

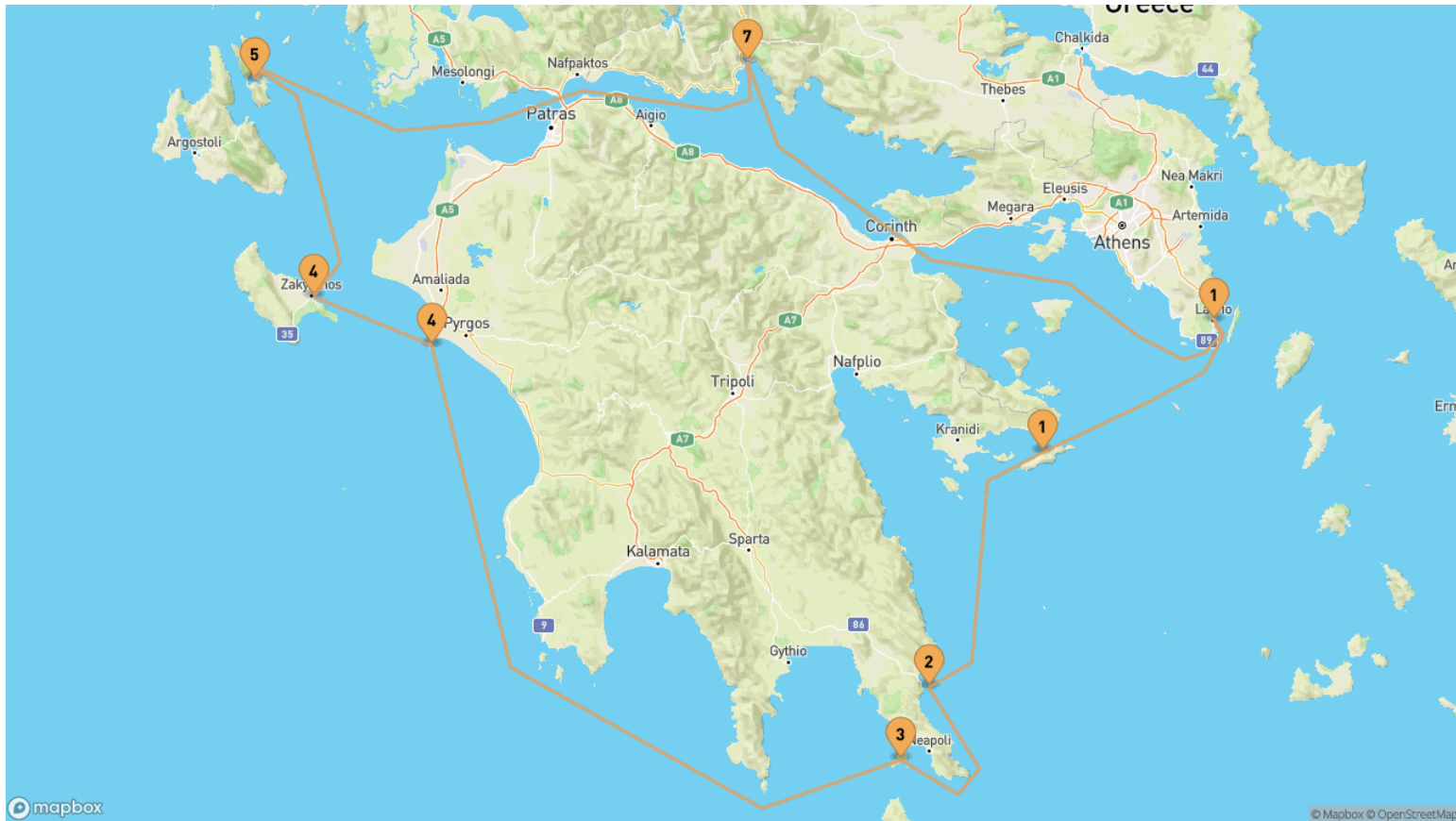


Ancient Paths 2024

Steeped in awe-inspiring ancient civilization, filled with history, wisdom, myths and passions, the route around the Peloponnese, Ithaca and beyond is a captivating journey.

The Peloponnese, a mythic land of Gods and heroes and unsurpassed natural beauty. Sprinkled with cypress trees, olive groves, vineyards, beautiful sandy beaches and emerald blue waters. Littered with Mycenaean palaces, Byzantine cities, Ottoman, Frankish and Venetian fortresses.

- Regions / Countries: **Greece**
- Duration: **8 Days / 7 Nights**
- Tags: **Mainland port, Town, Island, Village**
- URL: <https://embarq.travel/boats/elysium/ancient-paths-2024/>



Day 1



[Greece / Lavrion](#)

Mainland port, Town

Lavrion port is a major hub for ferries and cruise ships that connect Athens with the Cyclades islands. It is situated on the southeastern coast of Attica, and it offers easy access to popular destinations like Kea, Kythnos, and Serifos. The harbor is equipped with modern facilities and services, such as cafes, restaurants, and shops, as well as a marina for private yachts. Lavrion is also known for its rich history and cultural heritage, as it was an important center of silver mining and naval trade in ancient times.



[Temple of Poseidon at Sounion](#)

The Temple of Poseidon at Sounion is an ancient temple located on a hill overlooking the sea. The temple offers stunning views of the Aegean Sea and the surrounding landscape, as well as a glimpse into ancient Greek history and mythology.



[Greece / Hydra](#)

Island

The first thing you see entering the harbor is plenty of white mansions and fortresses crowding up the mountain amphitheatrically. These are the 18th century houses of wealthy merchants, captains and shipowners from its glorified naval past.



[Douskos Xeri Elia tavern](#)

Music, Food

Try Greek specialties in Douskos Tavern. Your lunch will be likely accompanied by old men singing and playing guitar.

[Agios Nikolaos beach](#)

Beach

Dive into crystal clear waters from rocks. Choose Agios Nikolaos beach if you are into spearfishing.



Day 2



[Greece / Monemvasia](#)

Island, Mainland port, Town, Village

Monemvasia is a Medieval Castle Town, exclusively carved on a huge rock looking as if it came down from a fairy tale.



[Church of Elkomenos Christos](#)

Church

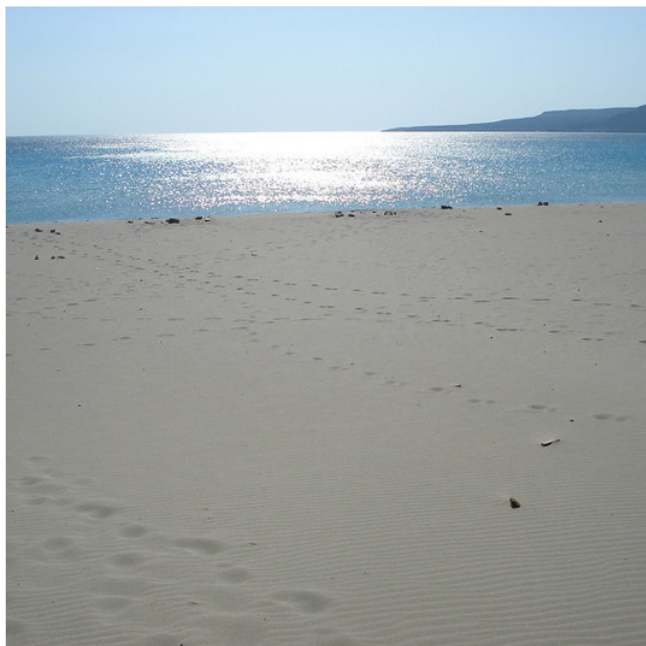
Stroll to the central square to the Church of Elkomenos Christos that saved two thrones and rare icons.

Day 3



[Greece / Elafonisos](#)

The port of Elafonisos is a picturesque destination located on the southern coast of the Peloponnese, renowned for its white-sand beaches, turquoise waters, and unspoiled natural beauty. With its laid-back atmosphere and range of activities and attractions, the port provides visitors with a unique and authentic experience of Greek island life. Whether you're interested in water sports, hiking, or simply relaxing on the beach, Elafonisos has something for everyone.



[Simos beach](#)

Beach

A beautiful and secluded beach located on Elafonisos Island, known for its crystal-clear waters and white sand. Visitors can relax on the beach, swim, and enjoy the peaceful surroundings.

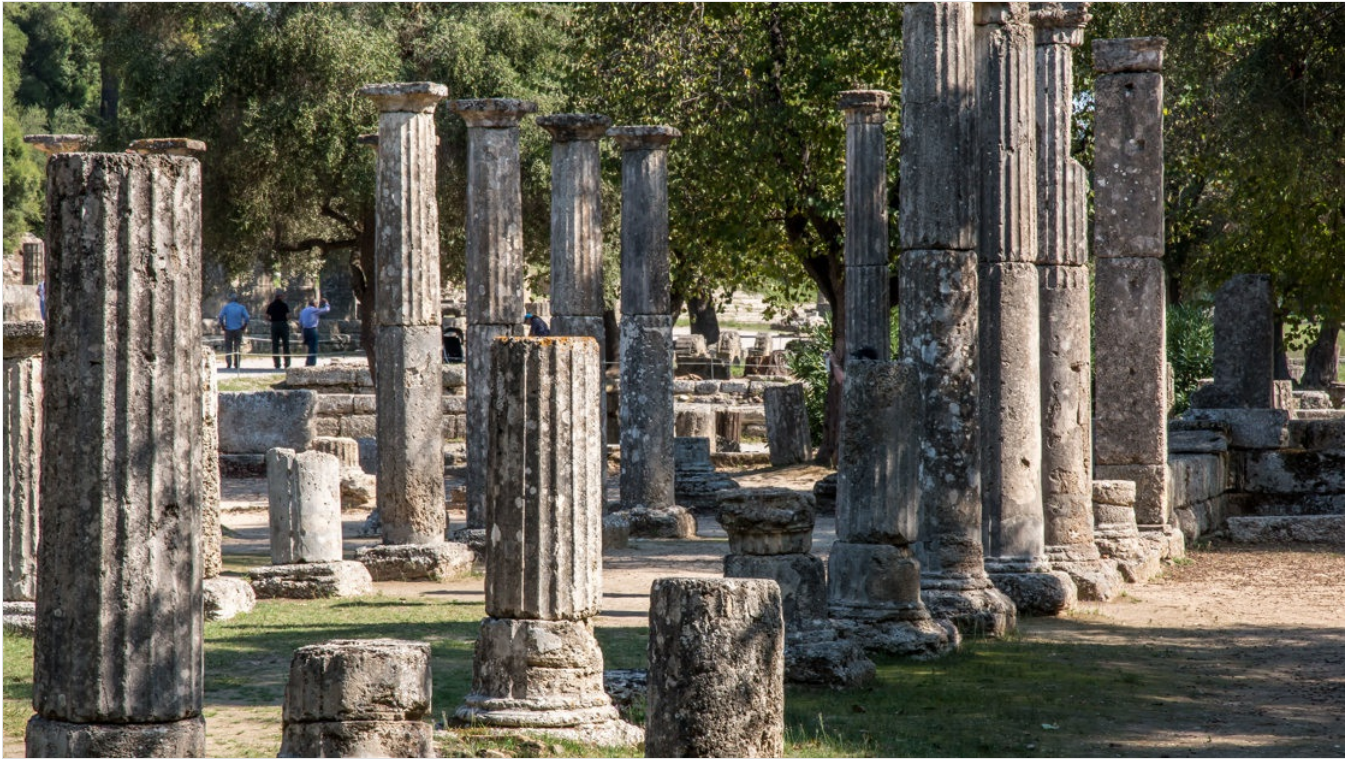
[Pavlopetri archaeological site](#)

Diving

An underwater ancient city located off the coast of Elafonisos Island, with ruins dating back to the Neolithic period. Visitors can snorkel or dive to explore the ruins and learn about the fascinating history of this unique site.



Day 4



[Greece / Katakolo](#)

Mainland port

Katakolo is the port for the homeland of the Olympic Games.



[Ancient Olympia](#)

Historic, Architecture

Discover ruins of ancient Olympia – the homeland of Olympic Games



[Greece / Zakynthos](#)

Venetians called Zakynthos the Flower of the East due to natural wonders: the Shipwreck beach, the arcade of blue caves, National Marine Park sheltering rare Caretta-Caretta turtles, thickets of cypresses, pine trees and olives and sugar-fine sand beaches. All this framed with sounds of mandolin kantades.



[Navagio beach](#)

Beach

[Vasilikos Beach](#)

Beach

This beach is highly recommended for everyone who loves to soak up the sun and enjoy the sea breeze. It is well-organized with fair fees, providing ample space for visitors to set up their own umbrellas and bask in the warmth of the sun.



[Logothetis Organic Farm](#)

Food, Nature

80 hectares of absolute freedom within nature, spreading on the gentle slope of the Vasilikos peninsula, in southern Zakynthos. An eco, well-being retreat on a family organic farm.

Olive groves, forests and golden beaches at your doorstep. Farmhouses designed for an easy greek summer living. Fresh organic fruit and vegetables and 'taylor-made' tantalizing menus from our chef.

A precious holiday within the natural beauty and tranquility of Logothetis Organic Farm.

[Horse Riding in Vasilikos](#)

Nature, Sports

Explore the Vasilikos countryside in a most delightful way... on horseback! Offers include complete horse riding holidays, horse-drawn carriage, rides to monuments, day trips and horse riding lessons in Greece, Zakynthos Island.



Day 5



[Greece / Ithaca](#)

Island

Ithaca is dotted with exotic beaches, quaint villages and carpeted with lush greenery.



[Gidaki beach](#)

Beach

Relax on one of the picturesque beaches. Beaches of Platia Ammos (Aphales) and Gidaki are the most beautiful, but accessible only from the sea, so ask us for the tender.

[Archaeological Collection of Stavros](#)

Historic, Museum

Examine Odysseus's inscription, certifying that he was the king of Ithaca in the archaeological Collection of Stavros village. View the coins from Ithaca portraying Odysseus.



[Vathy](#)

Architecture

Stroll forward from Odysseus' statue along charming alleys with red roof houses of Vathy, view wood carved iconostasis in the Cathedral and icon painted by El Greko in the church of Agios Nikolaos Xenon.

[Kathara Monastery](#)

Architecture, Church

The Monastery of the Panagia (Virgin Mary) of Kathara is a historic religious site located in Greece. It holds significant historical and cultural value for visitors. The monastery dates back to the Byzantine period and is believed to have been founded in the 11th century.

This monastery offers a unique and serene experience for visitors. The historic architecture, beautiful surroundings, and peaceful atmosphere make it a popular destination for both locals and tourists. The monastery is situated on top of a hill, providing stunning panoramic views of the surrounding landscape.

Inside the monastery, you can explore the various chapels, courtyards, and other structures that make up the complex. The interior is adorned with beautiful religious icons and frescoes, showcasing the artistic and cultural heritage of the region.

While visiting the Monastery of the Panagia of Kathara, you can also enjoy the tranquility of the surroundings and take part in religious ceremonies or services. It is a place where visitors can find solace, contemplate, and connect with their spiritual side.

To fully appreciate the historical significance of the monastery, it is recommended to engage with a knowledgeable guide who can provide insights into the stories and legends associated with the site.

Day 6



[Greece / Ithaca](#)

Island

Ithaca is dotted with exotic beaches, quaint villages and carpeted with lush greenery.

Day 7



[Greece / Itea](#)

Mainland port, Town

Delphi is the main goal of sailing to Itea's port. Delphi is the ancient sanctuary that grew rich and greatly influential as the seat of Pythia, the oracle who was consulted about important decisions throughout the ancient world.



[Ancient Delphi](#)

Historic, Architecture, Culture

Imagine yourself in 4th century BC following the sacred path to Apollo temple.

Arriving to Itea port – it's where Apollo carried first Delphi priests. He took a shape of a dolphin and showed them the way. So maybe Delphi took its name after Apollo Delphinios. Another version is that Delphi comes from delphys (womb), indicating archaic veneration of Gaia at the site.

Day 8



[Greece / Lavrion](#)

Mainland port, Town

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