

# Greece-Saronic Gulf Islands

*7 days charter itinerary*





## Ports and distances

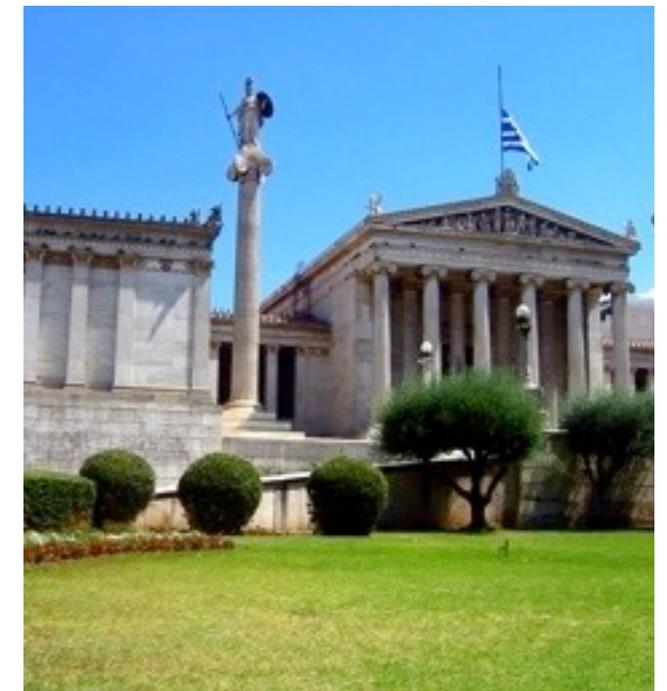
Day	Ports	Distance in n.m.
1	Athens-Epidavros	30
2	Epidavros-Poros	20
3	Poros-Spetses	30
4	Spetses-Hydra	12
5	Hydra-Ermioni	12
6	Ermioni-Aegina	29
7	Aegina-Piraeus	25

Total distance - 158 n.m.

## Athens

The Capital of Greece. Within the sprawling city of Athens it is easy to imagine the golden age of Greece when Pericles had the Parthenon (the most eminent monument of the ancient Greek architecture) built.

Athens is built around the Acropolis and the pinnacled crag of Mt. Lycabettus, which the goddess Athena was said to have dropped from the heavens as a bulwark to defend the city. The suburbs have covered the barren plain in all directions and the city is packed with lively taverns and bustling shops.



## Epidavros

Epidavros well protected on its own smaller gulf of Epidavros, with the scent from the valley's orange blossoms meeting the sea breeze in its picturesque and friendly port, with pine trees descending its slopes to offer their shade to its beautiful beaches, Ancient Epidavros, traditional yet modern, both tranquil and cosmopolitan, is always ready to welcome travellers whatever the season. It was here that Asklepios' most splendid sanctuary was situated. Here yet another important nucleus of ancient Greek civilization was created. There we can find remains from the Acropolis with Roman walls, ruins of a palace and houses, columns from the Doric temple and nearby, Mycenaean tombs, while under the sea, not very deep, lies a section of the ancient city. Its jewel however is to be found on the West Side of the peninsula. The ancient theatre. The "little" one, as it has been dubbed, to distinguish it from the "big" one in the Sanctuary of Asklepios. Built in the 4th century BC, it was dedicated to Dionysos, but for centuries remained buried under six metres of earth. In 1971, archaeologists began their digs. And today, elegant with its stone seats, it not only reaffirms the achievements of ancient civilization it also plays host to marvelous concerts.



## Poros

A beautiful green island, laying at the southwest the Saronic Gulf and opposite to Argolid in Peloponnese. Poros consists of two smaller islands, connected by a bridge, Sferia, a small rocky island and Kalavria, a larger and lush island with green hills and beautiful coastlines. Its main town and port of the island is built in amphitheatre form on the slopes of a hill. Along the port there are a lot of cafeterias, restaurants, tourist shops and many bars with foreign or Greek music. At the center of the town is worth visiting the Archaeological museum and the island's trademark the "clock-tower". Do visit the famous lemon forest which stands opposite on the coast of the Peloponnese and the temple of Poseidon.



## Spetses

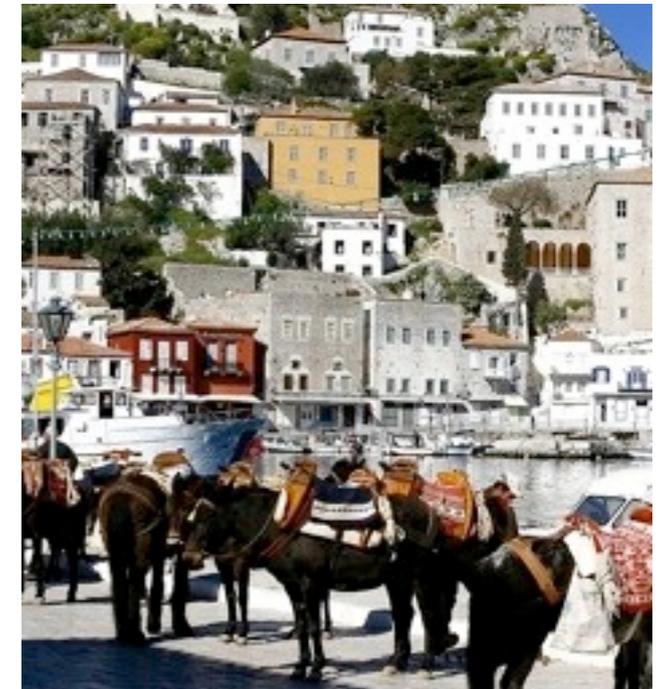
Spetses is a beautiful island with rich vegetation and many pine trees. It has various wonderful sandy beaches and lovely secluded bays. Its villages are picturesque and authentic and its capital is a real architectural beauty full of two-storey neoclassical houses with wooden balconies and coloured walls, and narrow stone-paved alleys. Archaeological findings indicate that Spetses has been inhabited since Early Bronze Age (also called first Hellenic Era, about 2500 BC).

One of the most famous heroes of the Greek Revolution was the Spetsiote female captain Lascarina Bouboulina who took the command of her husband's fleet when he died, fought in many important battles and spent most of her fortune to finance the war.



## Hydra

Today, Hydra is one of the most cosmopolitan points in the Mediterranean. The fact that Hydra has a unique beauty in its architecture and its landscape, taken together with its proximity to Athens and its important historical interest, have gradually raised the island to the level of an international tourist centre. Undoubtedly, Hydra is one of the most beautiful islands in Greece with a unique atmosphere. Cosmopolitan, vibrant and lively, with trendy discos, bars and clubs. Must see places: The Monastery of Pofitis Ilias (found in the early 19th century) at an altitude of 500 meters has an excellent view, Kamini the little fishing village, Episkopi Hydra's pine forest (beginning to recover after a fire), popular Molos for swimming, Bisti, Ag. Nikolaos and Limioniza for swimming, Dokos an islet (1 hour's caique trip) made of a kind of marble where Jacques Cousteau discovered a 3,000 years wreck.



## Ermioni

The name of Hermioni was given from the only daughter of Menelaus and Helen, who in order to carry out her father's promise towards Achilles got married to Neoptolemus. Hermioni is a quaint little Greek village. Being on a little bit of land jutting into the sea it is only 4 blocks wide at the largest part and about a mile to a mile and a half long. The lack of anything resembling a sandy beach has saved it from the mass impact of tourism but that doesn't mean there is not great swimming there, or tourists. The swimming is great and there is a night life in this little town.



## Aegina

First, like the other islands in the group, Aegina is the top of a sunken mountain. It is also the largest of the group. It is said that Aiakos, son of Zeus and grandfather of Achilles and a nymph named Aegina were the first to settle on the island. It is known that there have been people on the island since around 3000 B.C. On the Southern edge of the island lies the small fishing village of Perdika. This is one of the most picturesque spots on the island and still has the characteristics of the Aegean Sea-style of square houses and narrow streets. Many restaurants to eat fresh fish, surrounded by a beautiful landscape full of big pine-trees and calm beaches.



# Return to Athens

