

# Islands & Antiquities



In the south eastern tip of the Peloponnese peninsula lie several precious islands that are favorite week-end getaway spots for Athenians. Foreign visitors have yet to discover these gems. By high speed ferry you will hop from Poros to Hydra to Spetses and discover the charms of these Argo Saronic islands. You will also visit the current capital of Greece, Athens, and the first capital of Greece after independence, Nafplio. Both offer memorable antiquities not found on the islands. Each destination on this tour offers stellar food and wine.

## Trip Highlights

- Horse drawn carriages on Spetses
- Upscale art in Hydra
- Harbor strolling on Poros
- Enter King Agamemnon's beehive tomb at Mycenae
- Listen to a stage whisper at the ancient Epidavros Theatre

## Duration

Tour lasts 7 nights.  
Departure on Day 8.

## Itinerary

### Day 1: Athens

Your hotel is just off the pedestrian walkway that surrounds the Acropolis. There is much to see in Athens, including the New Acropolis Museum, profound treasures at the National Archaeology, the changing of the guard in Syntagma Square and Socrates' Prison where he was held pending trial.

### Day 2: Athens

Enjoy a three hour walking tour culminating at the Acropolis. Where ever you turn in central Athens you are apt to stumble upon ruins and antiquities. There are also flea markets and outdoor cafes and artists and artisans lining the pedestrian walkway that surround the Acropolis.

### Day 3: Poros

Your sea transfers are in the morning to allow you a full day and night on each island. First stop is Poros, so enchanting when approaching from sea with its pastel 19th century mansions lining the harbor. The island has two beaches offering water sports — skiing, snorkeling, sea kayaking.

## Start—End Points

Tour starts in Athens and ends in Nafplio. Tour cost includes transfer from Nafplio to Athens Airport, roughly 2 hour drive.



## Day 4: Hydra

A thriving artists colony hovers in Hydra. The Athens based Deste Foundation has a satellite museum here amongst galleries and upscale shops selling local art, jewelry, clothes. Not surprisingly, Hydra is a stylish and elegant island. Hydra lacks a good beach, but has a nice walk to the monastery.

## Day 5: Spetses

Little Spetses is only 15 miles in circumference. You can rent bikes and easily cruise the island. Half way round is a beach with an underwater sea cave where they say pirates used to hide out. Spetses is known for its almond sweets and fresh fish. There are two ports and lots of fishermen in between.

## Day 6: Nafplio

A ten minute boat ride brings you to the mainland with a vehicle transfer to Ancient Epidavros. Stand in the stage and those seated in the back row of this 15,000 capacity theatre can hear your whisper, such are the impeccable acoustics of this 3rd century BC landmark. Continue on to elegant Nafplio.

## Day 7: Nafplio

Visit Ancient Mycenae, home of the ruler who launched the Trojan War, King Agamemnon. He is buried in a beehive tomb that never fails to startle visitors with its architecture of geometric precision. Spend the rest of the day exploring Nafplio -- shop in local stores selling handmade jewelry, worry beads and arts, climb the 999 steps to the Venetian fortress Palamidi, take a quick boat to Bourtzi island.

## Day 8: departures

Vehicle transfer from Nafplio to Athens Airport, approximately two hours.



**Note:** tour prices are based on the euro which is the official currency of Greece. Exchange rates found at [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

### Tour Price per person in euros

1 person = 1873 euros  
2 persons = 1444 euros  
3 persons = 1284 euros  
4 persons = 1205 euros  
Single Supplement = 350 euros

### Inclusions

- Accommodations in 3-4 star hotels ranging from boutique hotels to family run guesthouses. Tasteful, clean, air-conditioned, private bath, abundant hospitality, comfort. All accommodations come with breakfast. Tour price based on double occupancy.
- 3 high speed ferry boats: Piraeus to Poros, Poros to Hydra, Hydra to Spetses
- 3 Vehicle transfers on Day 6 (Spetses to Nafplio), Day 7 (Mycenae) and Day 8 (Nafplio to Athens Airport)
- Private guided tours of Mycenae and Epidavros with professional guide.
- Entry fees to grounds and museum of Mycenae and Epidavros.
- Small group tour (approx. 12) of Acropolis, plus entry fee
- Maps of each island
- Trip packet with useful and interesting information
- Gratuities, tips and VAT taxes

### Exclusions

- International airfare
- transfers from airport to Athens
- Boat crossing from Spetses to mainland (about 10 minutes)
- Travel insurance

Ask about optional offers, including 3 hour walking tour of Athens, private vehicle transfer from airport to Athens, cooking class on

