

What To Do With Your Free Time in Greece

The stunning coastlines of Poros make for the perfect setting for both relaxing on the beach or getting your adrenaline pumping with endless water-based activities. In Athens, you'll feel as if you stepped back in time with the well-preserved ruins.

Destination	Our Suggestion	Important Info
ATHENS	Monastiraki Market The Monastiraki market is truly an international bazaar. Here, you'll find everything from handmade sandals to Russian vodka – and everything in-between. Although many shops in the area claim to be “flea markets,” the real action happens on Sunday mornings. Come early to find the real treasures, which include affordable handcrafted copper cookware and wine carafs.	FREE – \$ Hours: Hours will vary. Location: Monastiraki Square, accessible by metro: Monastiraki stop.
	Byzantine and Christian Museum This is one of the few European museums dedicated to Byzantine art. Each room in the museum depicts a Greek church and represents a specific period. The displays include an early Christian basilica and a medieval domed church. There's also an extensive collection of icons, bibles, altars and mosaics.	\$ Hours: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm Location: Just a few metres from the Evangelismos Metro station and a 15-minute walk from Syntagma Square.
	Lycabettus Hill When you're on the Acropolis, you'll look over at Lycabettus, the other high spot in Athens. Wooded, with a funicular to take you close to the top, it offers a completely different experience than the Acropolis. Enjoy the fun ride up the hill which gives a sense of escaping the busy city below. Not to mention the incredible views from the top! On a clear day you can see the Acropolis, the National Gardens, Temple of Zeus, and more.	\$ Hours: Cable-car runs approx. 9:00 am – 1:30 am Location: Cable-car departs from the intersection of Aristippou and Plutarchiou Streets.
	Plaka District The Plaka is the area of winding streets around the Acropolis. Most of the streets have been closed to automobile traffic, though you should still keep a watchful eye for a speeding motorcycle or delivery truck. It's renowned for its small shops, restaurants and some good examples of local architecture. Whether you're looking to shop for souvenirs or enjoy people-watching during the lunchtime rush at a street-side cafe, walking the streets of the Plaka District is a must for all who visit Athens.	FREE – \$ Hours: Accessible 24/7, shop and restaurant times will vary. Location: The Plaka is under the Acropolis and stretches almost to Syntagma. There are two main pedestrian streets which intersect at what is generally considered the center of the Plaka: Kydathineon and Adrianou

ATHENS**Change of Guards**

Every Sunday at 11:00 AM, tourists gather in front of the Parliament building on Syntagma Square (Plateia Syntagmatos) to watch the ceremonial changing of the guard in front of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The guards (Evzones) wear their traditional white kilts, red and black caps and red clogs with pompoms. On every other day, the Evzones wear regular khaki uniforms with skirts and the changing of the guard takes place every hour on the hour, 24 hours a day. The guards are tall well-trained soldiers. They belong to the "Proedriki Froura" the guards of the President of Democracy. It is a high honor for every Greek soldier to be chosen as an Evzone.

Theater

Ancient Greeks were credited with inventing drama and comedy in the theater, and this tradition carries on into the present. The city features over 50 theaters and most of the performances are in Greek.

Festivals

The Athens Festival runs from May to September with a full program of cultural events ranging from choral concerts to dance recitals. The Odeon of Herodes Atticus, near the Acropolis, holds classical performances on summer evenings. This is a great opportunity to view a performance as the ancients did. The open-air amphitheater on Lycabettus Hill offers regular summer performances.

FREE

Hours: Every hour, on the hour. Ceremonial changing of the guards Sunday at 11:00 am

Location: At the Parliament Building at Syntagma Square

\$ – \$\$

Hours: Theatre hours and showtimes will vary

Location: Located throughout Athens.

\$ – \$\$

Hours: Festival event hours will vary

Location: Amphitheaters throughout Athens, including on Lycabettus Hill.

ISLE OF POROS**Bicycling**

On day two of your stay on Poros, we will provide a bicycle to you free of charge. Bikes will be parked outside your hotel. Check with your tour director if you have questions. Explore the town of Poros and find your new favorite spot.

Watersports

What better way to spend your sunny island days than in the water? Get your adrenaline pumping and try something new. The watersports center just a few steps down the road offers wakeboarding, tubing, banana boating and waterskiing. Check with the center directly for their rates. For a bird's-eye-view, try out parasailing. The coastline of Poros is peppered with picturesque coves and beaches fringed by pinewoods which almost reach down to the water line. Enjoy a birds-eye view of Poros harbor as you float high above Neorion Beach.

Poros Town

Go Shopping or try one of the typical Greek restaurants in Poros town. The town also features a bank with an ATM and a post office.

FREE

Hours: Dawn to dusk

Location: Right outside your hotel!

\$\$ – \$\$\$

Hours: Dawn to dusk

Location: Down the road from your hotel.

FREE – \$

Hours: Accessible 24/7

Location: Just a bike-ride away!