



AEGEAN 600: A sailing race that has the makings of a legend

From 14 to 20 June 2020, Greece will organize a new 600 nautical mile offshore yacht race. This is a race designed by sailors for sailors in which sporting challenge will meet the beauty of the Aegean islands. It is the first time the favorite sea of poets, painters and philosophers will host such a great event, with both athletic and environmental connotation, as the message the contestants will convey is precisely "Let's Save Our seas".

With the support of the environmental organization HELMEPA, the organizer, Hellenic Offshore Racing Club, aims to organize an event with the smallest possible ecological footprint. This is why actions will be taken to inform the contestants about marine pollution before the start of the race.

The start of the event will be given from Cape Sounion against the backdrop of the Temple of Poseidon. The boats will sail for Milos, the home of the Venus de Milo, which is now in the Louvre de Paris. Surrounded by Cycladic white, they will reach the scenic Caldera of Santorini, where the white of the houses blends with the volcanic rock creating unique contrasts and images. They will continue towards the southernmost island of the Aegean Sea, Kassos, and leaving Karpathos on the left, the goddess Athena's birthplace and the home of Prometheus, will reach the Palace of the Grand Master of the Knights of Rhodes. The course will continue towards scenic Kos and Kalymnos, the island of sponge divers, while on the way the sailors will meet, besides dolphins, beautiful small islands, each with its own history.

The fleet will sail next to the colorful islands of Pharmakonisi and Agathonisi, and continue on to Icarian Sea, a sea that offers strong sailing excitement. The sailors will meet Patmos, the island of Saint John and the Cave of the Apocalypse, and will head to cosmopolitan Mykonos and Delos, the birthplace of Apollo. The last islands of the route will be Giaros and Kea. Finally, the contestants will look on to the Temple of Poseidon and this will mark the end of the sailing adventure and the race.

Through organized excursions, the participants and their friends and family members will have the opportunity to visit the archaeological and historical sites of Athens before the race begins, while during the race escorts will be able to join similar organized excursions outside of Athens.

