

The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle starry pattern. On the left side, there is a large, semi-circular compass rose with degree markings from 150 to 260. Several circular navigation icons are scattered across the image, including a compass rose in the top right and a circular arrow icon in the bottom left. The text is positioned in the lower right quadrant.

SAILING ITINERARIES

7 DAYS ATHENS TO SANTORINI

Sailing boats travel with the use of engine on an average of 7-9 knots per hour and when using sails, depending on wind, on an average of 5-10 knots per hour. The duration of travel between islands is estimated approximately on an average speed of the boat.

EMBARKATION ATHENS (12:00 am):

DAY 1 ATHENS – AEGINA (AGIA MARINA) – POROS:

ATHENS – AEGINA (AGIA MARINA) (Duration: 1:30 hours)

Agia (Santa) Marina: This gorgeous bay lies at the eastern part of the island Aegina (pop. 8924). Agia Marina is a preferred summer destination for greek and foreign tourists. It has a beautiful bay with a 500 m long sandy beach, shallow blue water, ideal for water sports and snorkelling. Protected from the usual northern winds, it provides a perfect shelter for swimming and lunch and the ideal way to start your vacation

There is a road, leading to the main town, which goes through forests of pine trees and passes by the temple of Aphaia, which is a Dorian style temple built in the 5th century BC. The goddess Aphaia was associated with fertility and the agricultural cycle. It also goes to the Monastery of Saint Nektarios and to the old medieval town with it's old churches.

AEGINA – POROS (Duration: 2:00 hours)

Poros is a small Greek island-pair in the southern part of the Saronic Gulf (pop. 3780). It is separated from the mainland by a 200 m (656 ft.) wide sea channel, with the town of Galatas situated on the Peloponnese side.



DAY 2 POROS – HYDRA - KYTHNOS:

POROS – HYDRA (Duration: 2:30 hours)

Hydra was known in ancient times as “Hydrea” (Υδρέα, derived from the Greek word for “water”), a reference to the springs on the island. The beautiful and very graphical main town “Hydra Port” (pop. 1900) is built in a small bay from which only steep stone streets lead out of the harbor area. Cars and motorcycles are not allowed on the island and the only ways of transportation are horses, donkeys or by foot.

There are 6 Orthodox monasteries, as well as numerous churches on the island. The island’s cathedral is the old Monastery of the Dormition of the Virgin and sits on the quayside of the town. The monastery contains the tomb of Lazarus Kountouriotis, the richest sea captain on Hydra, who gave his entire fortune to support the Greek War of Independence.

HYDRA – KYTHNOS (Duration: 4:30 hours)

Kythnos is a Greek island and municipality in the Western Cyclades between Kea and Serifos. It is 56 nautical miles (104 km) from the harbor of Piraeus. Kythnos is 100 km² (39 sq mi) in area and has a coastline of about 100 km (62 mi). It has more than 70 beaches, many of which are still inaccessible by road. Of particular note is the crescent-shaped isthmus of fine sand at Kolona and the warm thermal springs at Loutra bay, which are said to have curative properties.

The island has two significant settlements, the village of Messaria or Kythnos (pop. 561), known locally as Chora, and the village of Dryopis or Dryopida (pop. 325), also known as Chorio. Both villages are notable for their winding and often stepped streets, too narrow for vehicular traffic. The villages are very picturesque but in different architectural styles. Chora has the more-typical flat roofs of the Cyclades, while Dryopida’s rooftops are slanted and tiled. Chora is also notable for its large Greek Orthodox Church.

Kythnos can lay claim to one of the oldest known habitations in the Cycladic islands, a Mesolithic settlement (10000 BCE – 8000 BCE) at Maroulas on the northeast coast. The site, close to the village of Loutra, is situated on the shore, and large portions have eroded into the sea. Excavations in 1996 found intact human skeletons, along with stone artifacts and part of a floor pavement, which indicates a long-term settlement, probably of hunter-gatherers.

Kythnos also is the site of one of the largest caves in Greece, Katafiki Cave in Dryopida. This cave, first visited in the 1830s and described by the geologist Fiedler, has unique “schratten” or rock curtains, as well as speleotherms. It was the site of an iron mine until 1939 and has now been developed as a tourist attraction.



DAY 3 KYTHNOS – SYROS - MYKONOS:

KYTHNOS – SYROS (Duration: 3:00 hours)

Syros (pop. 21507) is located 78 nautical miles (144 km) south-east of Athens.

The largest towns are Ermoupoli, Ano Syros, and Vari. Ermoupoli is the capital of the island and of the Cyclades. It has always been a significant port town, and during the 19th century it was even more significant than Piraeus. Other villages are Galissas, Foinikas, Pagos, Manna, Kini and Poseidonia.

SYROS – MYKONOS (Duration: 3:00 hours)

Mykonos' nickname is The island of the winds. Tourism is a major industry and Mykonos (pop. 10134) is well known for its vibrant nightlife and for being a gay-friendly destination with many establishments catering for the LGBT community.

Archaeological findings suggest the presence of the Neolithic tribe, Kares on the island in 3000 BC, but the first real settlers seem to be the Ionians from Athens in the early 11th century BC. There were many people living on the neighbouring island of Delos, just 2 km (1.2 miles) away, which meant that Mykonos became an important place for supplies and transit. It was, however, during ancient times a rather poor island with limited agricultural resources and only two towns. Its inhabitants were polytheists and worshipped many gods.

Petros the Pelican - an old celebrity of the town's waterfront, "Petros" has been the official mascot of Mykonos for over 50 years. He took up permanent residence on the island after a storm in 1954 and after his death the islanders elected a successor to carry on his legacy until today.

Sights nearby:

Mykonos windmills - The windmills are a defining feature of the Mykonian landscape. There are many dotted around the island, but most are concentrated in the main town of Chora. The famous "Kato Mili" in Chora (Greek for lower mills), stand in a row on a hill overlooking the sea to harness the strong northern winds. Capped with wood and straw, the windmills were built by the Venetians in the 16th century to mill flour and remained in use until the early 20th century. Many have been refurbished and restored to serve as homes to locals and vaults to numerous Mykonian heritage documents.

Little Venice - rows of fishing houses line the waterfront with their balconies hanging over the sea. The first of these was constructed in the mid-18th century. They originally belonged to rich merchants or captains and the little basement doors that provided direct access to the sea and underground storage areas led people to believe that the owners were secretly pirates.

Mykonos has many bays, which are well protected from the usual northern winds, in which water sports activities and snorkelling are possible. A walk through main town is strongly recommended, with the typical Cycladic houses, alleys and windmills, the famous brand stores, the never ending



DAY 4 MYKONOS – DELOS – RINIA - PAROS:

Duration: 1:00 hours)

The island of Delos, near Mykonos, near the centre of the Cyclades archipelago, is one of the most important mythological, historical and archaeological sites in Greece. The excavations in the island are among the most extensive in the Mediterranean; ongoing work takes place under the direction of the French School at Athens and many of the artifacts found are on display at the Archaeological Museum of Delos and the National Archaeological Museum of Athens.

Delos had a position as a holy sanctuary for a millennium. Investigation of ancient stone huts found on the island indicate that it has been inhabited since the 3rd millennium BCE. By the time of the Odyssey the island was already famous as the birthplace of the twin gods Apollo and Artemis. Indeed, between 900 BCE and 100 CE, sacred Delos was a major cult centre, where Dionysus is also in evidence as well as the Titaness Leto, mother of the above-mentioned twin deities.

Delos is THE archaeological site to visit if you are sailing in the Cyclades. There are guides to take you on a tour on the site, but it is generally better to organize it in advance.

Swimming and diving are prohibited by law in Delos.

DELOS – RINIA (Duration: 0:15 hours)

Rhinia or Rhenea or Rinia, or Rineia also known as Greater Delos, is an almost deserted island five miles SW of Mykonos. The anchorages around the island make a pleasant stop for people who avoid the noise of "civilization" and are a good overnight base prior to a visit by yacht to the archaeological site of Delos, from which it is separated by a 100 metre wide channel.

RINIA – PAROS (Duration: 2:30 hours)

One of the Cyclades island group, it lies to the west of Naxos, from which it is separated by a channel about 8 kilometres (5 miles) wide. It lies approximately 150 km (93 miles) south-east of Piraeus. Unrivalled natural beauty, beaches with crystal clear waters, unrivalled Byzantine footpaths connecting traditional villages and breathtaking landscapes make Páros one of the best loved holiday destinations in Greece. Its nearest neighbour is the municipality of Antiparos, which lies to its southwest.

Naoussa, a colourful village, where the ruins of a Venetian fortress stand at the entrance to its small harbour, lies at the north of Paros and is known for its exquisite shopping opportunities within the town's narrow alleys, so a walk in town is recommended along the little fishing harbours and beautiful structure of the town. One can also take the opportunity to dine ashore at one of Cyclades finest restaurants.



DAY 5 PAROS – SIFNOS – MILOS:

PAROS – SIFNOS (Duration: 3:00 hours)

Sifnos (pop.: 2625) lies in the Cyclades between Serifos and Milos, west of Delos and Paros, about 130 km (81 mi) (80 nautical miles) from Piraeus (Athens' port), with a permanent population of 2,625.

Sifnos is an island municipality in the Cyclades island group in Greece. The main town is called Apollonia and the second-largest town is Artemonas. The village of Kastro, was the capital of the island during ancient times until 1836. It is built on top of a high cliff on the island's east shore and today has extensive medieval remains and is the location of the island's archaeological museum.

Sifnos was inhabited by human beings from at least 4000 BCE. Archeological evidence indicates the island was within the mainstream of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age Cycladic civilization. The island was very wealthy in ancient times, thanks to its gold, silver, and lead, which were being mined there as early as the 3rd millennium BCE.

There are 360 churches in the island of Sifnos, as per the days of the year. More than any other island in Cyclades

SIFNOS – MILOS (Duration: 3:00 hours)

Milos (pop. 4977) is a volcanic island in the south of Aegean Sea. The volcanic activity in ancient years has endowed Milos island with an exciting variety of gorgeous landscapes, consequently offering the visitor a wide range of activities. The funny shapes of the rocks and their wonderful colours at the beautiful white sandy beaches are one expression of the volcanic features of Milos. The economic activity is another: minerals such as obsidian are excavated here. What is more, one of the most ancient mines in the Mediterranean is on this island.

The island's villages are lovely too: the stately Pláka (the island's capital), the harbour of Adámantas, the beautiful Hivadolími, the marvellous Emporiós with the little lagoon of Revary and the old iron mines.

It is famous for the statue of Aphrodite (the 'Venus de Milo', now in the Louvre), the statues of Greek god Asclepios (now in the British Museum), the Poseidon and an archaic Apollo in Athens.

The spectacular formation of the rocks and caves around Milos, due to weather and sea is something that definitely has to be experienced on your journey



DAY 6 MILOS – POLYAIGO – FOLEGANDROS:

MILOS – POLYAIGO (Duration: 2:00 hours)

Polýaigos is an uninhabited Greek island in the Cyclades near Milos and Kimolos. Its name means "many goats", since it is inhabited only by goats. Its goat population maintains Polyaiagos as a barren island. It has, however, some magnificent beaches, mainly on the southern part of the island, as well as many sea-surface caves, which serve as a refuge to a dwindling population of Mediterranean monk seals (*Monachus monachus*). A perfect location for snorkelling in deep blue waters.

POLYAIGO – FOLEGANDROS (Duration: 2:00 hours)

The port of Folegandros is the small village of Karavostasis. The Ano Meria village contains a small but interesting Ecological and Folklore Museum.

Shining under the Aegean sun, Folégandros was named after the son of king Minos. This off-the-beaten-path destination captivates the visitors with the untouched beauty of its beaches, the luminous blue of its waters, and the unadulterated style of its architecture.

The Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary

Towering above Hóra and with a stone path leading to it, a whitewashed impressive church awaits to be discovered. Allegedly built on the site of an ancient temple, the church hosts significant ancient immured inscriptions and statues' pedestals in its yard and interior. Tradition has it that the silver-plated icon of the Virgin Mary is miraculous. Linked to pirate stories, the icon is carried around the town in a procession held every year on Easter Sunday.

Hiking tip: Follow the rocky path starting from Poúnda square all the way to the church (walking time app. 15 min).

Ano Merá

The picturesque village of Ano Merá is a traditional rural settlement of the 19th century. To learn more about the traditional everyday life of Folégandros, visit the Folk Art Museum (open from 17:00 to 20:00 in the summer).

Chrysospiliá is a natural monument of great interest, and not just to archaeologists and speleologists. Situated below the monastery of the Virgin Mary on a rocky beach at 30m above sea level with impressive stalactites and stalagmites, the cave is globally unique for the ancient male Greek names written on its walls and roof, dated back to the 4th century BC. Nicagoras, Themistocles, Cleon, Callimachus, Pythagoras, and Lysicrates are some of the names carved on the cave walls. According to some theories, the cave was used as a worship site where ceremonies for young men coming of age used to take place.



DAY: FOLEGANDROS – SIKINOS - IOS:

FOLEGANDROS – SIKINOS (Duration: 1:00 hours)

It was known as Oinoe (Island of Wine) in Ancient Greece. It contrasts with nearby islands, such as Ios, in being quiet and relatively less developed. There are two villages, "Allopronia" on the south sea side, being the port, and another higher up in the hills being the chora. The chora up on the hills is composed of two settlements adjacent to each other, "Castro" to the west and "Chorio" to the east. There are a handful of tavernas in the harbor. The beach at the harbor is one of two large sandy beaches on the island. Several ancient ruins rest on the island, although some are remote. There are two paved roads, although a third is being built to connect the nascent heliport and eventually a new resort on the other sandy beach, and there are several well-maintained dirt roads. Much of the island is very difficult to access due to the terrain. Nearly all of the island's area is covered by terraces once used for extensive agriculture. Now only a handful are used across the island, most operating on government subsidies. The community had 273 inhabitants at the 2011 census. It includes the uninhabited island of Kardiotissa and other uninhabited islets. Its total land area is 42.507 square kilometres (16.412 sq mi).

SIKINOS – IOS (Duration: 1:00 hours)

Ios is a hilly island with cliffs down to the sea on most sides, situated halfway between Naxos and Santorini.

Ios was the setting for the movie *Ginger and Cinnamon* (Dillo con parole mie). Also, scenes from the film *Big Blue* (Le Grand Bleu) were shot in Manganari.

The Port of Ios is at the head of the Ormos harbor in the northwest. From there the bus or a 15-minute walk up the steep donkey path takes you to the village, known as Chora. Chora is a white and very picturesque cycladic village, full of stairs and narrow paths that make it inaccessible for cars of any kind.

Excavations on Skarkos hill unearthed a prehistoric settlement, proving that Ios has been inhabited since the early Cycladic period. The island is said to have 365 churches and chapels, like the days of the year.



DAY: IOS – SANTORINI (Duration: 1:00 hours)

Santorini, classically Thera, and officially Thira, is an island in the southern Aegean Sea, about 200 km (120 mi) southeast of Greece's mainland. It is the largest island of a small, circular archipelago which bears the same name and is the remnant of a volcanic caldera. It forms the southernmost member of the Cyclades group of islands, with an area of approximately 73 km² (28 sq mi) and a 2011 census population of 15,550.

Santorini is essentially what remains after an enormous volcanic eruption that destroyed the earliest settlements on a formerly single island, and created the current geological caldera.

The depth of the caldera, at 400m, makes it impossible for any but the largest ships to anchor anywhere in the protected bay; there is also a fisherman's harbour at Vlychada, on the southwestern coast. The island's principal port is Athinios. The capital, Fira, clings to the top of the cliff looking down on the lagoon.

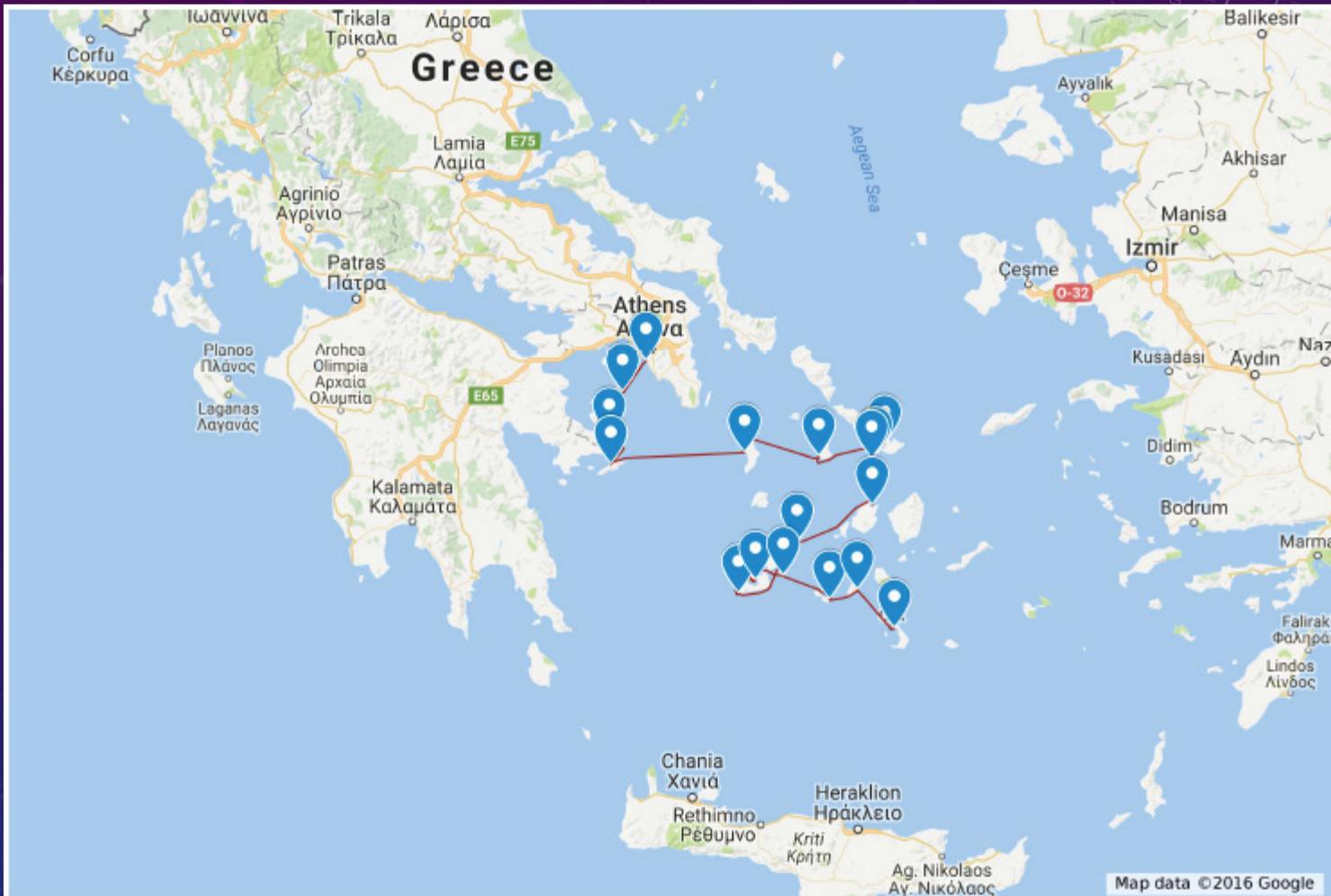
The island is the site of one of the largest volcanic eruptions in recorded history: the Minoan eruption (sometimes called the Thera eruption), which occurred some 3,600 years ago at the height of the Minoan civilization.

The eruption left a large caldera surrounded by volcanic ash deposits hundreds of metres deep and may have led indirectly to the collapse of the Minoan civilization on the island of Crete, 110 km (68 mi) to the south, through a gigantic tsunami. Another popular theory holds that the Thera eruption is the source of the legend of Atlantis.

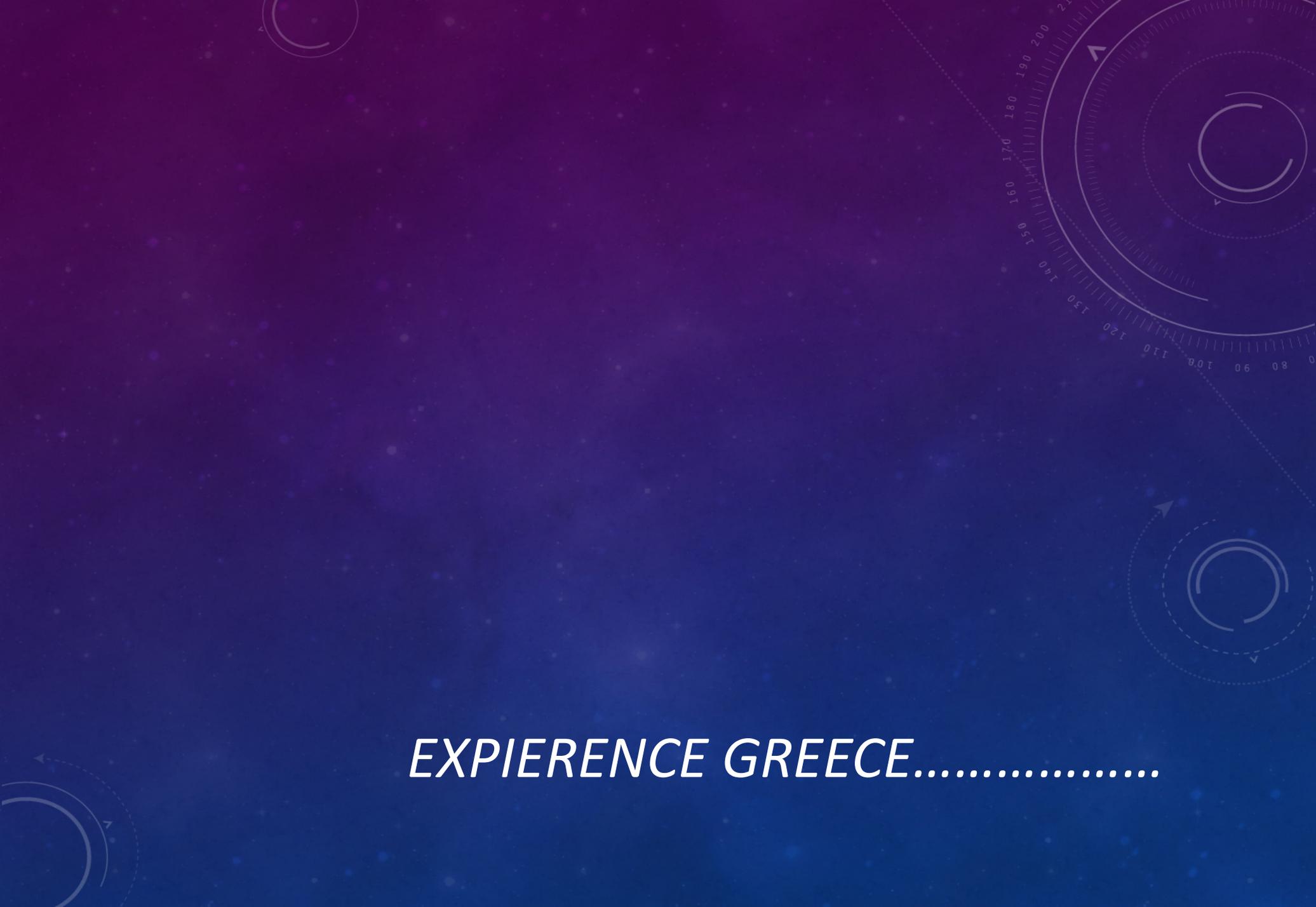
While visiting Santorini, we recommend a tour guide, who will take you on a ride through the history of the island, including a visit to the winery, which is an experience well to be remembered. Also a walk through the town of Thira or Oia, for shopping, coffee or just sightseeing is always a favourite activity. If you wish we can arrange for you a beautiful café or an exquisite restaurant, including transfer, so you can admire the famous sunset of Santorini.

DISEMBARKATION SANTORINI (12:00)





8 Days - 7 Nights
Argosaronikos & Cyclades Itinerary



EXPIERENCE GREECE.....