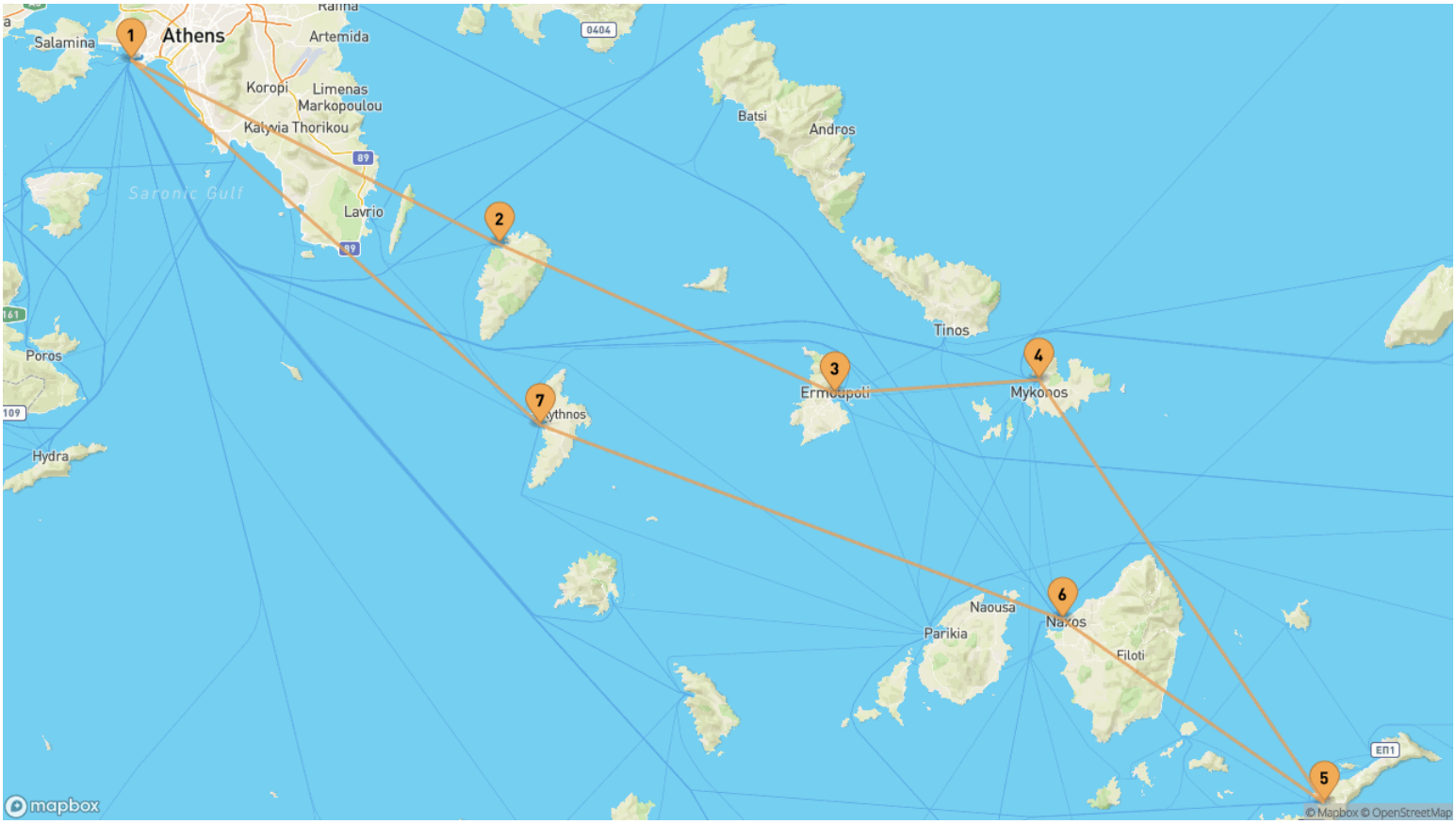


Northern Cyclades Cruise. Diving Tour Plus

- Regions / Countries: **Greece**
- Duration: **8 Days / 7 Nights**
- Tags: **Mainland port, Island, Greenery, Popular, Nightlife, Village**
- URL: https://embarq.travel/boats/running-on-waves/northern-cyclades-cruise-diving-tour-plus/



Day 1



Greece / Athens-Piraeus

Mainland port

City where you can find a Roman tomb in the basement of the clothing store and a metro station where you can walk through the remnants of an ancient necropolis.

Ten kilometres southwest of central Athens, Piraeus is dazzling in its scale, its seemingly endless quays filled with ferries, ships and hydrofoils. While technically its own city, it melds into the Athens sprawl, with close to half a million people living in the greater area.

The most attractive quarter lies east around Zea Marina and Mikrolimano harbours. The latter is lined with cafes, restaurants and bars often filled with people who've disembarked from their yachts for the day.



Pireaus walks

Culture, Music

Set course for a thorough tour: visit open markets, go for coastal walks, visit the opera house, feel the spirit of a big sea port, and relax at the beaches

Mikrolimano harbour

Restaurant, Food

One of the most famous places with seafood restaurants to enjoy fresh fish around Athens.





Acropolis of Athens

Historic, Architecture

Start your grand tour of Athens with a proper visit of the Acropolis, the heart of Athens. It hosts many iconic buildings of the Greek Classical age, among them the Parthenon, the Erectheion, and the Temple of Athena Nike.

Day 2



Greece / Kea

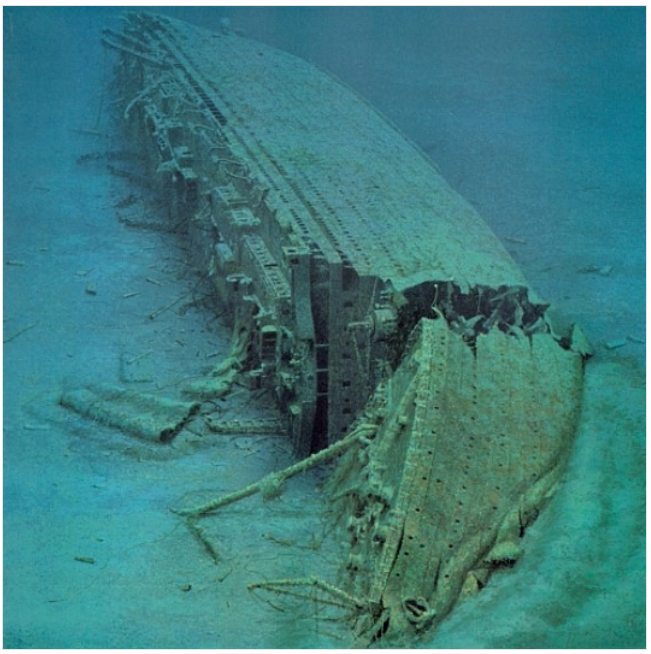
Island, Greenery

Meet Kea: World known shipwrecks, Royal Oak Forest, ancient lion and Ancient Karthea, plentiful springs.

World known shipwrecks, Royal Oak Forest, ancient lion and Ancient Karthea, plentiful springs.

Visit an authentic family pottery workshop right on the top of the hill above the port. You can watch the whole process and buy pottery made fairly on thousand year old technology. Take one of the most picturesque medieval cobblestone paths from Ioulida to Ancient Karthea and the secluded beach of Poles.

Koundouros Reef. The world famous ‘Patris’ wreck. "Patris" sank after hitting a reef near Kea in February 1868, while operating the route Piraeus - Syros, in good weather. There were no casualties, as all the passengers were rescued ashore, but the financial damage to the Hellenic Steamship Company was great. The shipwreck remained unknown even to the residents of the island and was revealed after 138 years from its sinking cut in two, at a depth of between 28 and 54 meters. Today it is a popular attraction for diving enthusiasts, as, as one of the ten best diving spots in Greece, it is a wonderfully preserved shipwreck.



HMHS Britannic

Wreck, Diving

Dive only if you are a technical diver! There are four shipwrecks: HMHS Britannic at 120 m depth, French Ocean Liner S/S Burdigala at 70m depth, Junkers 52 at 65 m depth.and Otto Steamship

Day 3



Greece / Syros

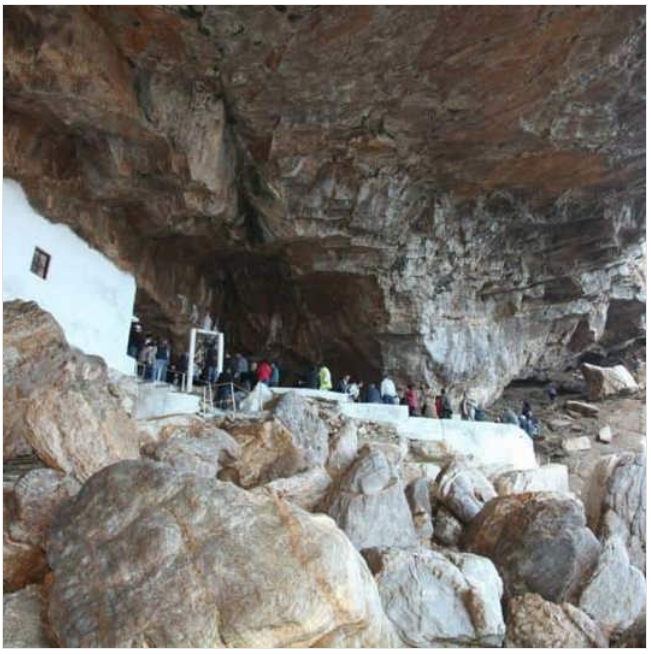
Island, Popular

> The head island of all the Cyclades and Dodecaneses. The island is famous for its vast array of options for gastronomy and hidden caves and fortresses. The promenades and alleys of main towns will leave you breathless.

Sitting in the heart of the Aegean Sea, Syros is a mixture of Cycladic and Venetian architecture. Just imagine whitewashed houses blending with colorful mansions and big churches, surrounded by the Cycladic nature. Dreamy, right? Ideal for families and couples who seek a romantic, yet laid-back holiday destination, Syros has an elegant and nostalgic vibe that enchants every visitor.

Ermoupoli, the capital of Syros island and also the orthodox town of Syros, is an architectural gem! Colorful mansions, neoclassical buildings, imposing orthodox churches and squares, create the most postcard-perfect place in Syros! For a dip into the culture of Ermoupolis, visit the Town Hall building, which was created by Ernst Ziller, Apollo Theater and Pallas cinema.

Psathonisi.
In the south of the island, in a wind protected area, there is the little islet of Psathonisi. Colorful walls covered with sponges and bryozoan, lots of fish and several broken ancient amphoras make this dive site quite beautiful.



Agios Stefanos chapel

Cave, Church

> A small chapel built inside a cave, best accessed by sea

Day 4



Greece / Mykonos-Delos

Island, Nightlife, Popular

> Star level island. Best nights out in the Aegean sea, and, perhaps, in the whole Mediterranean.
> And star level cultural heritage and history, and well-preserved traditional ways of living and cooking.

Delos, sometimes spelled Dilos, was the most important Panhellenic sanctuary, and, according to mythology, the birth place of Apollo and Artemis. The first signs of habitation on the island date from the 3rd millennium B.C. The Delos archaeological sanctuary is listed by Unesco as one of mankind's most important cultural and historical sites.

Overnight stay on Delos is forbidden. The only "inhabitants" of the island are security personnel and archaeologists.

Mykonos is the great glamour island of Greece and flaunts its sizzling St-Tropez-meets-Ibiza style and party-hard reputation. It is the island of modern-day celebrities and not the island of spirits of the past. Sharon Stone and Brad Pitt, Madonna and Mike Jagger, Gina Lollobrigida and Sofia Loren visit quite often– this is a holiday! Enjoy!

Mykonos is the jumping-off point for the archaeological site of the nearby island of Delos.

The Anna II Shipwreck

Get ready to have your fix with this site if you are a wreck diving enthusiast. The cargo ship of Anna II awaits at 25 metres (82 feet) deep and invites you to its 62 metres (203 feet) long vessel. You will find it on the southeast coast of Mykonos and remains in pristine condition to date. And, while here, feel free to explore the nearby sea. The colonies of sea sponges and the charming reef will graciously reward you!

Tragonisi

This is a tiny rocky island off the Mykonos coast to the east, that provides the ideal setting for scuba diving. The cave system at Tragonisi is actually one of the most popular dives for those into snorkelling and diving. Note that this is a protected nature reserve and a paradise for the Monachus-Monachus seal, so be gentle.



Little Venice

Architecture, Culture

Spend the best romantic night of your life in the Neighbourhood of Little Venice in the island's capital

Delos Archaeological Sites

Historic, Architecture, Art

Numerous ancient monuments featuring many temples, maisons, statues, Agora of the Competaliasts and the ancient theatre



Day 5



Greece / Amorgos

Island, Village

Amorgos is a quiet mountainous island for nature lovers with minimalistic Cycladic architecture, mysterious caves, and fabulous beaches.

Amorgos is a quiet mountainous island for nature lovers with minimalistic Cycladic architecture, mysterious caves, and fabulous beaches. Start from the capital – Hora, a medieval settlement with whitewashed houses and stone windmills amongst the labyrinthine alleys. Swim around the Olympia shipwreck in the Bay of Liveros. Swim or dive in two underwater caves near Mouros beach.

Nikouria cavern

It is an open cavern which gives the possibility for divers of all levels to enjoy the beauty of it. When inside, you will experience a true color explosion. The walls are completely covered with bright purple, red and yellow sponges, diverse corals, micro marine life and large spiral worms. On the bottom you will find a swim through, here we ususally spot lobsters hiding in the wall and bigger scorpion fish.
The cavern's shape creates a spectacular landscape towards the blueness of the open sea. It is usually surrounded by bigger schools of Damsel fish and bream.



Bay of Liveros

Historic, Nature

Swim around the Olympia shipwreck.

Diving spots



Explore the stunning underwater world of Amorgos with a dive in some of the best diving spots in Greece. Discover colorful marine life and ancient shipwrecks in crystal clear waters.

Day 6



Greece / Naxos

Island, Popular

Astoundingly green with vast forests and valleys, blessed with numerous famous local produce like wine, cheese and olives, yet filled with examples of Cycladic culture.

The largest of the Cyclades, Naxos packs a lot of bang for its buck. Its main city of Hora (known also as Naxos) has a gorgeous waterfront and a web of steep cobbled alleys below its hilltop kastro, all filled with the hubbub of tourism and shopping. You needn't travel far, though, to find isolated beaches, atmospheric mountain villages and ancient sites.

Naxos was a cultural centre of Classical Greece and Byzantium, and Venetian and Frankish influences also left their mark.

Its high mountains form rain clouds, and consequently Naxos is more fertile and green than most of the other Cyclades islands. It produces olives, grapes, figs, citrus fruit, corn and potatoes.

Graviera reef

One of the greatest reef dives in Greece. Excellent morphology with canyons and safe caves full of holes that a lot of marine life finds shelter. Divers that participate on this dive never get bored to do again and again this dive.

School of fishes, nudibrands, sponges, octopuses, groupers, moray eels are part of the marine life on this dive.

Existence of current makes that dive more interesting as the plan is to use it.

Marianna Wreck

The shipwreck "Marianna" is one of the most beautiful shipwrecks in Greece that over the years has become an artificial reef full of life, offering the opportunity for an unforgettable dive.

The 91-meter-long, 15-meter-wide cargo ship was built in Dutch shipyards, bought in 1961 in 1980 by Greek shipowners and renamed Marianna.

On July 24, 1981, loaded with goods, it collided with a reef in the strait between Paros and Naxos, colliding with the reef called Amaras, where it remained half submerged with the bow out of the water. The 24 crew members were rescued as the ship was initially shaken and was slowly sinking with a large part of it being above the surface.

It remained in this state for about a year, until it was decided to complete his sinking with a controlled burst of the bow for the safety of navigation. The ship was cut off and sat partially on the sandy bottom at a depth of 23 meters. Due to the small inclination of the shipwreck, the ship stands almost upright, ready to tour around it and inside.

The Bristol Type 156 Beaufighter, often referred to as simply the Beau, was a British long-range heavy fighter of the Bristol Aeroplane Company.
Max depth is 33m.



Vallindras citrus distillery

Food, Museum, Traditional, Culture

Drop by Halki, a citrus distillery in Drimalia, if you happen to pass through the center of the island

Eggaron Olive Oil Mill and Museum

Food, Culture, Museum

Get filled with aromas and tastes





Koufopoulos cheese making factory

Food, Museum, Culture, Traditional

Snack for the day in the capital of the island at this unique spot

Day 7



Greece / Kythnos

Island

Kythnos is famous for the first thermal SPA in Greece, sole outdoor Mesolithic settlement, long standing pottery-making tradition and the long sand strip of Kolona beach.

Kythnos is famous for the first thermal SPA in Greece, sole outdoor Mesolithic settlement, long standing pottery-making tradition and the long sand strip of Kolona beach. Come into the large Cave of Katafyki – former mine and shelter. Test Mulberries and apricots on the way there. Visit the Monastery of Panagia Kanala holding the icon of Virgin Mary, that was revealed by a column of light to fishermen. Treat yourself in the wild Thermal springs of Loutra or Hydrotherapy center - first SPA in Greece appreciated even by Greek royals.



Springs of Loutra

Beach, Nature

First SPA in Greece appreciated even by Greek royals

Day 8



Greece / Athens-Piraeus

Mainland port

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