

PREMIUM PELOPONNESE WINE TOUR

Wine Routes in the Land of Myth



Beyond Athens

INTRODUCTION

Our tour



Greek wine has made huge steps reaching top-class quality levels and gaining more and more supporters worldwide.

Faithful to our commitment to showcasing the true excellences of Greek history, staples and culture, we are proud to present you the first of a series of week-long wine trips we are planning in the main wine producing areas in Greece.

The tour is meant for wine connoisseurs and experts. Accompanied by a **wine expert tour leader** you will have the chance to familiarize yourselves with the rich Greek terrain and its varieties. Our team is not only **knowledgeable** about wine, but also has **excellent connections** with the wineries that we will visit in the region, which will share with you their best labels and vintages, for one-of-a-kind experiences.

The program includes **classical visits** to important archaeological sites as well, and casual strolls around beautiful villages and less commercial areas in the Peloponnese. Our focus, of course, is always on wine-making and the history of wine in this holy place where people have appreciated wine for millennia. Get on board with us, and Greek wine will have no secrets for you after this amazing journey.

Peloponnese

Nobel-prize-winning poet Odysseas Elytis said that “a late afternoon in the Aegean contains joy and sorrow in such exact doses that in the end, only the truth remains.” It is this truth that the visitor encounters in the Peloponnese, which, much like a big island, puts all of its quirks and assets on display with honest clarity.

Remarkable archaeological sites like **Olympia**, **Epidaurus** and **Messene**, amazing beaches on both the **Aegean** and **Ionian** sides of the peninsula, and an abundance of natural beauty from the land and sea come together to create an impressively attractive wine destination. Every region in the Peloponnese has its vineyards, from **Achaia** in the northwest and **Argolis** in the east to **Arcadia** in the hinterland and **Messinia** in the southwest; **Nemea** in **Corinthia** is the undisputed wine-country star.

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW



DAY	OVERNIGHT STAY	DESCRIPTION
1	Athens	Welcome dinner and brief presentation of Greek wines.
2	Kalavrita	Guided visit Ancient Corinth and wine tasting (Tetramythos Winery).
3	Nafplio	Optional visit at the Cave of Lakes. Guided visit at the Archaeological Site of Nemea. Wine tasting (Aivalis Winery and Gaia Wines).
4	Mystras	Guided visit at Ancient Epidaurus and wine tasting (Tselepos Winery).
5	Monemvasia	Optional visit at the Byzantine village of Mystras. Relax at the resort.
6	Monemvasia	Visit the medieval village of Monemvasia. Wine tasting and lunch inside the castle (incl. Monevmvasia Winery labels).
7	Athens	Wine tasting (Domaine Skouras) and guided visit at Ancient Mycenae. Return to Athens.
8	-	Optional Athens walking tour. Departure.

DAY-BY-DAY PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

DAY 1



Our team welcomes you upon arrival at El. Venizelos Airport in **Athens** and after checking-in at the hotel, situated in the city-center, you have some free time to rest or explore the surrounding area before meeting up for dinner. We recommend you join our **orientation walking tour** so that you familiarize yourselves with this city that has over 3000 years of history and innumerable landmarks to admire.

Later on, your first dinner at a fine wine bar-restaurant features an exciting presentation of the Greek oeno-panorama by our wine expert tour leader. Get a first acquaintance with the true beauty of Greek wine, a breathtaking complexity that will encourage you to keep exploring. Overnight stay at AthensWas Hotel in the city center, or similar.



DAY 2



Breakfast and free time in the morning to stroll around Athens or relax at the hotel.

Check-out and departure for Corinth.

The first destination in the Peloponnese is the archaeological site of **Ancient Corinth**, only an hour away from Athens, where we will also be able to visit the small annexed museum. Next, we will drive up the hill to reach the impressive **Acrocorinth** castle which is perched on a rock, offering stunning views over the Corinthian Gulf. Following this impressive stopover is our first winery visit, *Tetramythos Winery* and their exclusively organic vineyards. Here we taste six organic wines accompanied, among other delicacies, by homemade pies, typical Kalavrytan cheeses, and traditional spoon sweets.

A scenic railroad train ride through the mountainous Greek countryside awaits us next, ending at picturesque Kalavryta village, just in time for dinner in a local restaurant.

Overnight stay at Kalavryta Canyon Hotel, or similar.





Breakfast at the hotel.

On the third day of our tour we can relax at the hotel facilities, with the option to visit the **Cave of Lakes**, before heading for our wine tasting venues for the day. This magical cave is a place of great anthropological and geological importance where small and larger lakes follow one another. There we'll travel in time, fascinated by mythological stories and interesting details explained by an expert paleontologist.

Then it's about time to visit two wineries located in Nemea, one of the most interesting and promising P.D.O. areas of Greece. First, we pay a visit to *Aivalis Wines*, a small family winery that has captivated wine-lovers all over the country as well as abroad. Then we head towards *Gaia Wines*, where we'll pair our wine with a traditional Greek lunch, including dakos salad, smoked meat and cheeses, and prunes. Both wineries cultivate their Agiorgitiko vines with an eye towards the creation of a red wine of an exceptional personality that are bound to take you by surprise.

Next, we head towards the archaeological site in **Nemea**, where Hercules is said to have killed the Lion as the first of his twelve labors, and also where now stands the imposing 4th-century-BC **Temple of Zeus**. Optional visit to the nearby Stadium where the ancient Nemean Games were held.

Check-in at our hotel in Nafplio, the first capital city of Greece.

Dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight stay in Nafplio at Ippoliti Hotel or similar.



DAY 4



After breakfast, a must-see destination awaits us: one of the best-preserved Classical Greek structures in existence, the **Ancient Theatre of Epidaurus** and its surrounding archaeological site.

Following our guided tour, we depart for *Tselepos Winery* where we will go on a 4XD tour of the vineyard, a walk around the estate's restored watermill, as well as a visit to the production facility and the aging cellars. Then of course we'll try some premium wines, such as their top quality P.D.O. red Agiorgitiko, paired with a light lunch.

Check-in and dinner at our hotel in Mystras, a fortified town which lies on the slopes of the hill, beyond the ancient castle.

Overnight stay at Mystras Grand Palace Resort & Spa or similar.



DAY 5



The fifth day of the tour we check out after breakfast, depending on our energy levels and the group's general consensus, we have the option to make a stop at the fortress town of **Mystras**, a World Heritage-listed site, where we can learn about one of the most important historical sites in the Peloponnese from the Byzantine times.

Our time travel continues further south at the medieval village in **Monemvasia**, which boasts one of the most stylish terraces inside its impressive castle.

Check-in and dinner at the hotel.

Overnight stay in Monemvasia at Kinsteria Hotel.

DAY 6



Breakfast at the hotel.

After our relaxing morning we head towards **Monemvasia Castle** for a walking tour in its beautiful surroundings. A gourmet restaurant will host us for lunch, where we will enjoy a wine tasting focused on labels from *Monemvasia winery*. This is a unique opportunity to discover the local wine Malvasia - which is the Frankish name for Monemvasia. Relaxing evening and dinner at the hotel. We will also get to try Asyrtiko, Asproudi and Kydonitsa varieties.

Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight stay in Monemvasia at Kinsterna Hotel.



DAY 7



After breakfast, why not spend a lazy morning by the pool of our resort or experience absolute relaxation at the spa?

Then, we will luxuriate in an oenological journey at *Domaine Skouras*, where we will meet and lunch with the true pioneers in Greek wine-making. We are bound to wonder in awe as we taste the finest wines of Skouras and, among other gems, the one-of-a-kind mix of Cabernet Sauvignon with the local Agiorgitiko.

Afterwards, we are going to have a guided tour around the mighty ruins of **Ancient Mycenae**, home of the mythical Agamemnon.

Check-in at our hotel and dinner in the city-centre of Athens, in a rooftop restaurant, overlooking the Acropolis.

Overnight stay in Athens at AthensWas Hotel, or similar.



DAY 8



Breakfast at the hotel and check-out.

Optional guided walking tour in the **Acropolis and Parthenon** as well as the stunning Acropolis Museum.

Farewell gift and departure for the airport.





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