

# off the fence.

## My Greek Odyssey (Series 2)

12 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

### 1. Thassos

First stop – Thassos. It's the northernmost of the major Greek Islands, with the mainland only about 7 kilometres away. It's a mountainous landmass, almost circular in shape, with the towering peak of Ipsario standing near its heart. It's certainly not one of those highly developed tourist hubs, where you struggle to avoid the masses. Yeah, there's a couple beaches that get quite busy. But the fertile interior of the island and coastal areas away from the big towns, give you a chance to escape the crowds and relax in peace.

### 2. Mt Athos/Samothrace

This episode sees Peter finishing up his time on Thassos, before heading to the Holiest place in Greece, Mount Athos, where 20 monasteries sit on a 300 square kilometer peninsula. It's a location Peter has long wanted to visit, to see what all the hubbub and mystery is about. From there, he'll be making his way to Samothrace, or Samothraki as the Greeks know it.

### 3. Samothrace/Limnos

This episode continues Peter's time in Samothrace. It's an island frequented by adventure and nature lovers alike. It's also where they unearthed the famous winged goddess statue of Nike. Today, it's known for its thermal springs, running waters and adventure sports, like mountaineering, hiking, diving, mountain biking and canyoning. After finishing his time on Samothrace Peter heads to the much larger island of Limnos.

### 4. Limnos (Side trip to Agios Efstratios)

In this episode Peter will be exploring 7,000 years of history. From one of the earliest settlements in Europe, to a modern day air force base. Plus he'll learn about the local cuisine, and landscapes of Limnos, that make it so special. The topography here is unlike the majority of Greek islands. Between the mountains there are fertile planes, where crops like wheat, barley and sesame are grown. A highlight of the episode is a visit to meet the fighter pilots of the 130th combat group. These are the Hellenic Air force's elite, flying the famous F16 Falcons.

### 5. Lesbos

In this episode Mia Zoi heads south-east, across to the island of Lesbos. Sitting just off the coast of Turkey, there are obvious influences from its neighbour. But like any Greek island, it has a truly unique personality, which Peter discovers during his time there. It's the third biggest island in the nation, with a rich and varied landscape. And as you'll see, it's a beautiful place with loads of history and wildlife, both above and below the water.

## **6. Lesbos/Psara/Chios**

Episode six of My Greek Odyssey, sees Peter making his way to the capital of Lesbos, Mitlini. It's quite the contrast to the rest of the island, with loads of people and the noise and excitement that come with it. From there he's headed south, where he briefly visits the remote island of Psara, before making his way to Chios, the birthplace of Homer.

## **7. Chios/Innouses**

In episode 7, Peter's exploration continues as he goes both above and below water to show you the sites, sounds and tastes of Chios. It might be famous for its mastic production, but there's a whole lot more to the place than that, including a fireworks festival that will leave you gobsmacked. Then departing from the southern end of Chios we cruise north, skirting passed Turkey before arriving in Innouses, an island has been called the cradle of the Greek shipping fortunes.

## **8. Syros**

Having travelled through the Northern Aegean, Peter heads into the second leg of the journey. The next stretch sees him moving down to the Western Cyclades. It's a region of the Mediterranean that doesn't often have a light shined on it, which is all the more reason he was keen to check it out. The first port of call is Syros, where the plan is to show you a real mix of the things that makes this part of the country so awesome. It's a place where there's plenty of that old world charm and scenery to die for.

## **9. Kythnos**

In this episode we're heading west to Kythnos. It's only 100 kilometers from Athens, which makes it a popular destination for mainland Greeks. Go there in Summer and it's really busy, but late in the season you'll discover a peaceful and ruggedly beautiful island, dotted with secluded beaches. It's the kind of place you go to relax, away from the crowds, where little has changed throughout the centuries.

## **10. Serifos**

In this instalment we'll be taking you on a journey across Serifos, and experiencing everything this little island has to offer. While it might not have the resorts and bars of its more famous neighbours to the south and east, it's a place where you can make your own adventure and enjoy a taste of Greek culture only found in these off the beaten path destinations. We'll eat like a local, learn about the island's ancient past, and explore every inch of the place, from the hilltops and bays, to the seafloor and even underground.

## **11. Sifnos**

In episode 11, apart from getting a cooking lesson from a master, we'll be walking from one side of Sifnos to the other. Peter is going to see and do as much as he can on this slice of Greek paradise. We'll head to the ancient watchtowers found around the island's perimeter, and visit the former capital, Kastro. Peter is also popping across to Polyegos, a tiny island that's home to just a single Shepherd and his flock.

## **12. Milos**

In the final episode of series two, Peter is finishing his time in the Western Cyclades by exploring the islands of Kimolos and Milos. Despite their close proximity to one another, they're in stark contrast. Kimolos is small, sparsely populated and relatively flat, while the much better-known Milos has a mountainous landscape and loads of people. Each has its own appeal, which Peter intends to unearth.