

## Greece Hiking & Kayaking Adventure

8 Days



**CELEBRATING 50 YEARS** AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

## >Greece Hiking & Kayaking Adventure

Embark on an odyssey across Greece, a land of crumbling ruins, postcard-perfect towns, and epic scenery. Tour the ancient Acropolis of Athens, one of the world's greatest architectural sites, then journey to the Peloponnese to summit its highest peak and explore the beautiful Mani Peninsula - praised for its traditional stone architecture and crystal-clear waters. After hiking through fir and pine forests, slow down at pretty fishing villages, and then paddle along pristine shores to sparkling sea caves and underwater springs. End your journey with a sample of locally pressed olive oil, then head out for a nighttime stroll on the cobbled streets of Areopolis.

## **Details**

Arrive:	Athens, Greece	"I have t experien
Depart:	Athens, Greece	ever had
Duration:	8 Days	Marianne
Group Size:	5-16 Guests	"Traveli
Minimum Age:	18 Years Old	set of clo experien
Activity Level:		Mark N.

## Testimonials

traveled extensively around the world. The nce with MT Sobek was by far the best I hav d. Thank you for such excellence."

eW.

ing with MT Sobek is like gaining a new ose friends that have shared an incredible nce together."

## Why Take This Trip With Us?

#### REASON #01

MT Sobek has been crafting unique itineraries for adventure seekers since 1969, working with top local guides to pave new trails. REASON #02

This journey perfectly blends legendary must-see wonders with a Peloponnese hiking and kayaking adventure for a refreshing twist.

#### REASON #03

Immersive insights into the culture and nature of the region from expert MT Sobek guides, plus summit the highest mountain in the Taygetus Massif.

# $A_{1}^{A}$

#### ACTIVITIES

Touring ancient sites, a challenging summit climb to the highest peak in the Peloponnese, sea kayaking, and olive-oil tasting at a traditional press.

What to Expect

#### LODGING

Enjoy charming hotels with local character and delicious homemade Greek breakfasts. Spend two nights in rustic mountain refuges located in beautiful settings



#### CLIMATE

Expect mild and sunny weather. Temperatures will range between 55°-75° F. Water temp is chilly in spring, warmer in fall.

### **Meet Our Guides**

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Anastasia holds a degree in Tourism Management from the Technological Educational Institution in Athens. Her passion for travel and adventurous experiences has led to her all over Europe including Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. When she isn't guiding, Anastasia enjoys outdoor activities like jogging, hiking and cycling. Anastasia is fluent in English and Greek, and is tremendously knowledgeable, professional, and friendly.

#### Anastasia Bagourdi

Archelaos grew up in Athens and his love of the outdoors, particularly plant life, eventually led him to catch the travel bug and explore the world through outdoor activities including rock climbing, mountain biking and hiking. He is fluent in Greek, English and German and keenly lists his top priority as creating safe and joyful experiences for all MT Sobek travelers on their adventures through Greece.

#### **Archelaos Biehler**

## Itinerary

#### DAY 1 ARRIVE IN ATHENS

Arrive in the capital of Greece today and check into the hotel. Gather in the evening for a short walking tour of the city and a welcome dinner in a traditional Greek tavern in Plaka, the old part of Athens.

Meals: D

#### DAY 2 EXPLORE LANDMARKS IN ATHENS & HEAD TO MYSTRAS

After breakfast, head out for a guided tour of the Acropolis, the ancient citadel that stands on a hilltop, presiding over Athens as one of the world's greatest monuments. Continue on to Panathinaikon, the stadium where the first Olympic Games were held in 1896, and the striking new Acropolis Museum. After lunch, drive to the Peloponnese peninsula and the UNESCO-listed archeological site of Mystras, showcasing medieval ruins — the fortress, palace, churches and monasteries in a stunning landscape.

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 3 WALK TO PARORI IN THE TAYGETUS FOOTHILLS

After breakfast at the hotel, leave for a gentle hike into the Taygetus foothills, rich in history and culture. Through magnificent landscapes, discover the gorge of Lagadiotisa and the monastery of Zigouna. Finish the day enjoying splendid views of Sparta from the shade of the plane trees in the ancient village of Parori.

Activity: 5 hours/8 miles hiking with 2,400' feet elevation gain & 2,400' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 4 SUMMIT PROFITIS ILIAS

Start the day with a short transfer to the trailhead. Ascend through spectacular alpine landscapes towards the summit of Profitis Ilias at 7,897 feet — the highest peak in the Taygetus Massif. The climb to the pyramid-shaped summit takes just under 3 hours. On a clear day, enjoy amazing views as far away as Crete. Hike back down and transfer to Kardamyli, our base for the next two nights. Spend the rest of the day relaxing and enjoying the mountain air.

Activity: 5 hours/4.5 miles hiking to 7,896' elevation with 2,800' elevation gain & 2,800' loss

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 5 TAKE A LOOP HIKE IN VYROS GORGE

Enjoy a loop hike to the springs of beautiful Vyros Gorge, a deep river gorge that runs from the foot of Profitis Ilias to Kardamyli. Walk along the dry riverbed to the ancient monastery of Lykaki, where you can see frescoes dating from 1783. After visiting the monastery, return to Kardamyli.

Activity: 5 hours/6 miles hiking with 1,800' elevation gain & 1,800' loss

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 6 KAYAK FROM KARDAMYLI TO AGIOS NIKOLAOS

The picturesque fishing villages and dazzling coastal landscape of the western Mani region offer a chance to slow down and discover Greece's hidden treasures. Starting from Kardamyli, hop in a kayak to explore sea caves, underwater springs, and the famed golden beach of Kalogria. End the journey in the pretty village of Agios Nikolaos, and from here transfer to the hotel in Limeni.

Activity: 4-5 hours/5 miles sea kayaking

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 7 SEA KAYAK IN OITYLO BAY

Wake for breakfast and set off on a comfortably paced paddling adventure around Limeni, one of the most picturesque coastal villages in the region. Explore Oitylo Bay and head north to visit the natural salt ponds, where locals collect salt flowers by hand. Stop for a relaxing swim and enjoy a picnic with freshly baked bread, organic fruits and vegetables, and local olive oil and cheese. Once the lunch stop is over, paddle back to Limeni for an evening in town.

Activity: 4 hours/4 miles sea kayaking

Meals: B, L, D

#### DAY 8 HIKE CAPE TENARO, VISIT VATHIA & RETURN TO ATHENS

Drive to Cape Tenaro, the southernmost point of mainland Greece, stopping on the way to visit the old tower village of Vathia. Today's 2-hour hike follows a route from the settlement of Kokinoghia, along the coast to a lighthouse. Look out for the decorative Roman mosaic near the start of the path. West of the lighthouse is a cave that Ancient Greek legend claims was the home of Hades, the god of the underworld. After lunch we

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT. & 1.888.831.7526 
⊡ INFO@MTSOBEK.COM return back to Athens, where you can connect to your homebound flight. Those who depart from Athens the following morning will be delivered to the Hotel Sofitel Athens Airport located directly across the road from the international terminal.

Activity: 2 hours/3 miles walking

Meals: B

.....

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT. & 1.888.831.7526 
☑ INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

## Dates

Sep 14 - 21, 2019

May 9 - 16, 2020

Jun 6 - 13, 2020

Sep 12 - 19, 2020

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

## Pricing

2019

\$5,495 per person

#### **Additional Cost**

\$1,000 Single Supplement

2020

## \$4,995 per person

#### **Additional Cost**

\$1,000 Single Supplement

#### **PRICE INCLUDES**

- Expert leadership from experienced adventure guides
- Accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the daily itinerary
- Potable water and snacks throughout
- 1 glass of wine or beer at dinner
- All necessary kayaking gear
- All group entrance fees, activities, and ground transportation
- Arrival and departure day airport transfers

#### **PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE**

- International airfare, any airport taxes, or excess baggage charges
- Optional tips to your adventures guide(s) and driver(s)
- Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, phone calls, laundry, or souvenirs
- Airport transfers if arriving and departing outside of the Day 1 and Day 8
- Optional travel protection

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



## > The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are the adventure company.



### TWO HUNDRED ADVENTURES.

#### SEVEN CONTINENTS.

A WORLD OF DISCOVERY.

Where's Your Next Adventure?



**1-888-831-7526 | MTSOBEK.COM** 1266 66TH STREET, SUITE 4, EMERYVILLE, CALIFORNIA 94608-1117

FOLLOW US ONLINE @MTSOBEK