MYTHIC ROADS SELF-GUIDED

sensational sites and scenery

DESCRIPTION

The highlight – if not the purpose – of the Mythic Roads tour is a two night stay in Mycenae at the Heinrich Schliemann House. After Schliemann excavated Troy he came to Greece in 1876 to dig at Mycenae where he stayed at a small inn. This inn became an influential gathering place for scholars, artists and explorers. Guests signed the hotel's index cards which are framed enabling visitors to see the autographs of such luminaries as Agatha Christie, Carl Jung, Jean-Paul Sartre, Charleton Heston and during WWII Himmler, Goring, and Goebbels.

The humble little inn underwent Herculean renovations that transformed it into a classy bespoke hotel. With its stunning stylized antiques and artifacts the hotel doubles as a veritable museum. It reopened on September 12, 2026 under the name originally christened by Schliemann La Belle Helene de Menelas (Helen of Troy). To stay here is like being a part of a history.

The mythic grandeur continues with a ride to 3rd century BC Epidavros Theatre where attending a play was an act of spiritual healing for the ancients. It has exceptional natural acoustics that are heard like a microphone when standing center stage. Another mythic road ride takes you to the Ellinikon Pyramid, a surprise that few historians are aware of, but a handful of scholars believe this pyramid relates to ancient Egypt. The tour ends on the island of Poros with a short loop ride to the Poseidon Sanctuary where ancient asylum seekers, like Demosthenes, took refuge.

DETAILS

Dates	choose your dates
Duration	7 nights/8 days
Add-ons	Yes, Athens 4 night tour.
Arrival City	Athens
Arrival transfer	yes, see Extras tab
Tour Start Point	Piraeus port
Tour End Point	Poros island to Piraeus port
Minimum Age	18
Total Mileage	303 km, 186 miles for standard 8 day tour

Highest Elevation	571 m, 1873 feet
Rating	Moderate See **Rating System**

ITINERARY

Arrive at least one day early to Athens to test ride the bikes.

During the tour leave your luggage in the hotel and it will be transferred to your next destination.

The itinerary below is standard, but it can be changed to add days or delete destinations. For example, we encourage you to consider staying 3 nights on Spetses so that you can take the day boat to Hydra island lovely.

Day 1 Corinth

We meet you in the morning at Piraeus port to give you the bikes and take your luggage. Take the 40 minute ferry to Salamina island, the site where in 480 BC the Greeks trounced the Persians in the famous Battle of Salamis. Cycle across the island (**13 km, 8 miles**) to a second 10 minute ferry to get back on the mainland. Follow the old National highway along the coast to the Corinth Canal – stop for a photo op -- and then to your seaside hotel on Kalamaki Beach. **49km, 30 miles**

Day 2 Mycenae

Bike from your hotel to Ancient Corinth where St. Paul preached the Corinthians. Second archaeology site is Nemea, one of the four sites in ancient Greece where Games were held (also Olympia, Isthmia and Delphi). Finish in Mycenae village at the Heinrich Schliemann House where you partake in a wine tasting session, including the Blood of Hercules red wine. **60 km, 38 miles**

Day 3 Mycenae

Cycle to Ancient Mycenae **6 km roundtrip** and walk into the awesome beehive tombs with the Cyclopean stone entrances. Behold Lion's Gate bearing the largest stone relief in Europe. Descend through the striking stone portal to the cistern. In the afternoon bike to the Silo Factory **6 km roundtrip** where the owner's enormous creativity produces art and furniture from discarded antiques. Option to take a ceramics class at the factory.

Day 4 Nafplio

Cycle a rural route past orange groves to reach Nafplio, one of the most charming towns in the Peloponnese. It has a grand town square, artisan shops, historic buildings and a long harbor walkway lined with fish tavernas. Take time to walk to the carved Lion of Bavaria.

Hike up to the Palamidi, a 17th century Venetian fortress and prison. Take a small boat ride to Bourtzi where the executioners lived. **22.70 km 14 miles**

Day 5 Nafplio

Before Mycenae, before Epidavros, older ruins exist in the Peloponnese believed to be from an era pre-dating written history. Head west from Nafplio hugging the bay to bike to a fascinating structure known as the Ellinikon Pyramid. The top is missing but it still is very much a pyramid, believed by some scholars to be from the same era and provenance as the Egyptian pyramids. **36.80 km, 22.80 miles** On the return route, consider a detour to swim at Kiveri Beach.

Day 6 Coastal Epidavros

Cycle to 3rd century BC Epidavros Theatre, a World Heritage Site with impeccable acoustics. Stand on the last tier to hear a whisper from center stage. Stop to explore an unheralded ancient Mycenae Bridge considered to be located on the oldest road in Europe. In coastal Epidavros, snorkel to the Sunken City, an underwater Roman-era villa. **54 km, 33.60 miles**

Day 7 Poros island

Head south to hug a coastline with spectacular seaviews, but also about 3 big climbs (highest 236m, 774 feet) before the road stays flat for about 27 km all the way to Galatas port where you catch a short 10 minute ferry to Poros island. Option to visit a traditional weaver on Poros. **40 km, 25 miles**

Day 8 Depart

Depart Poros on a 1 hour hydrofoil boat to Piraeus port in Athens. Daily departures with morning, afternoon and evening choices. If you have time in the morning, you can do a loop of the small island to the Poseidon Sanctuary for refugees seeking protection by the deities. **15.15 km, 9.40 miles**

COST & INCLUSIONS

Cost in euros based on double occupancy

1-2 riders	2500 euros per person
3-4 riders	2350 euros per person
Single Supplement	850 euros

See **daily exchange rates**

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.

5 luggage transfers: Piraeus to Corinth > Corinth to Mycenae > Mycenae to Nafplio > Nafplio to Epidavros > Epidavros to Poros

Sea transfer: Poros to Piraeus

Bikes: Specialized road bike. Triple chain ring, 27 gears, carbon fiber fork. Carbon bikes are available as an upgrade for 50 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 Our Bikes and Our Gear

Bike gear: water bottles, helmet, handlebar pouch, lock, rear rack on request, cell phone mount

Bike tools: hand pump, patch kit, tire irons, spare tube, multi-tool. One set per group.

Bike Routes: Options (1) RideWithGPS tour routes to upload to your iphone or Android with voice narration (2) GPX tracks to download to your device – bring your own bike mount

Meals: Breakfasts are included at each hotel. Buffet dinner at hotel on Day 1.

Wine tasting session: Nemea wine at Heinrich Schliemann House in Mycenae

Map of the region

Trip packet: useful and interesting information about the region

CycleGreece jersey: short sleeved, rear pockets, locally made

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

Gratuities, tips and 24% VAT taxes

TOUR EXCLUSIONS

- International airfare to/from Greece
- Transfer from Athens Airport to Athens on arrival
- Transfer from Piraeus port to your next destination on Day 8
- Athens hotel – we can assist with recommendations and/or bookings

- All meals except daily breakfasts and dinner on first tour night
- Ferry from Piraeus to Salamina island on Day 1 -- 3 euros
- Ferry from Salamina to mainland on Day 1 -- 70 cents
- Water taxi between Spetses and mainland -- 30 euros one way
- Ferry between Poros and mainland -- 1.50 euros one way

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 and BOOKING AGREEMENT

CYCLEGREECE

New York: 244 Fifth Avenue Suite C214, New York, NY 10001-7604, Tel: +1 800-867-1753
Athens, Greece: 13 Aristotelos, Moschato 18345, Tel: +30 693-715-0108
www.CycleGreece.com info@CycleGreece.com