



## Hikingtrip on Poros

Poros is a small green island in the Saronic Gulf with a very charming main town. It is located a little over two hours by car from Athens airport, and more than an hour by hydrofoil from Piraeus.

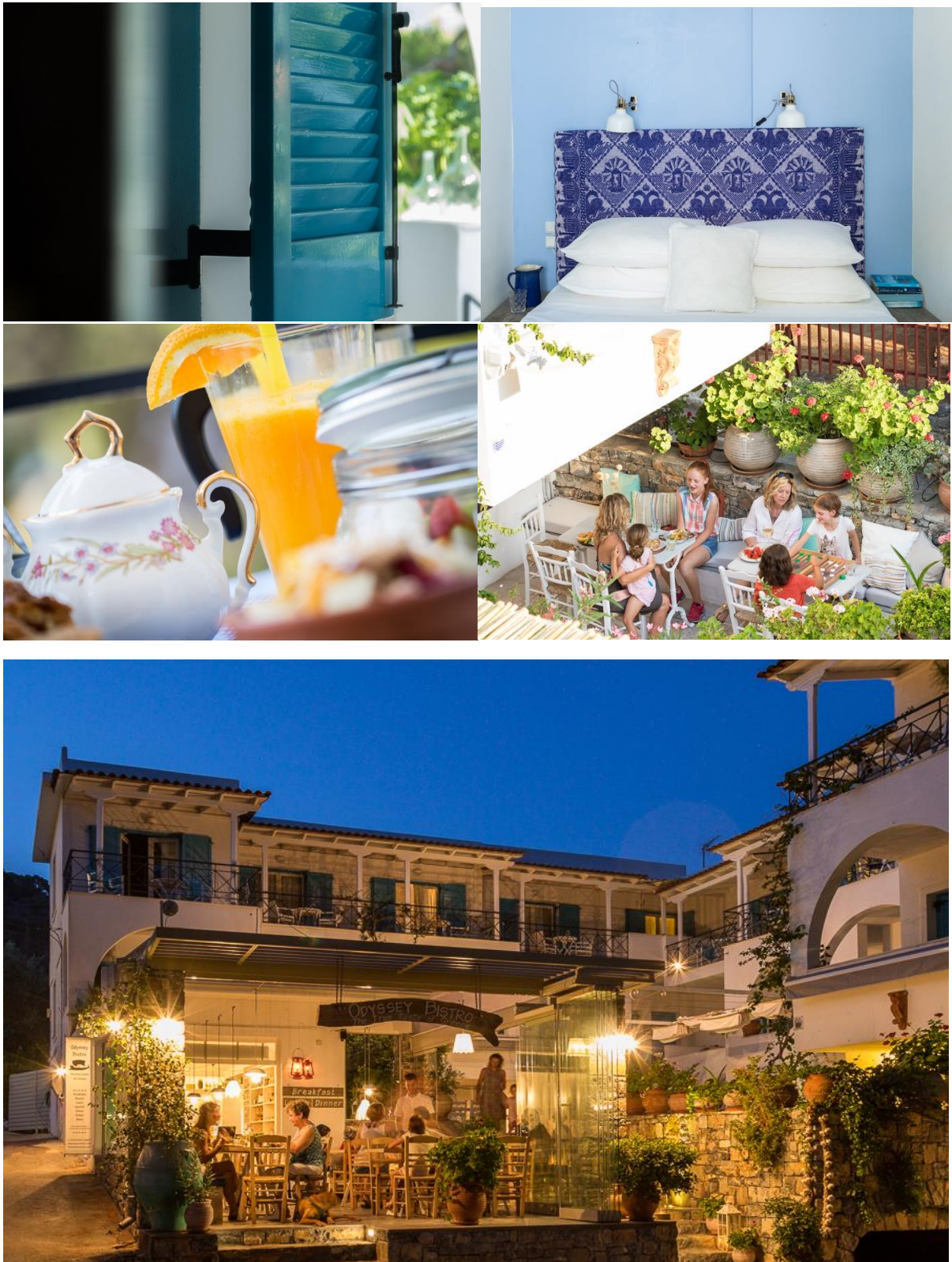
During this trip you will get to know the highlights of the island and we will visit the nearby volcanic peninsula Methana and island Hydra, famous for its connection to art and the jetset and for the fact that the island is car free . The hikes are partly on quiet asphalt roads, partly on dirt roads and partly on paths through the forest and on rocks.

The activities of the trip vary with the season. Especially in March and May we can enjoy the floral splendour. In November we will spend a day olive picking followed by a hike to the olive press to see the olives turn into olive oil. In June we will stay at a glamping, on a farm at the seashore with beautiful tents under the olive trees and a swimming pool.



## Accommodation

We will stay at the beautiful boutique hotel Odyssey where we can enjoy a delicious breakfast every day as well as five times dinner in their bistro. The hostess, the English speaking Greek Katerina, her Dutch husband Rik, their daughter Dora and all the others from Odyssey will do everything to make your stay unforgettable.



The hotel, Odyssey Apartments and suites, is located in the small town Askeli, 50m from the sea and a “periptero”, a kiosk where you can buy beverages and small snacks. You can also find some taverns, a supermarket and a café in the town of Askeli.

All rooms have their own bathroom, Wi-Fi, heating and air conditioning. All rooms have a balcony or a terrace with seating. The rooms are recently renovated and all have their own character.



*One of the rooms in Odyssey*

## **Program March trip (27/03/2021)**

### *Day 1*

Arrival on the airport of Athens. From the airport there are many ways to travel to Poros. You can take bus, metro or taxi to Piraeus and from there go to Poros with the hydrofoil (Flying Dolphin) or the regular ferry, you can reserve a rental car or you can book a transfer by taxi. You can find more information under: How to get to Poros?

After arriving in the port of Poros you can take a taxi to the accommodation for about 5 euro. In the evening there is an introductory dinner in meze-style in de bistro of hotel Odyssey.



*Poros*

### *Day 2*

After a late breakfast we leave for a walk on Sferia, one of the two parts of Poros, at 10:30. We will walk along the top of the mountain on which the city Poros is built and we will be surprised with a beautiful view on the town. Afterwards we wander through the city where Katerina will tell us interesting facts about the island and the city.

After this fun and relaxing walk there is time to wander through the small streets on your own, have lunch and a drink at the port or browse some shops.

Dinner at Odyssey



### *Day 3*

Today we walk by Love Bay and Russian Bay to the lighthouse of Poros. The route of our return and our lunch spot depend on the weather and the wishes of the participants. The roundtrip will be around 12 km, and can be increased up to 20km.



*Russian Bay*

In the afternoon there will be time for a mini-cooking class by Katerina.

Dinner at Odyssey

#### *Day 4*

After an early breakfast we walk to the port, where we take the hydrofoil to Hydra. We walk to the monastery of the prophet Ilias and stroll through the small town. We will have lunch in a tavern on Hydra.





After returning in the port of Poros we will have dinner in a tavern there.

#### *Day 5*

After another delicious breakfast we will visit the ruins of the Poseidon temple. We will walk to this spot through the green forest.



*Poseidon temple*

In the afternoon there we will do a voluntary activity, likely we will clean a beach somewhere on the island.

Dinner at Odyssey

### *Day 6*

We will go to the peninsula of Methana by car or bus, depending on the number of participants. We will walk on a narrow path through a special landscape to a volcano. We will have lunch in a small tavern in a village close to the volcano.



*Volcanic landscape on Methana*

On the way back to Poros we will stop at a local winery, where we can taste the local wine. The grapes are grown on the volcanic ground of Methana..

The rest of the day is free. You can have dinner in Poros or in Askeli.

### *Day 7*

After breakfast we walk to the port to take the ferry to Galatas, where we walk to Lemonodasos and the peninsula near Alikibeach.



*Rocks on the peninsula near Alikibeach*

At Alikibeach we can have lunch at a small tavern on the seashore if it's open for the season. In march we may have to bring our own lunch. This is an easy walk with little elevation. If everyone still feels energized to do a more strenuous hike we can instead walk into the hills behind Galatas and we can enjoy the views on the beautiful surroundings, especially the beautiful Island of Poros again. Then we will take a picknick lunch. There is a chance to see a tortoise in the hills.

Diner @ Odyssey

#### *Day 8*

After breakfast we say goodbye to each other and the people of Odyssey and we leave for the airport of Athens to go home.

The program is obviously dependent on the weather and the season. In case of rain we have an alternative program. Possibilities are:

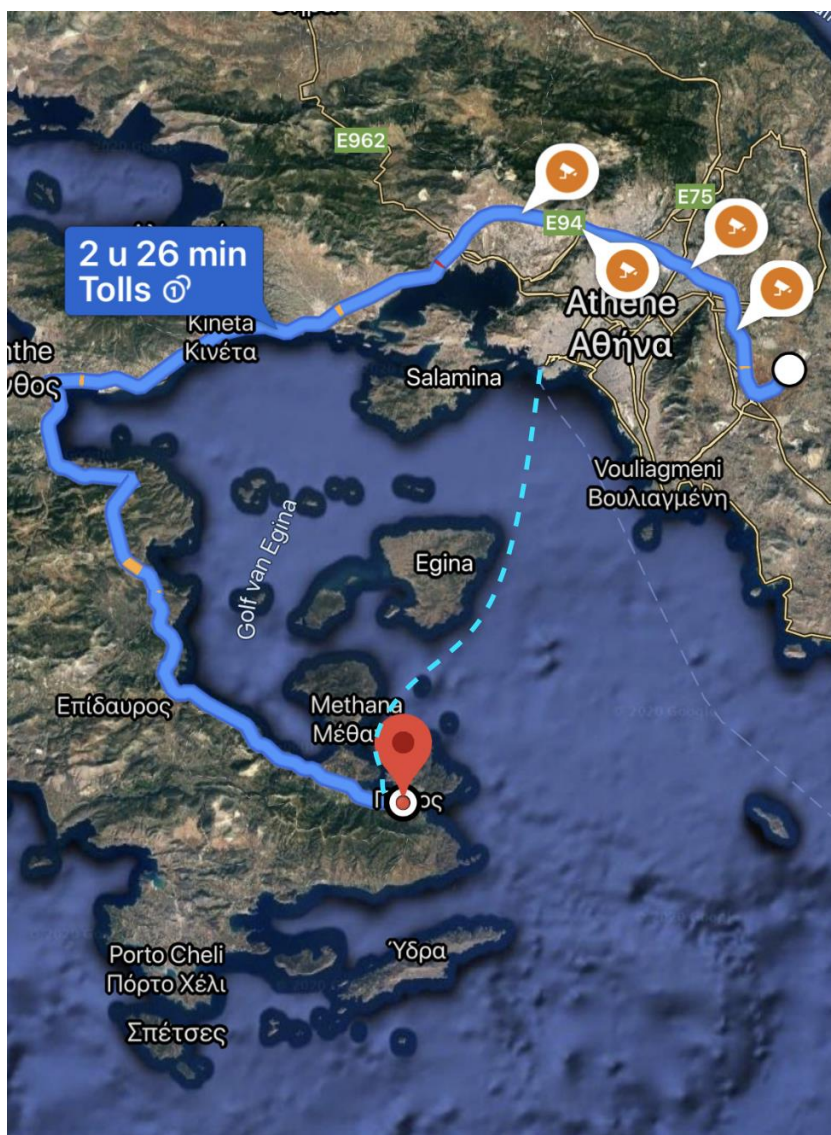
- Visit a museum on Poros, Archeological museum, Coral museum of folklore museum.
- Cooking class by Katerina
- Weaving class
- Making olive oil soap
- Ouzo tasting
- Visit to the city Nafplion.

The hikes will be led by Judith Vinkesteyjn. In 2013 she came to Poros and Odyssey for the first time. Since then she has visited Poros two or three times every year to enjoy the island, its nature, its people, its food and its weather. She has also taken friends to discover Poros on several occasions. Thereby the idea developed to not only take friends but introduce other people to this wonderful Greek island.

Judith loves hiking, cooking and Greece. Judith is Dutch, and speaks English fluently.

## How do you get to Poros?

There are several ways to get from the airport to the island of Poros (and back).



Route from airport to Poros/Galatas

## Flying Dolphin/Catamaran/"ordinary ferry"

You take the bus, metro or a taxi from the airport to the port of Athens (Piraeus). From Piraeus you take the ferry to Poros. On Poros you take a taxi to Odyssey.

Bus X96 goes from Athens airport to Piraeus (port) in approx. 1 hr and 15 mins. This is a modern bus with space for luggage. A ticket can be bought at the kiosk on the sidewalk near the bus. It costs about €7,- pp. You should get off the bus in Piraeus at the busstop: Karaiskaki. Every stop is announced in the bus and shown on a screen. After you get out of the bus cross the road to the port, gate E8.



At the airport the metro can be reached via a walkway across the street. You can buy a ticket at the counter and take the escalator down (don't forget to validate your ticket). You have to change lines at Monastiraki to the line to Piraeus (this is indicated very well). When you arrive in Piraeus, you walk to the port and to gate E8. The metro goes every half hour and it takes about one hour to go from the airport to the port.

You can also take a taxi to Piraeus (about €60,-, takes 1 hour), and get dropped off at gate E8, where the ferry to Poros leaves. You can book this online in advance. Then someone will wait for you at the airport with a sign with your name.

At the port you can buy tickets at the kiosk of Saronic Seaways, but we recommend to book the ferry online in advance, so you don't run the risk of a full boat. When you have ordered your tickets online, you have to pick up the tickets at the kiosk, or you will receive an e-ticket.

The trip with the hydrofoil is about € 30,- one way. Poros is the first stop, and it will take about 1 hour. De hydrofoil is running several times a day, depending on the season. De "ordinary" boat costs €12,-, leaves at 9:00h and has stops in Aegina and Methana first. The trip will take about 3 hours.

## Taxi

You can book a taxi-transfer from the airport to Galatas/Poros online. From Galatas you can take the ferry or a little taxi boat for the last part of the trip, both are €1 when you are on foot. This ferry goes 2 times an hour. The transfer costs will be around €400,- for the roundtrip.

## Rental car

You can rent a car for het entire stay. The costs depend on the size of the car etc.. Search on the internet for a good deal, usually it will be cheaper the earlier you book.

You can also rent a car just for the trip to and from Poros at [Pop's Car](#). De costs for a rental car with drop-off in Galatas are about €90,- for the car, €20,- for the fuel and €10,- for the toll (one way). Pop's car pick you up at the airport and give you travel directions. You can drop off the car at their local office in Galatas. The ferry or a small taxi boat from Galatas to Poros (€1 for foot-passengers) leaves close to this office. From the port of Poros you can take a taxi to Odyssey for €5,-.

Be aware by choosing and booking your transfer that the time of the ferry must match the time of arrival at the airport and the other way around. It takes several hours to go from the airport and arrive in Piraeus. It's an idea to stay in Athens for 1 or 2 days at the beginning or end of your trip. Athens is always fun and this makes things easier. We always can advise you a nice hotel or a walk in Athens.

We understand this is a lot of information. Don't hesitate to contact us for more information.

## Costs

The costs for one week are €850, - per person based on staying in a double room. Prices for a single room on request.

## Included

- All overnight stays at Odyssey
- All breakfasts
- 5 times Dinner at the Bistro of Odyssey
- 1 time picknicklunch
- Flying Dolphin Poros – Hydra and back
- Transfer to starting point in Methana and back
- Wine tasting
- Mini cooking class

Not included

- Round trip to Poros
- Transfer from airport to Poros
- All other meals
- Costs ferry to Galatas (1 euro at a time)

#### To bring with you

- valid passport or ID
- water bottle
- sturdy and well-worn walking shoes
- day backpack
- light and warm clothing, the weather in March is not that stable
- light rainwear or a small umbrella
- snacks like energybars for during the walks
- flashlight
- cap or sunhat and suntan lotion
- sunglasses
- camera
- insect repellent
- (copies of) travel insurance and health insurance
- Cash (there are banks on Poros with ATM's)
- First aid supplies. (the supervisor has a First Aid kit)

Note, Walking sticks and sharp objects are not allowed as carry on luggage. Put them in your suitcase.

**For more information and booking: [info@odysseyactivities.com](mailto:info@odysseyactivities.com) or [judith.hikinggreece@gmail.com](mailto:judith.hikinggreece@gmail.com)**