chora, en route offering scenic views of the coastline. Chora is an appealing village, situated on a high plateau. Its angular alleys are decorated with painted flowers and geometric patterns. From there cycle to Driopida, a picturesque village. Return to Merichas where you can spend the evening in one of the local tavernas.

Cycling: 25 km



Day 3: Monday Seriphos Island

This morning sail to Seriphos, a small island off the tourist beat, with deep valleys, countless bays and coves, and many beautiful sandy beaches. From the harbour town of Livadi cycle along a serpentine road to the main town of Seriphos, whose cube form houses nestle along a mountain ridge high above the sea. Continue on through untouched landscape to the Byzantine monastery of the Archangel Michael. Return to Livadi along a panoramic road on the East coast. In the afternoon the boat brings you to Siphnos, where you can relax on the beautiful beach. Overnight in Kamares, on the island of Siphnos.

Cycling: 30 km



Day 4: Tuesday Siphnos Island

The island of Siphnos, which is famous for its ceramic artwork, is only inhabited away from the coast, because of the steep cliffs, dropping into the sea. Your cycling tour begins in the harbour of Kamares. The route leads through a green, hilly and terraced landscape to the central highlands and the island's capital Kastro, a defensive settlement built on a steep cliff face that has been listed as a protected town since 1975. In the afternoon sail to Kea Island, with time for a refreshing swim en route. **Cycling: 18km**



Day 5: Wednesday Kea Island

Our starting point for exploring the northwestern-most inhabited Cycladic island is the wonderful harbour of Korissia. Cycle uphill to the island's picturesque capital, Loulis, which is situated in the mountains and has the main attraction on the island: The smiling Lion of Kea which was chiselled from stone in the 6th century B.C. Continue to the white sands of Otzias Beach for a swim. Return by bike to Korissia. In the afternoon cruise to Poros in the Saronic Gulf. The harbour city of Poros is truly spectacular; its iconic clock tower juts out above the town. Poros provides a true Greek island atmosphere for a relaxing evening. **Cycling 25 km**

Day 6: Thursday Poros Island

Begin today with a cycle tour from Poros town to the Zoodochos Pigis monastery dating from the 18th century. Complete a loop around the island once owned by the legendary Poseidon. You will not be able to resist a swim at Russian Bay, a sandy beach with crystal clear turquoise water. Time for a delicious lunch on board as you cruise to Aegina.

Cycling: 23 km

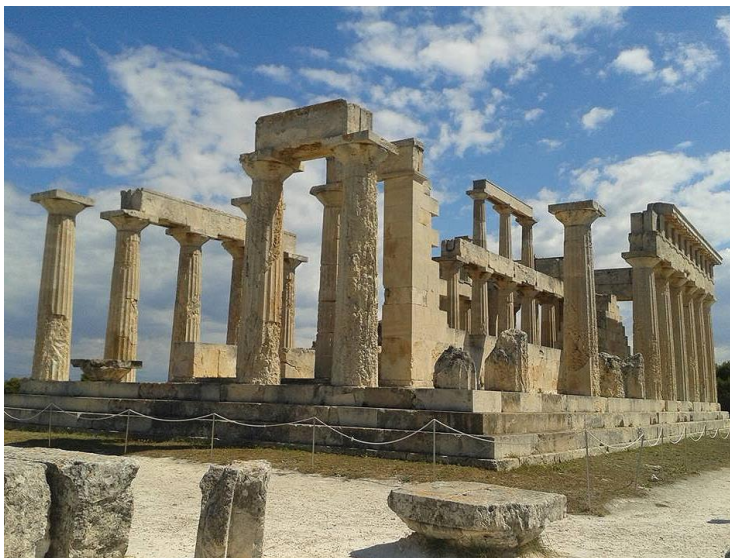
Day 7: Aegina Island

Aegina is known far beyond its borders for its incredible pistachio nuts! The cycle tour today takes you up to the Sanctuary of Aphaia. The extremely well-preserved temple towers high above the blue Aegean Sea. Return across the middle of the island past Nektarios monastery all the way to Aegina city, where you board the boat for the last cruise back to Piraeus. The last evening onboard traditionally includes a communal dinner and a final get-together with the crew and tour guides.

Cycling: 35 km

Day 8 Tour ends in Piraeus/Athens

Disembark after breakfast by 9 a.m.



CHANGES TO ITINERARY: The Cyclades are relatively susceptible to wind. Normally this results in only a minor modification of the cruise route. However, in strong winds the travel route may markedly differ from the planned route. Our substitute tour leads you for the whole week into the Saronic Gulf, one of the most historic regions of Greece. We will cross between the Greek mainland and the Peloponnesian and discover the islands of Aegina, Poros, Hydra, Spetses and the Methana peninsula. A highlight of this journey is a visit to the ancient Epidauros, with the best preserved theatre in Greece.

TERRAIN :

Moderate – Challenging. The bike routes have a length of 18 to 35 km and lead through hilly or mountainous areas. Some uphill stretches are included. The roads are mostly sealed. The tour is primarily a group guided tour- upon consultation with your tour guide, you may have the opportunity to cycle on your own, along recommended suitable routes.

You can always choose to skip a bike tour and spend the time sunbathing on the ship instead. A limited number of **Electric Bikes can also be rented – please request at time of booking.**

HELMETS

Helmets are required on all cycle tours. You are strongly encouraged to bring your own (well-fitted) helmet. Limited helmets are available on board and must be requested when booking.

CHILDREN

We believe that only children in a good physical condition and of a minimum age of 10, and previous cycling tour experience are able to master the bike-tours on their own strength. Please note that the minimum height for a rental bike is 1.30 m.

Children up to 16 years occupying their own cabin will receive a 25% discount - this is not combinable with 50% discount for 3rd person.

MEALS

The on board chef will prepare breakfast, and one or two cooked meals a day. The catering starts with the dinner on the arrival day and ends with the breakfast on the departure day. There are 2 days with full board (3 meals) and 5 days with "half board" (breakfast & one hot meal). This allows you to experience some of the local tavernas.

GUIDED TOUR

English and German speaking tour guide.

2020 7 NIGHT/8 DAY SCHEDULE

April: 25 April-02 May
May: 02-09 May, 09-16 May, 16-23 May, 23-30 May, 30 May – 6 Jun
June: 06-13 June, ~~13-20 June~~ (Fully Booked), 20-27 June
September: 05-12 September, 12-19 September, 19-26 September, ~~26 September-03 October~~
October: 03-10 October

2020 COSTS PER PERSON IN EUROS

Cabin Below Deck

April, May, June, October	Double/Twin Share	€1650
September	Double/Twin Share	€1750

ADD Single Supplement € 500

Bike 21 Speed Hybrid: € 80

Electric bike € 180 (limited number available)

Optional Bike insurance: €10 bike or €20 Electric bike – theft & damage does not cover gross negligence

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

On embarkation and disembarkation days collective transfers can be booked for:

To/from Athens Airport: €25 per person one way

To/from Athens Hotel: €15 per person one way

Private transfers other days - price on request.

2020 TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- 7 nights on a motorized yacht in a double/twin cabin with ensuite
- Meals: breakfast, and one or two hot meals per day (2 days with "full board" (3 meals), and 5 days with "half-board" (2 meals/day)
- Bed linen and towels
- English-speaking tour guide
- Guided cycling tours as per itinerary
- Overview maps for the daily tours on board
- Entrance fees to museums and archaeological sites (group visits only)

NOT INCLUDED

- Airport transfers
- Flight to Athens
- Drinks on board (tally list to be paid to the captain), flat fee for unlimited bottled water € 20 per person, children € 10 under the age of 16
- Meals ashore
- Bike hire: hybrid and electric-bikes available
- Tips for crew and tour guides

WI FI

There is **no** Wi Fi connection on board your boat. We suggest you bring your own portable device and take it to a café or bar somewhere in the harbour. Free Wi Fi is on offer almost everywhere and if you order something to eat or drink, then you are able to use the Wi Fi to your heart's content.

OPTIONAL 3 DAY EXTENSION ATHENS – Available pre or post tour.

Includes:

- Transfers - Airport/Hotel and Hotel/Boat
- 2 nights accommodation
- Entrance to the Acropolis
- Dinner in Taverna 'To Kafeneion' – excluding drinks
- Guided City Bike Tour – "Athens By Bike"

Cost per person in Euro:

3-star hotel - double/twin room: €345, single room: €500

4-star hotel - double room: €415, single room: €590

TOUR NUMBERS

Minimum: 14 participants required to operate a departure

Maximum: 20 participants

ACCOMMODATION:

Superior Motorised Yacht - THALASSA



The Thalassa is a 38 x 8m three-masted motor yacht, with sails, built as a traditional Turkish Gulet. Her teak furnishings are elegant yet comfortable. There are 9 air conditioned cabins, 9– 12 sq m, each with its own ensuite. Cabins are cleaned daily with fresh towels on request. Authentic meals are served in the spacious saloon or on the deck, weather permitting. Mats are provided on the sun deck for your relaxation.



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