PRINTABLE ITINERARY

3-Day Athens Day Trips Itinerary

From our guide **Top 10 Best Day Trips from Athens**. Print it or save it to your phone.



This plan groups the trips by direction, so each day is realistic. Always check the latest timetables for ferries and buses.

Day 1: Saronic islands

Take an early ferry from Piraeus to **Aegina** (item 2), see the Temple of Aphaia in the morning, then enjoy pistachio sweets and lunch in the harbour. If you prefer a car-free island, choose **Hydra** (item 4) instead and spend the day on foot around the harbour. Return to Piraeus in the evening.

Day 2: Peloponnese highlights

Drive or join a tour to **Ancient Corinth and the Corinth Canal** (item 8), then continue to **Mycenae** (item 6), **Epidaurus** (item 7) and **Nafplio** (item 5) for dinner. This is a full, long day, so consider staying overnight in Nafplio if you want to avoid driving back late.

Day 3: Delphi or Cape Sounion

For ancient history, go to **Delphi** (item 3) with an early bus or tour and allow most of the day. For something shorter, spend the afternoon at **Cape Sounion** (item 1) and watch the sunset at the Temple of Poseidon, with the bus timetable checked in advance.

The 10 places at a glance

1. Cape Sounion

How to get there: Take the coastal KTEL bus from Athens, drive along the coast road, or join a sunset tour.
How long to spend: About 1 to 2 hours at the site, or a half day with a beach and lunch.
Best time to go: Late afternoon for the sunset, outside the peak summer heat.
Tip: If you go by bus, confirm the last return departure before you commit to staying for sunset.
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2. Aegina

How to get there: Take a hydrofoil or ferry from Piraeus port, which you can reach by metro.
How long to spend: A full day, with a morning at the temple and an afternoon in the harbour.
Best time to go: Spring and autumn, or a weekday in summer to avoid crowds.
Tip: Check the ferry timetable for the last boat back, and buy pistachio sweets from a local shop rather than the harbour stalls.
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3. Delphi

How to get there: Bus from the Liosion terminal, drive, or join a guided tour.
How long to spend: About 3 to 4 hours on site, plus travel.
Best time to go: Spring or autumn, when it is cooler for climbing.
Tip: Confirm the last return bus before you travel, and consider an overnight stay if you want a relaxed visit.
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4. Hydra

How to get there: Fast ferry from Piraeus, reached by metro or taxi.
How long to spend: A full day, about 5 to 6 hours on the island.
Best time to go: May, June, September and October, for warm weather and fewer crowds.
Tip: Check the ferry operator's website for the current timetable and book the return trip at the same time.
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5. Nafplio

How to get there: KTEL bus from the Kifissos terminal, or drive via the highway.
How long to spend: A full day, or overnight to combine with other sites.
Best time to go: Spring or autumn, when climbing the fortress is comfortable.
Tip: Leave Athens early and do Palamidi first, then wander the old town in the afternoon.
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6. Mycenae

How to get there: Drive, join a tour, or use a regional bus plus taxi, checking connections first.
How long to spend: About 2 to 3 hours.
Best time to go: Early morning in spring or autumn.
Tip: Combine Mycenae with Nafplio or Epidaurus on a tour if you do not drive.
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7. Epidaurus

How to get there: Drive, or join a guided tour that often includes Mycenae and Nafplio.
How long to spend: About 1.5 to 2 hours.
Best time to go: Morning, or an evening performance in the festival season.
Tip: Bring a hat and sit near the top for the best view and a good test of the acoustics.
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8. Ancient Corinth and the Corinth Canal

How to get there: Bus from Kifissos, suburban rail with a connection, or drive.
How long to spend: A half day to a full day, depending on whether you climb Acrocorinth.
Best time to go: Spring or autumn, early in the day.
Tip: Visit the canal bridge first for photographs, then continue to the ancient site.
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9. Poros

How to get there: Ferry from Piraeus port.
How long to spend: A full day on the island.
Best time to go: May to October, for swimming weather.
Tip: Walk up to the clock tower early, before it gets hot, then spend the afternoon by the water.
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10. Meteora

How to get there: Guided tour, driving, or an overnight trip by train and bus after checking current services.
How long to spend: At least 4 to 5 hours on site, plus a long journey.
Best time to go: Spring or autumn, with an early start.
Tip: Check the monasteries' current opening days, as each closes on a different day of the week.
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Getting around: buses, ferries and tours

Athens has three main places to start your trips. **Piraeus port** is reached by metro and serves ferries to the Saronic islands. The **Kifissos terminal** is the main bus station for the Peloponnese, including Corinth and Nafplio, while the **Liosion terminal** serves Delphi and central Greece. Always check which station your bus leaves from, because they are in different parts of the city.

For official public transport information in the city, use OASA, and for rail services use Hellenic Train. Ferry operators publish timetables on their own sites, and these change by season. If you plan a long day, book your return ticket at the same time as your outward journey.

Opening times, prices and transport change often, so check with each venue or operator before you go. For the full guide, photos and FAQs, see https://toptravelinsider.com/top-10-best-day-trips-from-athens/.