

Elafonisos Island, Lakonia, Greece

A secret of the southern Peloponnese, Elafonisos wows small-ship cruisers with shockingly turquoise water, pink-tinged sand dunes, and one of the oldest submerged cities on Earth just offshore.

Tender port Typical call: 6-8 hrs Currency: Euro Language: Greek Beach destination

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — ships anchor; boats land at Elafonisos Town harbour
Best For: Beaches, snorkelling, fresh seafood, quiet Greek island life

Walk to center: Immediate — tender drops in the village waterfront
Don't Miss: Simos Beach (ranked among Europe's best) & Pavlopetri snorkel

Getting around: Taxi Meter (~€4 start)

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Simos Beach — Europe's Top Strand** — Two horseshoe bays framing crystal-turquoise water and white-pink sand dunes protected under Natura 2000.
- **Pavlopetri Snorkel — Ancient Sunken City** — Just across the narrow channel lies Pavlopetri, the world's oldest known submerged city (c.3000 BC).
- **ATV Island Lap** — Rent an ATV at the harbour and loop the island in an hour, stopping at Lefki Beach, Panagia Bay and the sand dunes.
- **Agios Spyridon Church Walk** — The island's icon — a white-and-blue chapel perched on a tiny rocky islet reached by a narrow stone causeway from the harbour.
- **Harbour Seafood Lunch** — Waterfront tavernas serve lobster pasta (astakomakaronada), grilled octopus, and tsaitia — local pan-fried pies stuffed with fresh goat cheese and...

BEST WALKS

- **Harbour to Agios Spyridon** ⌚ 20 min · Easy · Photo stop — From the tender dock stroll the waterfront north, past colourful fishing boats and net-mending fishermen, to the stone causeway leading to the iconic chapel on the rocks.
- **Town & Kontogoni Beach** ⌚ 30-40 min · Easy · Swim stop — Head south from the port to the sandy town beach of Kontogoni — a calm, clear cove with tavernas on the fringe.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				DAYLIGHT & MONEY	
	Mon	High	Low	Rain	
	Apr	66°	56°	4d	Apr 6:54AM–8:02PM · Jun 6:09AM–8:47PM · Aug 6:45AM–8:18PM · Sep 7:10AM–7:35PM · Oct 7:35AM–6:51PM Currency: Euro
	Jun	81°	70°	2d	
	Aug	88°	76°	1d	
	Sep	82°	72°	4d	
	Oct	74°	65°	4d	

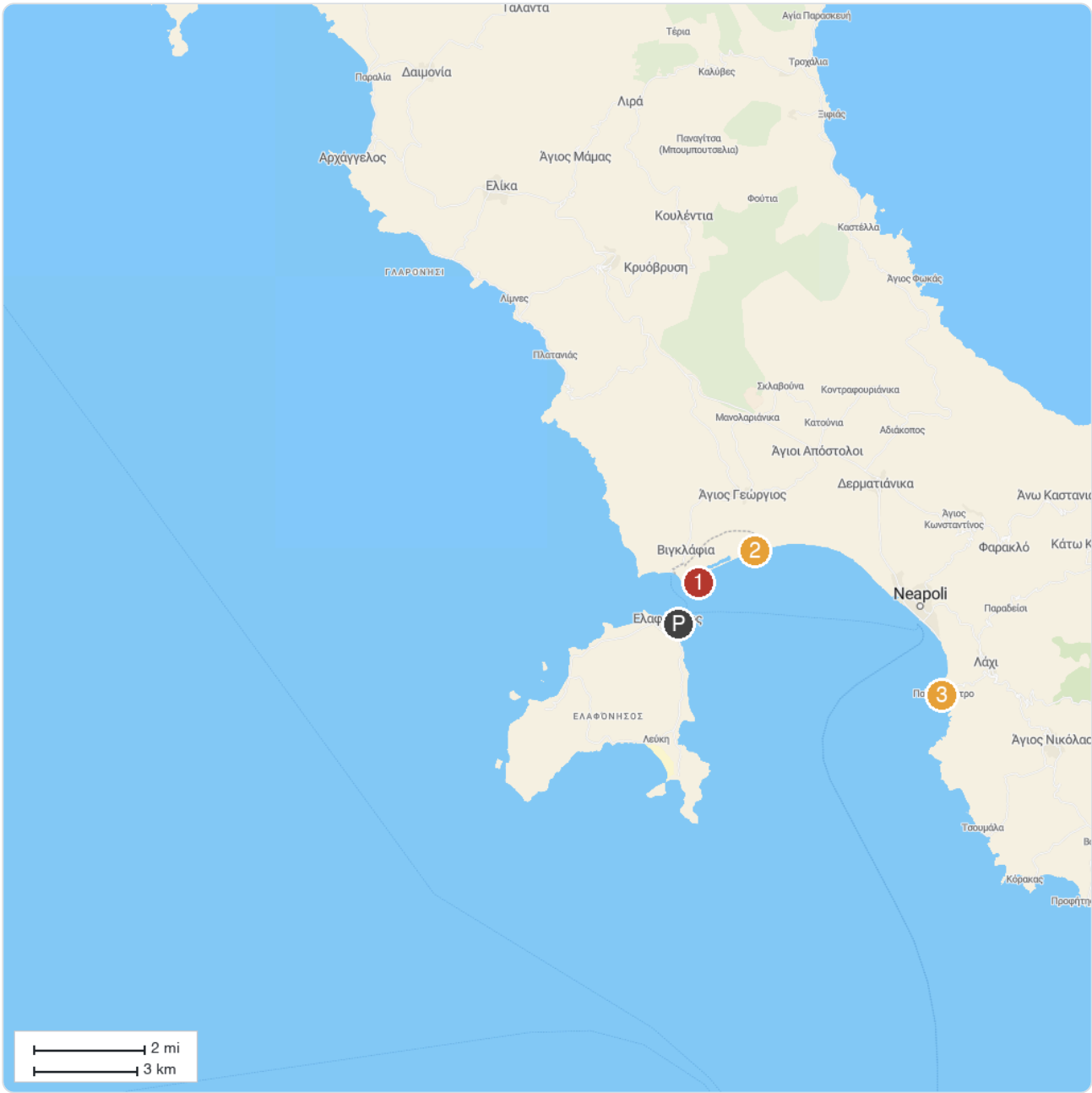
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bring cash. Shuttle buses, ATV rentals and beach-bed operators often only accept euros in cash. The island's one or two ATMs run dry on busy cruise days.
- Allow one hour to return from Simos Beach to the tender pier. Shuttles don't always run on schedule, and tender queues can build near all-aboard time.
- Meltemi wind warning. Strong summer winds can whip sand at Simos; ask locals which sheltered beach (often Panagia or Lefki) is calmer that day.
- Pack a snorkel. Both Pavlopetri's Bronze Age ruins and the sandy shallows at Simos reward even casual snorkellers — the water is exceptionally clear.
- Eat at the harbour. Lobster pasta and grilled octopus on the waterfront are a genuine local speciality — much better value than anything aboard the ship.
- ATVs beat walking for reaching the island's beaches. Rentals start from the harbour; an international driving permit may be required for scooters.

Elafonisos Island, Lakonia, Greece — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1 Hamokelo Beach**

Hamokelo Beach is a secluded sandy beach with clear waters.
- 2 Παραλία Μάγγανος**

Manganos Beach is a quiet sandy beach known for its shallow waters.
- 3 Amitsa Beach**

Amitsa Beach is a small, tranquil sandy beach with calm waters.
- P Cruise port / terminal**