



## CYCLE CYCLADES

Ferry hopping 5 gorgeous islands

**June 21-28, 2020**

**September 20-27, 2020**

*Tour destinations: Syros, Mykonos, Paros, Antiparos, Naxos*

### DESCRIPTION

When travelers fantasize about Greece they usually conjure up stark whitewashed island villages surrounded by a blinding blue sea. That's the Cyclades. Blue and White, just like the Greek flag. Our bike tour uses ferries to hop from island to island.

The 4 night Santorini Hiking add-on offers Cyclades in all its glory with cultural activities and land and sea excursions. You hike along the volcano's caldera ridge to witness the watery horizon 360 degrees. Sail into the caldera and ascend a volcanic peak. In a Cyclades cooking class, discover the unique local foods. We introduce you to Santorini's marvelous wines grown in volcanic soil.

Before or after your bike tour, while in Athens see the city and surrounding region from a bike. Check out Athens Day Tours

### DETAILS

<b>2020 Dates</b>	June 21-28 and September 20-27
<b>Duration</b>	7 nights, 8 days
<b>Add-ons</b>	Santorini Hiking, see Add-on tab
<b>Arrival City</b>	Athens
<b>Arrival transfer</b>	See Extras tab
<b>Tour Start Point</b>	Piraeus port to Syros island
<b>Tour End Point</b>	Naxos
<b>Minimum Age</b>	18
<b>Minimum Pax</b>	8
<b>Maximum Pax</b>	14
<b>Total Mileage</b>	346 km, 215 miles for standard route. Options available on each island
<b>Highest Elevation</b>	1630 feet 497 m
<b>Rating</b>	Moderate to Active – see <a href="#">Rating System</a>

## ITINERARY

Due to morning departure on Day 1 prepare to arrive at least one day early to Athens to test ride the bikes.

### Day 1 Syros

Early morning departure on a ferry to Syros, the capital of the Cyclades islands. Syros is known for its many beaches and elegant capital, Ermoupoli which means “trading city.” A warm-up short ride in the interior of the island to Ousyra Winery, a family run winery for wine tasting. Later a walk up to the car-free medieval neighborhood Ano Mera. scenic warm up ride **22 km, 13.6 miles**

### Day 2 Syros

Today’s ride makes a big loop in the southern half of Syros starting with a 204 meter ascent (670 feet), the highest point of the day. The route goes from one beautiful beach to the next finally stopping at Vari Beach for lunch and swimming in the protected bay. **36 km, 22 miles**

### Day 3 Mykonos

Mykonos is famous for its party scene, its high end shopping, its cool vibe. It offers a stark contrast to the other low key simple elegance of the other Cyclades islands. Biking is minimal on Mykonos — a ride to Elia Beach for swimming at a fine sandy beach and a classy Mediterranean lunch. **24 km, 15 miles**

### Day 4 Paros

A morning local boat takes us to the ancient sanctuary of Delos island, a World Heritage Site to its explore its extensive grounds. Lunch in Mykonos harbor, then catch a ferry to Paros. We bike to the hotel in Naoussa, check in, then bike and hike the dirt path to the 1887 Korakas Lighthouse. **12 km, 7 miles, 45 minutes hike**

### Day 5 Paros

Our main destination is adorable Antiparos island, a 10 minute ferry hop from Paros. Depending on the season, there could be a pit stop at the unique Valley of the Butterflies. In Antiparos, we bike ride to the famous cave and descend by foot to its bottom, Back on Paros, bike the southern coast. **58 km, 36 miles**

### Day 6 Naxos

Morning ride to Lefkes, the highest village on Paros. Take a ferry to Naxos, arriving in time for lunch and to walk to the Portara. There are a number of biking options in Naxos, including to an olive oil museum, a 6th century BC “kouros,” or the protected Alyki juniper forest. **23 km, 14 miles in Paros, 23 km, 14 miles in Naxos**

## Day 7 Naxos

Today is the tour's highest cycling day, up to 1633 feet. En route there's a stop at a marble kouros (ancient Greek male statue) left unfinished in its quarry. At cute little Halki, sample the "kitron," shop at an olive wood store, visit the art gallery. Cycle to Aria Springs and hike up to Za Cave. **48.55 km, 30 miles**

## Day 8 Departures

Take ferry or flight to Athens or 2 hour ferry to Santorini for hiking add-on tour

## **COST & INCLUSIONS**

### **Cost in euros based on double occupancy**

<b>8 Days Tour</b>	2950 euros per person
<b>Single Supplement</b>	800 euros

## **TOUR INCLUSIONS**

**7 nights Accommodations:** 3-4 star hotels, primarily family owned and operated, ranging from boutique hotels to seaside upscale hotels. Tasteful, clean, air-conditioned, private bath, abundant hospitality, comfort. All accommodations are standard doubles with option for upgrade. All accommodations serve breakfast, usually buffet style. Tour prices are based on double occupancy. Check single supplement price for a single room.

**Ferry Transfers:** 4 one-way tickets: Piraeus to Syros to Mykonos to Paros to Naxos. 2 round trip tickets: Delos and Antiparos.

**Bikes:** Specialized road bike. Triple chain ring, 27 gears, carbon fiber fork. Carbon Tarmac bikes are available as an upgrade for 400 euros. Electric bikes are available as an upgrade for 300 euros. Regular pedals or toe clips on request. You are welcome to bring your own clip-in pedals and shoes. See [Our Bikes](#) and [Our Gear](#)

**Bike gear:** helmet, water bottles, handlebar pouch, odometer

**Support vehicle:** ("sag wagon") with bilingual driver who is also a bike mechanic. Vehicle carries spare parts, spare fully pumped wheels, floor pump, ice cooler, water, nutritious snacks, bike tools, first aid kit, day packs, luggage and gives you a lift if you get tired.

**Tour Leader / Bike Guide:** the Tour Leader handles all the tour logistics and cycles with the group.

### **All Meals:**

\* Breakfasts are included at each hotel.

\* 7 lunches — you choose from the menu.

\* 7 dinners consisting of 2-3 appetizers and salad chosen by us and shared by the group. You are offered an entrée choice, usually a meat, fish or vegetarian dish. Dessert, house wine or beer, water or beverage.

**Bike Routes:** Options (1) RideWithGPS App tour routes to upload to your iPhone or Android with voice narration – we provide a bike mount for your cellphone (2) GPX tracks to download to your device – bring your own bike mount

**Cue sheets and cue sheet holders** turn by turn directions plus distance/elevation profiles

**Maps of each island**

**Trip packet:** useful and interesting information about the regions, packing tips, general travel info for Greece

**Entrance fees:** Delos island, Valley of the Butterflies, Antiparos Cave, Naxos Venetian Museum

**Wine Tasting:** Syros wine tasting with local winery owner

**CycleGreece jersey:** short sleeved, rear pockets, locally made

**CycleGreece lite backpack:** 17" x 13", 43cm x 33cm

**Gratuities & 13% VAT taxes**

## **TOUR EXCLUSIONS**

- International airfare to/from Greece
- Transfers from Athens Airport to Athens – see Extras tab
- Departure transfer at end of tour from Naxos
- Alcoholic beverages (other than house wine)
- Travel insurance – see Extras tab
- Tips for CycleGreece guides and drivers, at your discretion

## **TAKE NOTE**

- Participants are required to sign our [Waiver](#)
- Participants are required to agree to the [Booking Agreement](#)
- Travel Insurance is required as a condition for participation in a CycleGreece tour

*See the website for more details about Accommodatoin, Extras, Add-Ons, Map, Booking Agreement, Waivers*

## **CYCLEGREECE**

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