



CYCLE CYCLADES

Ferry hopping 5 gorgeous islands

September 21 – 29, 2024

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

2024 Dates	September 21 - 29
Duration	8 nights, 9 days
Add-ons	Santorini Hiking, see Add-on tab
Arrival City	Athens
Arrival transfer	See Extras tab
Tour Start Point	Athens
Tour End Point	Naxos
Minimum Age	18
Minimum Pax	8
Maximum Pax	14

Total Mileage	346 km, 215 miles for standard route. Options available on each island
Highest Elevation	1630 feet 497 m
Rating	Moderate to Active – see Rating System

ITINERARY

Day 1: Athens

Arrival day — test ride and fit the bikes in late afternoon. Welcome Dinner on rooftop terrace with Acropolis view.

Day 2: 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 21 km, 13 miles**

Day 3: 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 4: Mykonos

Mykonos is famous for its party scene, its high end shopping, its cool vibe. Mykonos offers a stark contrast to the other low key simple elegance of the other Cyclades islands. Biking is minimal on Mykonos — a ride to a sandy beach and a classy Mediterranean lunch.

Day 5: Paros

A morning local boat takes us to the ancient sanctuary of Delos island, a World Heritage Site to 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 6: Paros

Our main destination is adorable Antiparos island, a 10 minute ferry hop from Paros. There's a fun detour to the unique Valley of the Butterflies. In Antiparos, we bike ride to the famous cave and descend by foot to its bottom, A ferry back to Paros to bike the southern coast. **58 km, 36 miles**

Day 7: 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 8: 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 9: Departures

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

COST & INCLUSIONS

Cost in euros based on double occupancy

9 Days Tour	3500 euros per person
Single Supplement	800 euros

TOUR INCLUSIONS

8 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 Allez road bike with drop handlebars or Trek FX2 with flat handlebars. Upgrade to a carbon road bike 560 euros for this tour. Upgrade to an electric bike Yucatan 12 with Yamaha motor for 400 euros this tour. Regular pedals or toe clips. 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. Additional vehicle/driver for groups of 10 or more riders.

Tour Leader / Bike Guide: the Tour Leader handles all the tour logistics and cycles with the group. Additional vehicle/driver for groups of 10 or more riders.

All Meals:

* Breakfasts are included at each hotel.

* 7 lunches — you choose from the menu.

* 8 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

Ancient Delos Excursion: ferry to Delos island to explore the ancient sanctuary with a private professional tour guide

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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