



# Self-guided bicycle tour Rhodes: 8-day trekking with 6 stages on the Dodecanese island Rhodes 2024 (DRFT224I)



Our philosophy: active during the day, and in the afternoon a warm shower, a good meal and a comfortable bed in a small-scale accommodation.

We invite you to join us!

more information: www.annahiking.nl



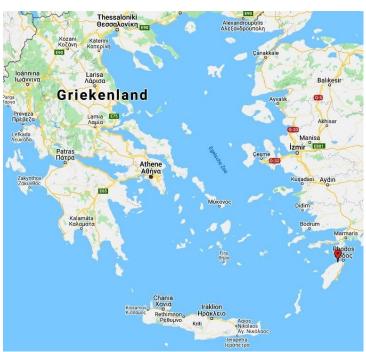
## About AnnaHiking and Omega Bike & Hike

In 1991 Anna and Fred from AnnaHiking visited Greece for the first time. Our love for the country, the culture, the climate, the food, the language and the Greek has grown ever since. We feel at home here and want to communicate this feeling to others.

Many people are familiar with the Greek "islands with beautiful beaches". Many islands also boast a splendid inland with quiet roads, ideal for biking. Rhodes is such an island with much more on offer than beaches alone, and we'd love to introduce it to you.

Our agent Omega Bike & Hike organizes a wonderful biking tour on the island. They are professionals and we gladly place you in their care.

#### The tour location





## General tour information

You'll bike on the Greek island Rhodes, island of the sun god Helios. The landscape is amazingly green and the sea is really as blue as the pictures show you. The tours go along the sea and through the hilly inland and almost all culture-historical places of interest are on route.



In Rhodes Town you walk right into the Middle Ages: the impressive city from the time of the Crusaders is particularly well restaured. The first full day you may choose between an excursion to the picturesque islet Symi or a walk around Rhodes Town. On Symi you'll visit both the Panormitis monastery in the south as the photogenic main town in the north. Sportsmen bring their bike to cycle back from south to north.

You proceed to the east coast of Rhodes. Besides the golden beach of Afandou, the Turkish baths of Kalithea



and the Tsambika monastery are the highlights of this bike tour, before the owner of the family hotel in Archangellos takes you under her wings. You'll visit Lindos either by bike or public bus. This famous white village is splendidly situated on a double bay.

Embonas is the next destination, the wine village of Rhodes, situated on the slopes of the Ataviros mountain. You'll find several free wine tastings. Past the castle of Kritinia you'll cycle to Kalavarda on a marvellous biking route directly along the uninhabited coast. Kalavarda is a quiet village on the west coast, close to the historic village Kamiros.

The last route is along the butterfly valley Petaloudes. Finally you'll be taken to the airport of Rhodes for your flight home.

## Modular set-up: extensions/alterations/abbrevations

The arrangement can be extended with extra overnight stays in every accommodation.

You may proceed with a hiking tour on one or more of the neighbouring islands <u>Kos, Leros, Patmos and Kalymnos</u>.

Should you want to bike even more, you may travel to Athens (flight or ferry) where our self-guided bicycle tour on the <u>Saronic Islands</u> starts. By public bus from Athens you may travel to <u>Evia</u> for a self-guided bike tour. In all tours the rental bike is included.

#### For all your wishes: ask for an estimate!

#### About Rhodes

Rhodes is a Greek island in the Egean Sea, part of the Dodecanese ("Twelf Islands"). With 1398 km² it's the fourth eiland in size in Greece. It's one of the most eastern islands, situated just a few kilometers from the Turkish mainland. The capital Rhodes Town is on the utmost northern point of the island.

Rhodes has lots of sun hours per year and attracts lots of (beach) tourists. There are regular ferries to the Greek mainland, to other islands like Simi, Kos and Karpathos and to the Turkish mainland (Marmaris and Fethiye).

There are both gravel and sand beaches. The gravel beaches are mostly in the west of the island, sandy beaches on the east near Faliraki. In summer a cooling sea wind blows in the west, but the east part is hot. The highest point is the summit of Ataviros, 1215 meters altitude.

According to the myths Zeus divided the world among the gods, but forgot to give Helios his share. Then Rhodes rose from the sea and was given to Helios, the



sun god. The island was dominated by many different rulers until it was conquered from the Turks in 1912. Only in 1948 it became part of modern Greece.

The fauna and flora are more similar to those of the Turkish mainland than to the other Greek islands. The inland is mountaneous, sparsely inhabited and has many forests. A popular point is the Valley of the Butterflies (Petaloudes) where in summer thousands of butterflies assemble, mostly the Jersey tiger (Panaxia Quadripunctaria), a nocturnal moth. Also the Seven Springs (Epta Piges) and the archeological site Kamiros are worth a visit.

## The bicycle routes

Most routes lead by paved roads with very little traffic. Some unpaved stretches, which are easily accessable with the hybrid bikes.







## The accommodations

In Rhodes Town you'll stay in a boutique hotel within the city walls. The hotel in Embonas has a swimming pool. In Archangellos and Kalavarday you'll stay in a more simple family hotel.





#### **Bookable**

You may book this tour with start date from 14 April until 7 July and from 22 August until 27 October. Last flight back is 3 November. Keep in mind that availability is very limited around Greek holidays (Easter, Pentecost) unless you book very early. We don't offer the tour in summer because of possible heat and complete full accommodations.

## Start and finish of the tour

Rhodes airport.

## Prices per person 2024 including rental bike

	double/twin room	single room trav. together	travelling alone
14-4 / 26-5	€ 640	€ 720	€ 890
27-5 / 29-6	€ 660	€ 760	€ 925
30-6 / 7-7	€ 685	€ 810	€ 975
8-7 / 21-8	NOT BOOKABLE		
22-8 / 10-9	€ 685	€ 810	€ 975
11-9 / 29-9	€ 660	€ 760	€ 925
30-9 / 27-10	€ 640	€ 720	€ 890

#### Note:

- Price is per person, without flight, including bike rent.
- The dates apply to the start date of the tour. Last flight back 3 November.
- From January 1st 2018 in Greece an 'overnight tax' is applicable. This tax has to be paid at check-in at your accommodation. Tourorganisations are not allowed by law to pay this



tax.

The rates per room per night were until 2023: € 0,50 for 2\*-hotels, € 1,50 for 3\*-hotels, € 3,00 for 4\*-hotels and € 4,00 for 5\*-hotels.

It seems they'll be lifted to: €1,50 for  $2^*$ -hotels, €3,00 for  $3^*$ -hotels, €7,00 for  $4^*$ -hotels and €10,00 for  $5^*$ -hotels.

#### Included

- 7 overnight stays in hotel rooms with en suite bathroom, including breakfast.
- In Embonas 1x dinner (drinks excluded).
- Hybrid rental bike (*e-bikes available at a surcharge*).
- Luggage transfer and transfers from and to the airport.
- Multilangual contact on the spot.
- Route descriptions and gps tracks for all routes (gpx format), road maps.

#### Not included

- Flight and insurances (neither for the bikes!).
- Overnight tax (see above).
- Lunches, diner, drinks and other personal expenses.
- Everything else not mentioned under "included".

## Optional extras (prebooked)

- Surcharge e-bike TREK with front wheel motor: € 35.
- Surcharge e-bike Victoria with mid motor: € 80.

#### Luggage

Luggage is transported on the days you move to another accommodation.

On your bike you'll take with you: pump, inner tyre, reparation set, bidons, tools, tyre rips, quick link, waterproof clothing, swimming gear if you wish, camera and a first aid kit.







## Day to day

(You can download the elevation profiles separately.)

The altitude difference indicates the total amount of ascent.

Day 1: Arrival on Rhodes (DRF-01R)





You'll be met at the airport and taken to Rhodes Town. Here you walk right into the middle ages: the impressive town from the Crusader's time is wonderfully restored. In the evening it's very lively.

overnight stay: Rhodes Town

Day 2: Bike tour on Symi or city walk Rhodes (DRF-09)





You take one of the ferry or excursion boats to the picturesque neighbouring islet Symi. The boats harbour both the Panormitis monastery in the south as the photogenic capital in the north. You cycle back from north to south and sail back to Rhodes Town.

distance: 25km

altitude difference: 500m overnight stay: Rhodes Town



Day 3: From Rhodes Town to Archangellos (DRF-10)





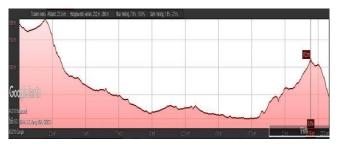
The trekking starts along the east coast. Points of interest along the way are the golden beach of Afandou, the Turkish baths of Kalithea and the Tsambika monastery (short but steep hiking path). In Archangellos village you'll be warmly received by the owner of the family hotel.

distance: 40km

altitude difference: 400m overnight stay: Archangellos

Day 4: Back and forth from Archangellos to Lindos (DRF-11)





(profile one way; way back mirrored)

You cycle to Lindos and back (you may also take the public bus). The famous white little town is splendidly situated on a double bay. The village consists of narrow alleys, covered in summer to keep away the heat. It's a tourist attraction and very crowded in summer, but certainly worth a visit in low season. The little white houses and the bigger  $16^{th}$  - $18^{th}$  century captain's mansions are a feast for the eye.

The acropole is on 115m altitude above the village: you make stroll up or charter a donkey. From the acropole you'll have a marvelous view over the bay. You'll find Byzantine water reservoirs, St. John's castle, a Hellenistic stoa and the temple of Athina Lindia.

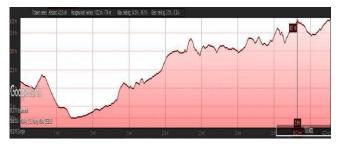
distance: 46km

altitude difference: 150m overnight stay: Archangellos



Day 5: From Archangellos to Embonas (DRF-12)





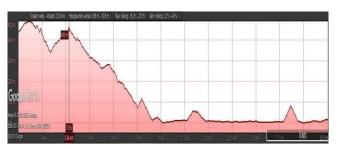
Embonas is the next stage on your biking holiday, a mountain village on 850m altitude on the slopes of the Ataviros, Rhodes' highest mountain. You'll have splendid views over sea and some islets. This is the wine centre of Rhodes. There are several free wine tastings and a folklore museum.

distance: 38km

altitude difference: 450m overnight stay: Embonas

Day 6: From Embonas to Kalavarda (DRF-13)





Via Kritinia castle you'll cycle to Kalavarda. It's a wonderful biking route right on the uninhabited coast. Kalavarda is a quiet village on the west coast, within a stone's throw from ancient Kamiros, certainly worth a visit!

Kamiros dates from the 6<sup>th</sup> century before Christ and is rebuilt in 226 after a devastating earthquake. During another earthquake in 142 the city was ruined again and left. In ancient times it was one of the three most important towns of Rhodes.

distance: 33km

altitude difference: 600m overnight stay: Kalavarda



Day 7: Circular tour to the butterfly valley Petaloudes (DRF-14)





On your last biking day you'll make a circular tour along the cool butterfly valley Petaloudes (butterfly season June-September). The butterflies, a rare subspecies of the Jersey tiger, a nocturnal moth, sit in great numbers on trees and leaves. In the summer rest period they don't eat; you may not disturb them, because flying up tires them and they won't be able to reproduce later.

distance: 35km

altitude difference: 200m overnight stay: Kalavarda

Day 8: Departure from Rhodes (DRF-15)

Transfer to Rhodes airport.

