GUIDE · CORINTHIA

10 Things to Do in Corinthia You Cannot Miss



About

From ancient ruins to mountain lakes, wineries to sea caves — Corinthia packs a remarkable amount of variety into a small area. Here are the 10 experiences that define a visit.

1. Stand Above the Corinth Canal

Walk onto the road bridge over the Corinth Canal and look down at the 80-metre walls of limestone on either side. If you time it right, you'll see a cargo ship or private yacht making the crossing below you — one of the more dramatic sights in Greece. The scale of the cut through solid rock only registers properly when you're standing at the edge.

2. Climb Acrocorinth

The largest ancient fortified acropolis in Greece rises 575 m above the plain of Corinth. Inside three successive sets of walls — Greek, Byzantine, Frankish, Venetian, Ottoman — you'll find chapels, towers, cisterns and the foundations of the Temple of Aphrodite at the summit. Allow two to three hours, bring water, and wear shoes with grip. The views from the top take in two gulfs and the mountains of three regions simultaneously.

3. Taste Nemea Wine at the Source

Spend an afternoon at one of the Nemea wineries — Gaia, Papaioannou and Skouras are all visitor-friendly. The Agiorgitiko grape produces rich, food-friendly reds that regularly win international recognition, and at winery prices you'll pay a fraction of what you'd spend in Athens. The ancient stadium at Nemea with its original starting blocks is 5 minutes from the main winery cluster.

4. Swim at the Heraion Lagoon

The turquoise lagoon below the Heraion of Perachora is one of the most beautiful swimming spots in the Peloponnese. The water is brackish — slightly salty, crystal clear, warmer than the open sea — with fish visible from the surface. Ancient ruins on the headland above and the lighthouse at the peninsula's tip complete a setting that feels genuinely remote despite being 20 minutes from Loutraki.

5. Walk Through Ancient Corinth

The Doric columns of the Temple of Apollo (560 BC) are among the oldest standing in Greece. Behind them spreads a vast Roman forum, the bema from which Paul of Tarsus preached, and a museum that is one of the best regional collections in the country. Allow a minimum of two hours; combine with Acrocorinth for a full day in the ancient world.

6. Hike to Lake Doxa

Drive to Feneos village and continue to Lake Doxa at 900 m altitude. Walk the 10-km perimeter path around the reservoir, cross the stone bridge and listen to the silence — actual silence, without traffic, at a level most people rarely encounter. In spring the surrounding meadows are carpeted with wildflowers; in autumn the deciduous trees turn against the dark fir backdrop.

7. Visit the Mogostos Oak Forest

Old-growth oaks up to 500 years old cover 1,500 hectares between Corinth and Nemea. The ridge trail from Mogostos village offers sea views in two directions and a walking experience unlike anything else on the northern Peloponnese.

8. Watch a Bungee Jump Over the Canal

A local operator runs bungee jumping sessions from the old railway bridge over the Corinth Canal — a 79-metre free fall above turquoise water. Even if you don't jump yourself, watching others go over the edge is genuinely exciting. Check local listings for session times.

9. Birdwatch at Lake Stymphalos at Dawn

A Natura 2000 wetland at 600 m altitude, with over 150 recorded bird species. Herons, egrets, marsh harriers and seasonal rarities make this one of the best birdwatching sites in mainland Greece. Arrive before 8am for the best activity and bring binoculars.

10. Drive the Corinthian Riviera

The coastal road from Loutraki to Xylokastro — 50 km of sea, orange groves and small fishing harbours — is one of the most scenic drives in the northern Peloponnese. Stop at Kiato for fresh fish at the harbour, then walk the eucalyptus promenade in Xylokastro at sunset. No particular destination required: the road itself is the point.

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