

ETERNAL GREECE

Specialist Thematic Tours

for Small Groups, Families
and Individual Travellers
in the fabulous Peloponnese
region of Greece

be
inspired
by the
Peloponnese



www.eternalgreece.com

About Eternal Greece Ltd

Eternal Greece Ltd is a specialist, thematic tour-operating company focusing on the Peloponnese, Greece.

We are registered and insured in the UK whilst the friendly and deeply knowledgeable specialists that run it are based in Greece, thus combining the best of both worlds to offer peace of mind, quality, local knowledge - and limitless inspiration.



About Greece

"The people of this country knew how to inhabit and demarcate the world against the barbarous in honour of the seat of the gods ...they knew how to praise what is great and by acknowledging it, to bring themselves in front of the sublime, founding, in this way, a world".

Martin Heidegger, 'Sojourns', 1962

We specialise in the magnificent yet comparatively little-known region of the Peloponnese, home to illustrious Classical, Byzantine, Ottoman and Venetian sites, including famed Ancient Olympia, Mycenae, Mystras, Sparta and Nemea, to locations steeped in mythology and history as well as the fascinating natural monuments of mountain lakes, forbidding peaks, friendly hills, breath-taking grottoes, wild promontories and gently-rolling vineyard country, all of which beckon the traveller in an ever-changing mosaic of sights, scents, sounds and colours.

All our tours and programmes are meticulously researched and focus on specific themes which touch upon both famous as well as lesser known - yet equally thrilling - characteristics of Greece in general and the Peloponnese in particular. The groups typically range from eight to sixteen people in size and the tours are conducted round the year with myself as the tour-leader in some of the programmes and are all supported and escorted by our hand-picked specialist guides.

We offer both small-group tours as well as self-drive and FIT programmes for families and individual travellers.

GREECE is a treasure-trove, evoking millennia of myths, legends and feats of civilisation, history and nature. It is renowned internationally for its beaches, its gentle climate, its light yet hearty cuisine and its friendly and vibrant society.

Yet, there is another side to Greece: the intangible one. I call it Harmony and Inspiration. This is the essence of Classical Greece itself and cannot be built, organised, measured or exchanged; it can only be experienced by the receptive traveller.

This essence, which I believe has also inspired Classical Greece with the concepts and faculties of Democracy, Astronomy, Geometry and Philosophy (*), can only be distilled from living in and from feeling the benevolent influence of this magical country.

The best way to experience the essence of Greece is to tread off the beaten path, with a receptive frame of mind. Be ready for the messages carried by the salty fragrance of the Aegean breeze, seek out the lonely, minuscule

shrine on the remote mountain-side, accept the invitation for a simple meal under the olive tree by the friendly elderly peasant couple. Be ready to toil on the rocky, lofty mountain range but also to wander on the thyme-covered, beckoning hillock. Wake up early so as not to miss the rising sun reflected on our sea, its waves and ripples shining back the light and playfully synthesising a zillion small dawns which will light your mind.

It is only then, through this mosaic of such simple yet rich experiences, that the Essence of Greece will slowly come out and welcome you. I have been travelling in Greece since my early teens and I am always touched and inspired, as if it was the first time, by the deep feeling of this country. I have tried to capture some of it on film, but what can be seen from the pictures only conveys a minuscule proportion of what can actually be experienced.

Eric Cauchi, Founder and director

(*) all these words are of Greek origin



GROUP PROGRAMMES

Please find below a small selection from our well-researched and unique programmes which have been designed with small groups in mind.

Heracles (Hercules) (9 days / 8 nights)

Four Labours of Hercules, Two Mythical Entrances to Hades (the Underworld) and Archaeological Treasures of the Peloponnese.

This original, exciting and enriching programme breaks new ground as it includes visits to the sites of four of Heracles's legendary twelve labours, two of the mythical entrances to Hades (the Underworld of the ancient Greeks) as well as to other prominent archaeological, historical and natural monuments in the Peloponnese, such as fabled Mycenae, the pyramid of Hellinikon, the Byzantine citadel of Mystras and the magnificent caves of Diros. Being in the Peloponnese we would not fail to include genuine and charismatic local food as well as delectable local wines.

Some of the points of interest include the following:

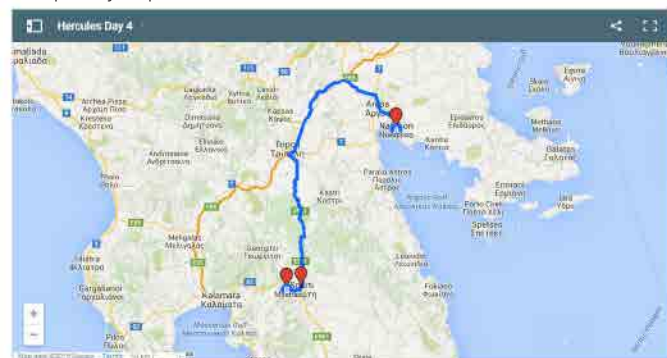
Ancient Epidaurus / Ancient Lerna / Ancient Mycenae / Ancient Nemea / Ancient Tiryns / Areopolis / Cape Taenaron / Corinth Canal / Diros Caves / Kefalari / Lake Stymphalia / Mani / Museum of Natural History of Lygourio / Mystras / Nauplion / Palaia Epidavros / Peloponnese / Pyramid of Hellinikon

The Labours of Heracles covered by this programme are following:

Labour One:	The Nemean Lion	Location: Ancient Nemea
Labour Two:	The Lernaean Hydra	Location: Ancient Lerna
Labour Six :	The Stymphalian Birds	Location: Lake Stymphalia
Labour Twelve:	Cerberus	Location: Cape Taenaron

Entrances to the Underworld: Lerna and Cape Taenaron

Sample day map:



Nine UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Peloponnese and Southern Greece (11 days / 10 nights)

Greece is home to seventeen UNESCO World Heritage sites, of which more than half are in the Peloponnese and southern Greece. This thrilling and instructive programme will take us to the following illustrious examples of architecture, history and civilisation:

- The world-renowned theatre and Asclepium of Epidaurus
- The megathilic citadel of Tiryns, legendary birthplace of hero and demi-god Heracles
- Fabled Mycenae-The Byzantine castle and citadel of Mystras
- The temple of Apollo Epicurius by Iktinos, designer of the Parthenon, perched on a remote mountain-top
- Olympia, cradle of the Olympic Games in 776 BC
- The sacred city and oracle of Delphi
- The Byzantine monastery of Hossios Loukas
- The Acropolis of Athens

Itinerary overview:



Ancient Nemea and the Revival of the Nemean Games (8 days / 7 nights)

Based in the lively and beautiful seaside town of Nauplion, this novel and inspiring programme combines the visit to (and participation in, if so desired) the revived Nemean Games with guided tours of the illustrious ancient sites of the Argolid, including Epidaurus, Mycenae, Argive Heraion, Tiryns, the Pyramid of Hellinikon and, of course, Nemea. We include very pleasing detours to the charming small coastal town of Palaia Epidavros on the Saronic Gulf side of the Argolid peninsula as well as the to the interesting Museum of Natural History near Epidavros and, on our way to the Peloponnese, to the Corinth Canal.

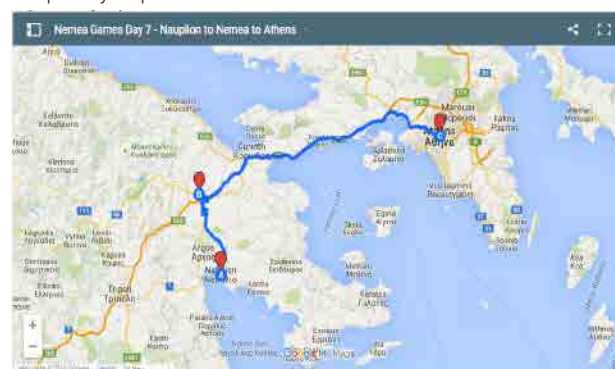
The revived Nemean Games take place every four years at their very birthplace of Ancient Nemea in the Peloponnese.

We invite you to join us in this extraordinary event in which participants from all over the world meet to sample and to contribute to the genuine spirit of the Nemean Games in this old and fabled land.

Some of the points of interest include the following:

Ancient Nemea / Ancient Epidaurus / Ancient Tiryns / Ancient Mycenae / Argive Heraion / Corinth Canal / Kefalari / Museum of Natural History of Lygourio / Nauplion / Palaia Epidavros / Pyramid of Hellinikon

Sample day map:



FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL SELF-DRIVE AND BESPOKE PROGRAMMES

Booking self-drive holidays through the services of Eternal Greece will enable you to sample the delights of added freedom in combination with our expertise in researching and suggesting the routes.

To this we add such services as the booking of professional, licenced guides at points of interest in your itinerary. Upon booking, we will also send you the full itinerary description and maps, along with useful tips and local insider information, including where to eat and points of interest in your itinerary.

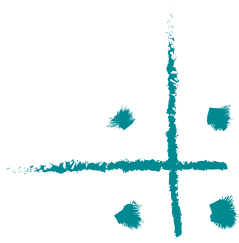
Our deep knowledge of all aspects of the Peloponnese as well as our expertise in creating inspiring tailor-made holidays is at your disposal : we can design your fulfilling and memorable stay in the Peloponnese, be it with emphasis on self-drive exploration, a luxury break, a soothing vacation, an unforgettable honeymoon or a relaxing babymoon.

Our expertise, creativity, knowledge and enthusiasm which can enable you to sample the innumerable facets of the Peloponnese are at your full disposal.

Testimonials

'In addition to the museum and ancient site we felt privileged to be part of a small group gaining an insight into its history from the man who has been so instrumental in bringing it back to life. Yet again, we were struck by the friendliness and thoughtfulness of the people we met. Small acts of helpfulness and kindness stay with us for a long time, making them some of the best memories. For instance, the taverna owner near Nemea, going out of his way to help us and the taxi driver taking us back to the airport is a great advert for your country' - Iain Gordon

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ETERNAL GREECE

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