

CYCLE CORINTHIA

Led by a real archeologist who loves to bike

DATES: BY REQUEST

Tour destinations: Athens, Epidavros, Nafplio, Piraeus

DESCRIPTION

Ancient Greece bike tour in Corinthia. There are many archaeology tours in Greece, but Cycle Corinthia is the first and only such tour with a cycling archaeologist. The star of our tour, Brady Kiesling, is an ardent biker and archaeologist living in Greece who combines two loves by cycling from one ancient ruin to the next. Now he's inviting you to join him!

Brady has an undergraduate degree in Ancient Greek from Swarthmore and a master's degree from UC Berkeley in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology. He has dug at Nemea and Ancient Corinth. Brady is a writer and was a diplomat in the U.S. Embassy in Greece for several years. Oh, yeah, and this last part is important — besides a seemingly encyclopediaic grasp of ancient and modern Greece, Brady's wit means lots of laughter on this tour..

DETAILS

Dates on request

Duration 7 nights, 9 days

Add-ons no

Arrival City Athens

Arrival transfer See Extras tab

Tour Start Point Athens

Tour End Point Athens Airport or central Athens

Minimum Age 18
Minimum Pax 8
Maximum Pax 14

Total Mileage 262 km, 155 miles **Highest Elevation** 194 feet, 636 meters

Rating Advanced – see Rating System

ITINERARY

Day 1 Athens

Welcome to one of the oldest continuously occupied cities in the world, Athens, the capital of Greece. A Welcome Dinner in the Plaka gives you your first experience with delicious Greek cuisine, a highlight of the tour. And here you get your introduction to our beloved Brady Kiesling.

Day 2 Athens

In the morning, Brady takes you on a three hour bike tour of old central Athens, 90% traffic free, over 25 points of interest. You visit familiar places such as the 1896 Olympic stadium, as well as infrequently visited sites, such as, Socrates Prison and the Pnyx where democracy was born. Afternoon take a tour of Athens' signature monument, the Acropolis, plus the Acropolis Museum with all its stunning marble statuary. 11 kilometers, 6.8 miles

Day 3 Athens

Bike from one temple to another, from the Acropolis to the Temple of Poseidon where Lord Byron carved his name in the marble. Bike with Brady along the Attika coastline stretching all the way to the tip of the Attika peninsula to Sounion where the Temple of Poseidon magnificently sits on a promontory with 360 degree views. 71.70 km, 44.50 miles (Option to reduce miles to 42 km, 26 miles via vehicle transfer to Vari).

Day 4 Epidavros

In the morning visit ancient Elefsina and learn from Brady about the mysterious Eleusinian Mysteries. Bike the coastline ending up at the Corinth Canal, which was cut in 1893 turning the Peloponnese peninsula into Greece's largest island. Overnight on the coast at Epidavros town. **36 km, 22 miles**

Day 5 Nafplio

A one hour gradual climb brings us to Ancient Epidavros, the 3rd century BC outdoor theatre seating 13,000 spectators with impeccable acoustics. Epidvaros was more famous in ancient times as the largest Asclepion healing center in Greece. Mind, body and spirit were combined approaches to curing the ill, including dream therapy. **48.50 km, 29.80 miles**

Day 6 Nafplio

Brady leads the group through rural roads with orange groves as you pedal to Ancient Mycenae, home of King Agamemnon who launched the Trojan War. The beehive tombs are a wonder to behold. Don't miss a pre-dinner wine tasting of the famous Nemea wines, including Agioritiko wine a/k/a the Blood of Hercules. **46.60 km, 30 miles**

Day 7 Kalamaki Beach

Vehicle transfer from Nafplio to Ancient Nemea, where Brady once excavated on an archaeological dig. From Nemea cycle to Ancient Corinth where St. Paul preached. Lunch in Ancient Corinth and then home stretch cycling to Kalamaki Beach. **48.60 km, 22 miles**

Day 8 Departures

morning transfer to Athens Airport or central Athens

COST & INCLUSIONS

Cost in euros based on double occupancy

8 Days Tour 2820 euros per person

Single Supplement 790 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. See Accommodations tab to request more info about tour's accommodations

Bikes: Specialized road bike. Triple chain ring, 27 gears, carbon fiber fork. Carbon Tarmac bikes are available as an upgrade for 70 euros a day. Electric bikes are available as an upgrade for 50 euros a day. Regular pedals or toe clips on request. You are welcome to bring your own clip-in pedals and shoes. See <u>Our Bikes</u> and <u>Our Gear</u>

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, floor pump, ice cooler, water, nutritious snacks, bike tools, first aid kit, day packs, luggage and gives you a lift if you get tired

Archaeologist & Bike Guide Brady Kiesling

Tour Leader / Bike Guide: Tour Leader handles all the tour logistics and rides with the group

All Meals:

Breakfasts are included at each hotel

6 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

Archaeology Guide: Private tour with professional guide at Acropolis & Acropolis Museum, Epidavros Theatre and Mycenae

Entrance fees: Acropolis, Acropolis Museum, Temple of Poseidon, Elefsina, Epidavros Theatre, Mycenae, Ancient Nemea, Ancient Corinth

Wine Tasting Session: Wine tasting with local expert in Nafplio

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

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

CycleGreece jersey: short sleeved, rear pockets, locally made

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

Gratuities & VAT taxes

TOUR EXCLUSIONS

- * Airfare to/from Greece
- * Transfers between Athens Airport and Athens see Extras tab
- * Alcoholic beverages (other than house wine)
- * Drinks and coffee at café pit stops
- * Travel insurance required for participation in a CycleGreece tour.
- * 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 Accommodations, Extras, Add-Ons, Map, Booking Agreement, Waiver

CYCLEGREECE