

Greece: Cyclades

Option 1: 7-night: Lavrion to Mykonos to Lavrion



Day 1: Saturday

Lavrion is only a 50-minute transfer from Athens International Airport and is closer to the much sought after Cycladic islands.

Arrive at one of three Lavrion Marinas for boarding at 17:00hrs or earlier if you are provisioning for your own charter yacht.

Upon boarding there is time to unpack and a safety briefing or yacht check-in will follow with the skipper or yacht operator. It is important to understand the safety and operational information prior to sailing.

KEA: there is time left in the day and the weather is good, sail 17 miles across the Kea channel to Aghios Nikolauous Bay and the eastern port of Vourkari on Kea island.

Walk around the bay to the deserted ruins of a 3500 BC pre-historic settlement. In the opposite direction there is a delightful beach with tiki bar, both a few minutes from the harbour.



Dinner: Step ashore and eat at the exceptional Vourkarion restaurant, a charming traditional Greek taverna which features fresh meat, as the owner is a local farmer. Greek delicacies such as lamb chops and mixed grill are served along fish and with a huge range of salads and vegetarian dishes. Aristos taverna, steps from the gangplank is a sailor's focal point for a cold beer and is known for seafood and lobster spaghetti, but the ambience is not as nice.







Day 2: Sunday

KEA: For those with a cultural and historical interest, early the next morning in Kea visit the traditional hilltop 'Chora' town of loulis by pre-arranged taxi transport. Dropped off above the town and site, hike down to see the largest ancient sculpture in Greece, a 21-foot lion sculpted in 600 BC. Then wander through the enchanting rural town of loulis, enjoying a coffee and stopping in at the fascinating archaeological museum. The tiny museum houses incredible items including the larger than life terracotta Venuses of fertility, found down at the harbour site.

SYROS: Set sail before lunch for the longer passage to the Venetian town of Ermoupolis Syros island. This is the capital of the Cyclades and features neo-classical mansions, unique Greek Orthodox and Roman Catholic cathedrals surrounded by pastel coloured houses which cascade down to the harbour. Arriving by yacht, the town resembles the coastal towns of Amalfi Italy. Exploring this bustling metropolis in the middle of the Aegean is remarkable; the streets are made of marble, homes feature ornate architecture and a huge open piazza sits in front of the impressive parliament buildings of the Cyclades.



Dinner: Eat at phenomenal Mazi restaurant which offers the most enchanting ambience in its courtyard of hanging vines, cascading Bougainvillea and 19th century stone arches above the tables. The restaurant features exquisite Greek fusion meals, fine wine and an exceptional cocktail bar.

Day 3: Monday

MYKONOS: Enjoy a morning sail to Mykonos Torlos marina, as charter yachts are not allowed in the old harbour. Rent a quad bike, take a bus or taxi for the short ride to experience the labyrinth of Mykonos town. Explore Little Venice and enjoy great shopping, there is a vast choice of restaurants for dining and world-famous nightlife. There is also the famous Paradise and Super paradise (Gay) beaches to visit.



Dinner: Try Nikos taverna, the largest restaurant in town offers great daily specials, good service and captures the flavor of Mykonos with its outdoor setting. Nearby, Napoli restaurant offers excellent thin crust pizzas and pasta. Scandinavian Bar offers fun nightlife after midnight.

NOTE: Mykonos can be excessively windy and Torlos marina can be very tricky to moor due to its poor design. It is also accessed by reservation only. The busy harbour has many cargo, cruise ships and ferries docked on the outer seawall so it is noisy and has exhaust fumes. A good option is to go on anchor at beautiful Platy Yialos, Platy Ornos or Paradise beaches if the weather is calm.







Day 4: Tuesday

DELOS: After breakfast travel the short 10 mile passage from Mykonos to sacred Delos island, the most important archaeological site of ancient Greece. Delos remains in an excellent state of preservation allowing guest to wander along the Street of the Lions, explore an amphitheater, a stadium, see private palaces and Roman baths. A highlight is to climb the marble stairs to the top of sacred Mount Kynthos, for the divine view of the Cycladic Islands. Eat lunch aboard followed by a swim in the refreshing waters of Delos channel. Archaeological guides may be available and hired at the entrance at additional cost. All visitors must leave Delos by 3pm.

SYROS: In the afternoon, sail to Finikas harbour in the south end of Syros island.



Dinner: There is a wonderful taverna overlooking the harbour, but if you prefer more choices and a bit more time in the exquisite town of Ermoupolis, then it is only a taxi ride away!

Day 5: Wednesday

KITHNOS: Arrive at the interesting, tiny port of Loutra after a wonderful 25-mile afternoon sail. Enjoy an excursion by taxi to the quintessentially Greek hilltop town or 'Chora'. Later soak in hot thermal waters at the large natural hot tub down at the beach. There is also a spa service at the local hotel and a scuba diving school. The little town of Loutra also offers two lovely beaches and fun restaurants, gelatories and cafes.



Dinner: The very best choice is Sofranos Taverna on the beach!







Day 6: Thursday

KITHNOS (KOLONA BAY): Before leaving explore the healing thermal waters of Loutra, as they cascade up under sacred church grounds. Visit the healing centre for a soak in a marble tub or visit the beach again for another soak in the thermal hot tub! Setting off under engine, motor 1 hour north over the top of Kithnos to the spectacular sandbar anchorage of Kolona Bay, which features numerous private beach coves and a ½ mile long sandbar between islands. Eat a late breakfast or early lunch and enjoy a swim, snorkel in the translucent waters or paddle ashore and crawl into the natural thermal hot tub on the beach. The volcanic heated water is 30C/80F degrees.

KITHNOS (MERIKAS) If the weather does not allow safe anchorage, then the yacht can tie up in the safety of nearby Merikas harbour which is 3 miles from Kolona Bay.



Dinner: Kolona bay is a great place to dine aboard under the Aegean night sky.

Dinner: Merikas. Yialos Taverna restaurant at Merikas harbor is an excellent choice for an evening meal on the beach or indoors.

Kithnos to Cape Sounion to Lavrion

Day 7: Friday

Day 8: Saturday

CAPE SOUNION: Sail 25 miles across the Kithnos and Kea channels and moor under the shadows of Cape Sounion and the famous Temple of Poseidon (440 BC). This is a magical place for your last lunch and swim. Later in the afternoon return 10 miles into Lavrion home port.

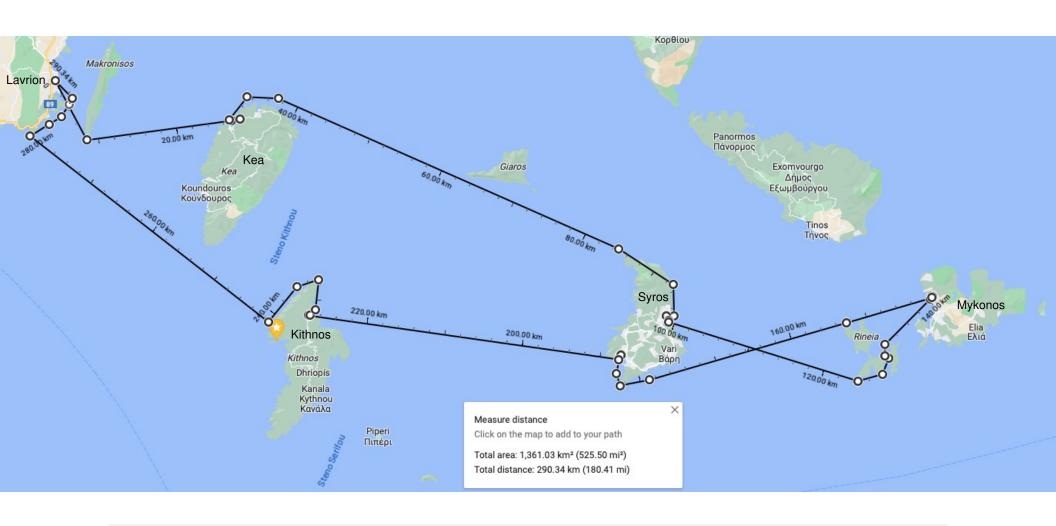
DISEMBARK: Lavrion at 09:00hrs



Dinner: There is a marvellous Taverna right at the port which is a favourite or take your skipper's advice. No matter the choice it will always be wonderful Mediterranean cuisine!







NOTE: All itineraries are shown in good faith, but can be changed without notice while on charter due to weather, logistics, safety and technical reasons. Weather can be a major factor in the Cyclades and can completely change a planned itinerary. Boats do not go anywhere in more that 25-32 knots of wind which is small craft warning or 6 on the Beaufort wind scale. The Aegean is typically a short 3-5ft wave but when the Meltemi wind blows much bigger waves form. It is the Captain's decision to sail and plan the logistics of docking at the next safe port, taking into account that harbours can be full as boats may not have left their safe havens.

The Captain's word is final as he is responsible for lives, happiness on holiday, and the security of the boat. Please use this sample itinerary as a guide for the skipper who may well take you to all of these destinations and may even add a few secrets of his own. Be mindful due to the weather you may only see half of these destinations. It rarely rains in Greece in the summer, but if a Meltemi wind is forecast, some guests may not like the longer passages the Aegean sea is known for, so that may be a reason not to venture so far.



Greece: Western Cyclades

Option 2: 7-night: Lavrion to Sifnos to Lavrion



Day 1: Saturday

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Arrive at one of three Lavrion Marinas for boarding at 17:00hrs or earlier if you are provisioning for your own charter yacht.

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KEA: there is time left in the day and the weather is good, sail 17 miles across the Kea channel to Aghios Nikolauous Bay and the eastern port of Vourkari on Kea island.

Walk around the bay to the deserted ruins of a 3500 BC pre-historic settlement. In the opposite direction there is a delightful beach with tiki bar, both a few minutes from the harbour.



Dinner: Step ashore and eat at the exceptional Vourkarion restaurant, a charming traditional Greek taverna which features fresh meat, as the owner is a local farmer. Greek delicacies such as lamb chops and mixed grill are served along fish and with a huge range of salads and vegetarian dishes. Aristos taverna, steps from the gangplank is a sailor's focal point for a cold beer and is known for seafood and lobster spaghetti, but the ambience is not as nice.





Day 2: Sunday

KITHNOS: After an exhilarating 25-mile passage, arrive at Kithnos for lunch at Loutra harbour. Enjoy an excursion to the quintessentially Greek hilltop town, Chora. In the afternoon explore the healing volcanic thermal waters of Loutra, as they cascade up under sacred church grounds. Visit the healing centre for a soak in a marble tub, or enjoy the hot thermal waters at the large natural hot tub down at the beach. There is also a spa service at the local hotel and a scuba diving school. The little town of Loutra also offers two lovely beaches and fun restaurants and cafes.



Dinner: The very best choice is Sofranos Taverna on the beach!

Day 3: Monday

SIFNOS: An early morning departure allows for a lunch and swim stop at Psili Ammos beach in Serifos. In the afternoon, a longer relaxing down-wind run to Sifnos allows guests to explore the charming beach community of Platy Yialos. Platy Yialos features a tiny modern marina, a beautiful mile long beach with fine sand and a promenade with cafes, restaurants and a few stores.



Dinner: There is a Greek taverna restaurant and wine bar along the beach, but do not miss the wonderful Italian thin crust pizzas and pastas at Mama Mia's!

Day 4: Tuesday

SIFNOS, KAMARES: Motor the 10 miles around the southern tip of Sifnos and explore charming Kamares port, famous in ancient times for pottery making. There is a great beach for swimming and many cafes, restaurants and tourist shops.



Dinner: The best seafood is found at Araxovoli Fish Taverna steps from the boat but there are many to choose from.







Day 5: Thursday

SERIFOS: Depart in morning for the beautiful port and hilltop Chora town of Livadi Serifos. Once docked at the quaint port, take a bus or taxi thousands of feet up to the traditional hilltop Chora and gaze in awe at the view of the entire natural bay and harbour of Livadi. Wander the streets and meet the friendly shopkeepers and café owners.



Dinner: For a wonderful traditional Greek meal along the beach try Fagopoti Taverna, which offers local dishes in a charming ambience looking back at the port lights.



Day 6: Thursday

KITHNOS (KOLONA BAY): Departing Serifos mid-morning, cross a beautiful part of the wine dark Aegean sea between Serifos and Kithnos to the spectacular overnight anchorage of Kolona. Anchor either side of Kolona sandbar and enjoy a late afternoon swim, snorkel or paddle to shore and crawl into the natural thermal hot tub on the beach. The volcanic heated water is 30C/80F degrees!

KITHNOS (MERIKAS) If the weather does not allow safe anchorage, then the yacht can tie up in the safety of nearby Merikas harbour which is 3 miles from Kolona Bay.

Dinner: Kolona bay is a great place to dine aboard under the Aegean night sky.



Dinner: Merikas harbour. Yialos Taverna restaurant at Merikas harbor is an excellent choice for an evening meal on the beach or indoors.



Kithnos to Cape Sounion to Lavrion

Day 7: Friday

Day 8: Saturday

CAPE SOUNION: Sail 25 miles across the Kithnos and Kea channels and moor under the shadows of Cape Sounion and the famous Temple of Poseidon (440 BC). This is a magical place for your last lunch and swim. Later in the afternoon return 10 miles into Lavrion home port.

DISEMBARK: Lavrion at 09:00hrs



Dinner: There is a marvellous Taverna right at the port which is a favourite or take your skipper's advice. No matter the choice it will always be wonderful Mediterranean cuisine!







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