

## GREECE - IONIAN ISLANDS FROM CORFU TO CEPHALONIA

8-days / 7-nights Moderate to challenging PREMIUM GUIDED cycling & sailing between scenic islands



The Ionian Islands are off the west coast of Greece. It is here that Hellas shows her sparkling colours: the silvery green of olive groves and the clear azure blue Ionian Sea. From the popular island of Corfu, our journey leads us off the beaten track to discover Ithaca, known as the 'diamond of the Ionians', the abundant bird life of fertile Lefkas, the rugged mountains of Cephalonia and the beautiful olive groves of Paxos. Relax and enjoy the beauty and delicious Greek cuisine in the local restaurants and onboard our traditional motor yacht.

Bike and Boat cycling cruises combine two popular ways of exploring (cycling and island hopping) allowing partners of different abilities and interests to holiday together (trips are just as interesting for leisure cyclists OR enthusiasts). Unpack once and come 'home' each night to a wonderful meal and a comfortable cabin with your own bathroom. On any day if you prefer you can choose to skip the cycling and spend time cruising instead.

Cycling routes vary, on average 25km to 50km, undulating with some hilly sections (elevations between 300m and 700m), with some extended uphill stretches. Most roads are sealed.

**Cost from:** \$2550 per person (twin share lower deck cabins). Single cabin lower deck supplement: \$780

**Upper deck:** Supplement: \$190 per person (twin share). Single cabin upper deck supplement: \$1140

**Departs:** 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> April, 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2019  
4<sup>th</sup> May \*, 15<sup>th</sup> \*, 22<sup>nd</sup> \*, 29<sup>th</sup> \* June, 24<sup>th</sup> August \*, 28<sup>th</sup> September \*, 2019

\* Denotes a special one-way Corfu – Athens or v.v. cruises with different itineraries – ask for details

**Cruise includes:** 7 nights on a motor yacht with crew, in double / twin or single cabins with ensuite; 2 days full board on the ship (breakfast, lunch and dinner), 5 days of half-board (breakfast and either lunch or dinner onboard); English speaking tour guide and guided cycling tours; hire of hybrid bicycle with pannier; group entry to museums and archaeological sites.

**Not included in tour:** Personal expenses, gratuities, local fees, port taxes (paid to captain), drinks (tally sheet onboard to be paid at end of trip), meals taken onshore on half-board days, bottled drinking water (flat fee of €20 for the week), transfers to/from the ship (group transfer from Corfu airport on arrival or departure date can be booked at extra cost - please ask for details), Helmet use is mandatory on all bike tours – some bike helmets are available onboard but we recommend you bring your own or purchase one for this trip.

We offer this as a Bike and Boat cycling tour; however, you can decide each day if you want to cycle as part of the group with the guide, cycle independently or not ride and relax onboard the boat. Non-cyclists are always welcome on these departures but please note there are no alternative sightseeing provisions made on cycling days. The tour requires a minimum number of passengers to operate.

**CALL OUTDOOR TRAVEL ON 1800 331 582 FOR DETAILS OR RESERVATIONS**



**Suggested itinerary:** subject to weather and sailing conditions

**Day 1 Saturday Arrive in Corfu**

Plan to arrive at the boat from 2.00pm onwards. Dinner is on board and overnight mooring in the port of Corfu.

**Day 2 Sunday Corfu Island – Sivota – Parga - Lefkas Island Cycling distance @ 30km**

After breakfast we sail to Sivota and then ride to Parga, the main tourist town on the west coast of the mainland. A highlight is the medieval fort above the old town. We rejoin the yacht and head to Nidri on Lefkas Island.

**Day 3 Monday Island of Lefkas Cycling distance @ 35km**

After breakfast we cycle to waterfalls just outside Nidri, where we may get in a swim, then continue along peaceful roads through the mountains via Siyros to the picturesque harbor town of Sivota. From there we head to our overnight stop at Fiskardo on the northern tip of Cephalonia. Visitors are charmed by Fiskardo's historic buildings, traditional fishing boats, and the cafes, bars and restaurants on the harbour promenade.

**Day 4 Tuesday Cephalonia Island Cycling distance @ 40km**

We cycle today from Fiskardo to Sami, along the impressive mountain pass on the eastern coast of Cephalonia. We can stop for photographs, especially the panoramic view to neighbouring Ithaca. En route to Sami we can stop for an optional visit to the stalactite and stalagmite caves of Melissani, which can only be viewed in row boats. After our cycle tour we cruise to Vathy on Ithaca.

**Day 5 Wednesday Islands of Ithaca and Meganisi Cycling distance @ 21km + 15km**

Picturesque Ithaca, the home of the mythical king Odysseus, is an island where time seems to stand still. On today's cycle route we can enjoy the gnarled olive trees, crystal clear water and friendly islanders of Ithaca. From Frikes the boat takes us to the island of Meganisi (passing the private island of shipping magnate Aristoteles Onassis). Meganisi is a tiny charming island, which we can easily explore by bicycle.

**Day 6 Thursday Mytikas – Lefkas – Paxos Cycling distance @ 50km**

In the morning we cruise to Mytikas on the Greek mainland, then ride along panoramic coastal roads, past quaint mountain villages, to Lefkas town. In the afternoon we sail to Paxos, where we have the option to spend the evening in a cozy taverna in Gaios.

**Day 7 Friday Islands of Paxos and Corfu Cycling distance @ 25km**

The beautiful olive groves of Paxos, the smallest of the seven Ionian Islands, give the island its wonderful silvery green colour. Today's ride takes us around the island, stopping to have a swim in the Mediterranean at one of the many beaches. After lunch we cruise back to Corfu town, and enjoy dinner on board, a festive final get-together in a cosy atmosphere with crew and tour guides.

**Day 8 Saturday Corfu town**

Tour ends after breakfast with optional transfers to the airport, or ask about extending your stay in Greece.

**Outdoor Travel** offers Bike & Boat cruises to many areas of Europe including the Dalmatian coast of Croatia, the Lycian Coast of Turkey and several locations in Italy. Bike & Barge cycling cruises are available on many of the canals and rivers of Europe including Bordeaux, Loire Valley and Burgundy or Provence in France. We also offer several routes in Holland, Belgium and Germany – along the Saar, Moselle and Rhine or in the Venice region of Italy. Inn-to-inn cycling tours are available in most destinations in Europe, Australia or New Zealand:

**Contact the experienced staff at Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:**

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