

# *Painting in the Greek Isles With Joe Bezzina*

**Kalymnos (8 nights) Lipsi ( 6 nights) Leros (5 nights )**

**(with optional excursions to Patmos and Turkey)**

**( 22<sup>nd</sup> May -10<sup>th</sup> June 2019)**

## **Day 1/ KALYMNOS (Wed. 22nd ) FREE DAY**

In Athens, connect with domestic flight to Kalymnos. You will be met at the island airport and transferred to your hotel . We will be staying in the picturesque white-washed village of Myrties, backdropped by dramatic mountains facing the sea. **Welcome sunset cocktails**

## **Day 2/ KALYMNOS (Thurs. 23rd )**

**Myrties.** Perched on a wide bay overlooking the isle of Telendos, the jetty with its colourful boats is an idyllic spot to paint.

## **Day 3/ KALYMNOS (Fri.24th)**

**Vathy.** The fjord is an unforgettable sight as it is one of the deepest and most beautiful natural harbours in the Aegean. The day will be spent under the grapevine facing this turquoise bay, surrounded by mandarin groves, rugged mountains, white-washed churches and goats.

**Optional evening with live music and local dancing performance- learn to dance like Zorba!**

## **Day 4/ KALYMNOS (Sat. 25th) FREE DAY**

**Optional excursion to Turkey** to visit a coastal town with its' exotic restaurants and colourful bazaar - a shoppers paradise !!

**OR Kos ( the birthplace of Hippocrates) -** a blend of Greek and Roman ruins, medieval fortifications, Turkish minarets and florid Italian public buildings .

## **Day 5/ KALYMNOS (Sun.26th )**

**Telendos** is steeped in time. White-washed lanes draped with crimson bougainvillea , bold tangled fishing nets and brightly painted wooden boats will entice us.



**Day 6/ KALYMNOS (Mon.27th )**

**Arginontas.** Driving along the spectacular coastal road we pass wild thyme and oregano covered mountains leading to the deep inlet of Arginontas We set up in the olive grove to paint these ancient trees with their sinewy trunks and silver-flecked leaves. The family run taverna situated under a vine overlooking the beautiful inlet is the perfect lunch spot !

**Evening BBQ at Babis Bar.!**

**Day 7 / KALYMNOS (Tues. 28th)**

**Emborios.** A boat trip to a secluded cove to Harrys taverna, set in the islands most beautiful garden with its splashes of vibrant bougainvillea and potted geraniums.

**Day 8/ KALYMNOS (Wed. 29th)**

**Aghias Savas.** The rich terra-cotta domes of this beautiful monastery contrasted with the blue of the sky and sea is a scene to capture ( **afternoon critique** )

**Day 9/ LIPSI (Thurs.30th.) FREE DAY.**

**Leave Kalymnos 12:30. Arrive Lipsi 14:00** We will be staying in lovely studios, overlooking a small cove and blue-domed churches nestled amongst rolling hills.

**Optional evening at the local ouzeri** , a ritual among the locals !! A wonderful spot to sit back with a glass of Ouzo while the owner brings out dish after dish of Greek appetizers!

**Day 10/ LIPSI (Fri. 31st)**

**Plati Yialos.** Today we head off to the emerald - green inlet with its single taverna surrounded by olive trees and wandering geese.

**Day 11/ LIPSI (Sat. 1st)**

**Katsadia** Small farms and orchards grace the countryside dotted with blue-domed churches leading to the protected cove of Katsadia, sheltered by bamboo reeds.

**Day 12/ LIPSI (Sun. 2nd ) FREE DAY**

**Optional boat trip to Marathi, Arki and other small isles near Lipsi** with their little fishing hamlets and colourful boats. On the way we pull up at secluded turquoise coves surrounded by bleached ochre rocks where we have the chance to swim off the boat or sketch from the deck.

**Day 13/ LIPSI( Mon. 3rd)**

**Lipsi Platia.** The main square is filled with little blue & white cafes shaded under leafy trees.

**Day 14/ LIPSI (Tues. 4<sup>th</sup>)**

**Enjoy the vista of the turquoise bay with its' blue-domed churches ( **afternoon critique** )**



**Day 15/ LEROS (Wed. 5th) FREE DAY**

**Optional excursion to the beautiful island of Patmos.** The world-wide fame of the Monastery of St. John attracts pilgrims from all over the world. The main town clustered around the monastery, is filled with narrow winding medieval alleys, its white-washed cubic houses connected by impressive arches.

**Leave Lipsi 19:00. Arrive Leros 20:00.** Passing along the peaceful bay of Agia Marina with its pretty villages set amongst almond trees, we reach our hotel in Alinda with its panoramic vista of the distant fortress.

**Day 16/ LEROS (Thurs. 6th)**

The bay of Alinda is shaded by beautiful tamarisk trees. Setting up our easels under the trees we look out to the magnificent panorama of the distant village clustered around the base of the islands' medieval fortress.

**Day 17/ LEROS( Fri. 7th)**

**Pandeli** This morning we head off to the sheltered fishing village of Pandeli, surrounded by windmills and colourful fishing boats .

**DAY 18/ LEROS (Sat. 8th )**

**Agia Marina.** The white washed village with its fishing harbour and little windmill is the essence of Greek Island simplicity and beauty

**DAY 19/ LEROS( Sun.. 9th)**

**Alinda :** Our hotel with its pretty garden filled with urns is a relaxing spot to finish off our paintings for our final review. **Afternoon review .Sunset farewell cocktails.**

**Day 20/ DEPARTURE (Mon. 10th)**

**Transfer to Leros Airport for return flight to Athens .**

## FOR FURTHER DETAILS :

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