

Cycling Safaris

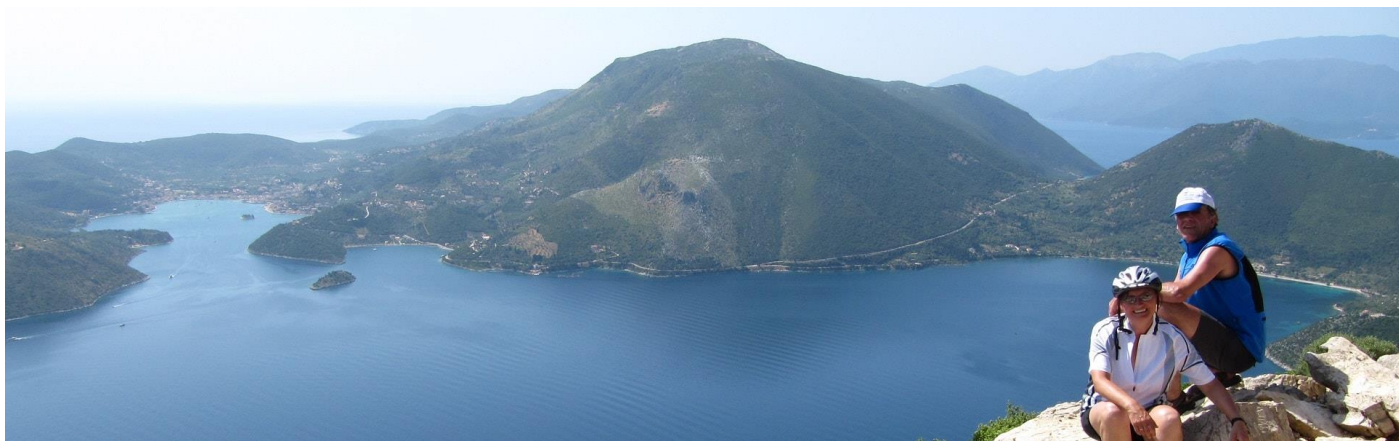
Greece - Ionian Islands Odysseus' Homeland from/to Corfu Guided Tour 2025

Guide cycling with group | 110 mi/175 km | 7 nights / 8 days
Tour starts and ends on Fridays



Off the west coast of Greece on the Ionian Islands, Greece shows her greenest side. Untouched nature, the clear blue, shimmering Ionian Sea, and centuries of Venetian influence dominate the Ionian Islands archipelago. This tour starts on Corfu, the dream island of the unforgettable Austrian empress Sissi, and leads to spectacular regions little known outside of Greece.

By Bike & Boat we discover the famous island of Ithaca, said to have been the home of Odysseus, the unforgettable green bird sanctuary island of Lefkas, and explore the fantastic mountain world of Cephalonia and the beautiful olive groves that cover the small island of Paxos. Enjoy your week in absolute comfort on board the wooden motor yacht and let yourself be spoilt by the excellent Greek hospitality and cuisine!



TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 (Fri) Corfu / Corfu city (Embarkation)

Individual arrival by plane and transfer to the ship. Check in on the Panagiota is possible from 2 pm onwards. Dinner on board and overnight stay on Corfu.

Day 2 (Sat) Corfu Island – Sivota - Parga - Lefkas Island (approx 18 mi / 28km)

Cast off! In the morning we cross over to Sivota on the Greek mainland, where we head off on our first cycling tour. Our first cycle leads us to Parga, a coastal town beautifully situated below a Venetian fortress that towers over the old town. Here the boat awaits us for a longer sail to Nidri on Lefkas Island. On our way we pass a floating swing-bridge which connects Lefkas with the Greek mainland. We spend the night in the lively harbour of Nidri.

Day 3 (Sun) Lefkas Island (approx 21 mi / 35km)

After breakfast we start with a short tour to a waterfall near Nidri. With a bit of luck, the water will be deep enough for us to enjoy a refreshing swim. Afterwards we continue along quiet roads over the hills to the picturesque harbour town of Sivota. Here we board the boat and cruise to Fiskardo on the island of Cephalonia. Situated on the northern tip of the island, the harbour town enchants with its colourful houses and many cafes and bars that line the lively waterfront promenade.

Day 4 (Mon) Cephalonia Island (approx 25 mi / 39km)

We leave Fiskardo by bike and climb an impressive mountain road on the west coast of Kefalonia. Along the way we are rewarded with awe inspiring views over the Assos peninsula and the famous Myrtos beach. After the climb we turn inland and cross the island. Shortly before the end of the bike tour we hop onto a small rowboat to visit the Melissani stalactite cave. Here we have plenty of time marvel at the incredible blue tones created by the unique cave formations, the sun, and water. In Sami, the boat welcomes us back on board and sets off for Vathy on Ithaca.

Day 5 (Tue) Islands of Ithaca (approx. 13 or 17 mi / 20 or 28 km)

In the morning, we head out on a bike tour on the Ithaca Island. This hilly island with its spectacular scenery is said to have been home of the mythical king Odysseus. We start today's tour in Vathy, and during the ride we get to enjoy the special character of the Ionian Islands off beaten tourist track: gnarled olive trees, crystal clear water and friendly islanders – time appears to stand still on Ithaca. You can decide yourself whether you are up for the challenge of a real hill climb or if you would prefer to enjoy the leisurely alternative: a panoramic ride that climbs only to half the height. The Panagiota awaits our arrival in Frikes before setting off to the small island of Meganisi.

Day 6 (Wed) Islands of Meganisi and Paxos (approx. 10 mi / 17 km)

In the morning we explore the tiny island of Meganisi by bike. The panoramic tour leads along secluded roads and the island's three villages. These small hamlet gives us a good impression of traditional Greek island life. At Spartochoi beach there is time to enjoy a coffee, and a swim in the sea. In the afternoon, we sail to Paxos Island, whose unique natural harbour in Gaios exudes a special island atmosphere. We can spend the evening in one of Gaios' cosy taverns.

Day 7 (Thu) Islands of Paxos and Corfu

(approx 14 mi / 23km)

Paxos, the smallest of the seven Ionian Islands, is so densely covered in olive trees the whole island seems to glisten a wonderful silver green colour. Our morning tour leads us around the whole island. There is plenty of time to enjoy a swim in the sea at one of the many beaches. In the afternoon, the Panagiota takes us to Corfu. The last evening on board concludes with a communal dinner and last get-together in a cosy atmosphere with crew, fellow travellers, and tour guides.

Day 8 (Fri) Corfu town (Disembarkation)

After breakfast check-out and individual return home or extended stay on Corfu Island.

Itinerary changes

We reserve the right to make changes to the planned itinerary due to changing wind and weather conditions as well as organizational requirements.

Requirements: Level 2 - 3

Participants require a relatively high level of fitness for this tour. The daily routes vary in length 12 - 25 mi/20 - 40 km and lead through hilly or mountainous terrain. The tours can be completed without any time-constraints. The cycle tours range between a total of 1,000 - 2,970 ft./300 - 600 m of elevation. There are also some extended climbs where walking your bicycle is of course permitted. Most of the roads are asphalted and rarely frequented. Your tour guide will inform you each day about the tour details. You are free to set aside a half or full day to swim or spend on board the boat, instead of taking a planned cycle tour. This tour is primarily designed as a guided group tour. After prior consultation with our tour guides and selection of a suitable route, nothing stands in the way of individual cycling. During the daily program briefings, your tour guides will explain everything you need to know about the next day's stage. If you prefer to cycle alone rather than with a group, you can cycle the tours independently and at your own pace. For orientation, we provide you with access to the free RideWithGPS route app for your smartphone, a detailed cycle map and GPS tracks. Your guides cycle the same route as you. They are therefore close by and can be contacted by phone in case of emergencies, problems or questions. Instead of a bike tour, you can also opt for a half or full day of swimming on the boat.

Requirement to wear a helmet

Helmets are mandatory on our bike tours. It is advised to bring your own, well fitted, helmet with you as our rental helmet numbers are limited (reservation required).

Bringing children

We believe that only children with a good physical condition and previous bicycle tour experience and a minimum age of 10 can master the cycle tours with their own strength. Please note that the minimum height for a rental bike is 1.20 m (3.9 ft.) for hybrid bikes and 1.50 m (5ft.) for e-bikes. When travelling with children, we recommend our Multi-Adventure Tours in Greece and Croatia which are specifically curated for families and offer family-friendly pricing.



2025 TOUR PRICE

Dates 2025	Comments	Tour base price per person in a twin cabin below deck
18.04. – 25.04.2025	Good Friday/Easter	1920 euro (Panagiota)
25.04. – 02.05.2025	May 1st	1920 euro (Panagiota)
02.05. – 09.05.2025	*ION2 (Corfu-Athens)	2020 euro (Panagiota)
09.05. – 16.05.2025	*ION1 (Athens-Corfu)	2120 euro (Panagiota)
16.05. – 23.05.2025		2020 euro (Panagiota)
23.05. – 30.05.2025	Ascension Day	2120 euro (Panagiota)
30.05. – 06.06.2025	*ION2 (Corfu-Athens) / Pentecost	2220 euro (Panagiota)
06.06. – 13.06.2025	*ION1 (Athens-Corfu) / Corpus Christi	2220 euro (Panagiota)
13.06. – 20.06.2025		2120 euro (Panagiota)
20.06. – 27.06.2025		2120 euro (Panagiota)
27.06. – 04.07.2025	*ION2 (Corfu-Athens)	2220 euro (Panagiota)
04.07. – 11.07.2025	*ION1 (Athens-Corfu)	2220 euro (Panagiota)
11.07. – 18.07.2025		2120 euro (Panagiota)
18.07. – 25.07.2025		2020 euro (Panagiota)
15.08. – 22.08.2025		2020 euro (Panagiota)
22.08. – 29.08.2025	*ION2 (Corfu-Athens)	2220 euro (Panagiota)
29.08. – 05.09.2025	*ION1 (Athens-Corfu)	2220 euro (Panagiota)
05.09. – 12.09.2025		2120 euro (Panagiota)
12.09. – 19.09.2025		2120 euro (Panagiota)
19.09. – 26.09.2025	*ION2 (Corfu-Athens)	2220 euro (Panagiota)
26.09. – 03.10.2025	*ION1 (Athens-Corfu)	2220 euro (Panagiota)
03.10. – 10.10.2025		2020 euro (Panagiota)
10.10. – 17.10.2025		2020 euro (Panagiota)
17.10. – 24.10.2025		2020 euro (Panagiota)
24.10. – 31.10.2025		1920 euro (Panagiota)

Bike rental is not included in the standard tour price

€90 Hybrid bike

€260 e-bike

Price reduction:

With three persons sharing a cabin (limited availability), we offer a 200-euro discount per person (not combinable with other discounts).

Children up to the age of 16 receive a discount of 200 euro on the tour base price (double occupancy, not combinable with other discounts). When travelling with children, we recommend our Multi-Adventure Tours in Greece and Croatia which are specifically curated for families and offer family-friendly pricing.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

Services included:

- 8-day trip on a motorized yacht with crew
- 7 nights in a twin cabin below deck with shower/toilet
- 2 x full-board and 5 x half-board on board
- Drinking water on board
- Guided bicycle tours and sightseeing as described in the itinerary
- Access to RideWithGPS app for individual cycling (if desired)
- Overview-maps for the daily bike tours (on board)
- Entrance fee to museums and archaeological sites (group visit only)
- Bed linen and towels
- English-speaking tour guide

Not included in the tour price

- Journey to Corfu
- Beverages on board (tally sheet; to be paid to the captain)
- Meals and beverages ashore
- Entrance fee for sights not included in the tour price
- Beach towel for ashore use (if needed)
- Tips for tour guides and crew

Additional optional extras

- Surcharge for an above deck cabin: 350 euro/person
- Double cabin for single use below deck, surcharge: 50% on the tour base price (limited)
- Double cabin for single use above deck, surcharge: 50% (tour base price + above deck surcharge x 1.5) (limited)
- Special dietary requests (lactose free / gluten free / vegan), surcharge: 70 euro (must be communicated in advance, payment on board)
- Limited liability protection for rental bikes (theft and damage): hybrid bicycle, rental trailer bike or children's seat: 20 euro/week; e-bike: 30 euro/week (not covered: grossly negligent damage)
- Collective transfer (available on embarkation/disembarkation days only): between Corfu airport and the boat respectively between boat and a hotel in Corfu city
- Additional customized transfers
- Additional nights on Corfu Island
- 3-day extension module Corfu; available only post tour (incl. transfers: Airport - Hotel + Hotel - boat, 2 nights in a 3 or 4 star hotel, 1 guided tour of your choice: either culinary & cultural Corfu town walking tour or kayak tour on Corfu's east coast or sunset hike on Corfu's west coast, brochure on further recommended activities on Corfu): 3* Hotel: 530 euro/person in a double room; 610 euro/person in a single room; 4* Hotel: 660 euro/person in a double room; 850 euro/person in a single room

WHAT TO BRING

Specialised cycle clothing may be handy but not strictly necessary. What you do need (among other things) is the following:

shorts/ long trousers/ track suit/ leggings
shirts/ sweater/ rain clothing
good shoes
sunglasses/ cap/ swimming costume
extra towel for swimming
soap/ insect repellent/ sunscreen
own helmet

Helmet use is mandatory on all bike tours in Greece. You are strongly encouraged to bring your own (well fitted) helmet. Rental Helmets are available on board in limited number (reservation requested).

GUIDE, GROUP & BACK UP SERVICE

On this tour there will be a guide cycling with the group.

There is no support vehicle available on this tour, but there is no time pressure to finish the stages. Our tour guides will inform you beforehand of the nature and difficulty of the tour so you are able to decide if you want to cycle with or rather relax on board. If you would like to cycle on your own, we can provide you with maps and tips for routes.

BIKE RENTAL

Hybrid bikes



Those choosing to rent a hybrid bike will receive a reliable, low maintenance, aluminium frame bike in the suitable size. Our hybrid bikes are equipped with 28-inch hollow chamber rims with puncture-proof touring tires, high-quality derailleur gears and break systems, a carrier and a sturdy bike stand, touring saddle as well as mudguards and a pannier rack. All components are selected based on our twenty years of experience in bike tourism, ensuring that they fulfil the necessary criteria to provide the rider with an uncompromised cycle experience.

Electric bikes



Clients who wish to be supported by a tailwind and seek to hire an e-bike will receive a high-quality cycle, powered mainly by a Bosch motor capable of covering long distances, and characterized by their light weight and great components. Alternative drive systems may also be used. Standard components of our e-bikes in varying frame sizes include 28-inch hollow chamber rims with puncture-proof touring tires, high-quality derailleur gears and brake systems, a carrier and a sturdy bike stand, touring saddle as well as mudguards and a pannier rack. With our e-bikes you will conquer the hills with a smile, they are a true declaration of independence for all who wish to cycle and seek the support of a little push.

The Bike tours require basic level of fitness from participants, which they should have acquired from steady cycling. The day tours from 20 - 60km will take you through hilly and mountainous terrain and may be completed without any time constraints. Participants will also need to master long and steep climbs during which they are, however, also able to push their bikes.

You are free to set aside a half or full day swim or spend on board the boat, instead of taking a planned bike tour. We will traverse mostly asphalted roads, which are rarely travelled on outside the holiday seasons.

Each day you can either decide to bike alone, using the information and maps provided, or join the tour guides and other participants.

ACCOMMODATION

The comfort ship PANAGIOTA

The Panagiota is an affectionately restored twin-mast motor yacht, which is 23 ft. wide and 102 ft. long.

It was built in 1990 and modernized in 2001 in conformity with the requirements of cruises. 6 cabins below deck and 4 cabins above deck are at the guests' disposal. All cabins are air-conditioned and equipped with a French bed (4,6 ft. wide), one single bed and private shower and toilet. There is room for all guests in the spacious saloon to have the meals, to regenerate or to spend some time with new friends. When the weather conditions are fine the guests can have the meals outside on the shaded rear deck.



The spacious sun deck, equipped with cosy mats, invites to have a sun bath and to relax. The cook on board is a member of the crew and prepares the breakfast and one or two warm meals a day. The catering starts with the dinner on the arrival day and ends with the breakfast on the departure day.



Internet Availability:

Please note that there is no WiFi available on board the Panagiota. If you need to connect to the internet during the tour, we recommend bringing your device to a cafe or bar in a harbour. Free WiFi is on offer almost everywhere. You you order something to eat or drink you are able to use the WiFi at your hearts content!

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Inbound flight to Corfu is the recommend access point to this tour

A flight is the fastest, easiest and cheapest way to get to Greece. Corfu, your port of embarkation is only 5 km away from Corfu Airport.

To investigate and book a suitable flight you can for example use the website www.opodo.com.

Collective transfer (available on embarkation/disembarkation days only): between Corfu airport and the boat respectively between boat and a hotel in Corfu city.

Additional customized transfers.