

Sunshine and Singing

Aegina Acapella Holiday

1-6 June 2020

NEW!

Special introductory prices - £695/795€

**Join us on this magical Greek island
for a unique acapella adventure!**

BOOK NOW! Turn to the back page...



You will sing and explore both voice and landscape,
at specially chosen times and places -
by the sea and in the mountains,
at sunset and sunrise,
in ancient temples and Byzantine churches,
on beaches and a boat -
staying in lovely beachside accommodation
and eating delicious fresh local food.

*You do not need any prior experience - just come ready to sing and
play vocally!*

Aegina Acappella is for everyone who loves singing & beautiful surroundings!

We have created a unique holiday experience for you:

- 10 singing and vocal improvisation workshops led by Jess Baker;
- Outdoor singing on the beach and at other specially-chosen places around Aegina;
- Dawn singing among the Byzantine churches of Palaiachora, Sunset singing beside Apollo temple, a boat trip & a finale celebration under the full moon;
- 5 nights at The Beachhouse, a very special place to stay, right on the beach;
- Greek breakfasts and buffet 'meze' lunches;
- Plenty of free time to sing more, collaborate & experiment with others, swim, explore & relax;
- Other opportunities, including art workshops, guided walks, yoga, or 1:1 tuition with Jess (extra fees apply).



Singing and so much more



You will spend the week immersed in wonderful song, sound, seascapes and landscapes!





Delightful days



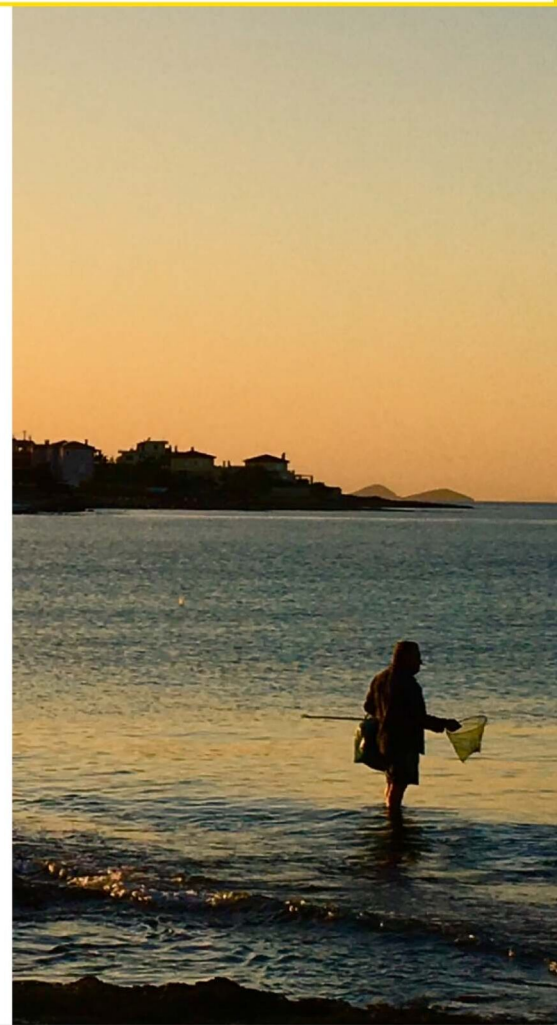
Start your typical day with a swim or a stroll and a delicious Greek breakfast (1), then join the morning singing workshop to learn songs and experiment with vocal improvisation. We have lunch together, and then in the afternoon, you will have free time to spend as you wish. We will meet again for a second workshop in the early evening.

Tues-Thurs will include singing at various wonderful locations around Aegina, like Apollo temple and Palaichora. Organised group trips - including our full day out and a boat ride - are included in the holiday price.

If you would like other experiences too - perhaps a creative workshop with Spark Creativity, a massage, a yoga class or a guided walk to other parts of this beautiful island - these can be arranged. A very limited number of 1:1 coaching sessions with Jess are also available.

Provisional programme (full details after booking):

	Morning (3h)	Around midday (1.5h)	Afternoon (3h)	Early eve (2h)
Monday	Arrival and brunch	Welcome sing (1)	Settling in/ free time	Beachhouse intensive workshop (2)
Tuesday	Beachhouse intensive workshop (3)	Lunch	Free time	Sunset sing at Kolona (4)
Wednesday	Day trip - including singing (5 and 6), picnic lunch and boat trip			
Thursday	Dawn sing at Palaichora (7)	Free time		Beachhouse intensive workshop (8)
Friday	Beachhouse intensive workshop (9)	Lunch	Free time	Full moon finale singing (10) and celebration meal
Saturday	Departure	(It may be possible to extend your stay at the beginning and/or end of the course, subject to availability, for an additional charge; please contact The Beachhouse directly)		





Aegina island



Aegina is a beautiful, little-known Saronic island, just 26 km/16 miles south of Athens. It is visited regularly by Athenians and many other Greeks, but most overseas visitors come only for a day or two, and so miss most of its beauty and magic.

It is the perfect place for a singing holiday. Its landscape is varied and stunning: sandy and rocky beaches, volcanic mountains, ancient olive groves, rambling backstreets, little fishing villages, hillsides dotted with churches... It has fascinating culture and history that few people take the time to discover, including Bronze Age settlements, Classical Greek civilisation, a rich Byzantine past, long-lost matriarchal sects devoted to the goddesses of Aphaia and Hecate, and even pirates! There is so much to feed the senses and inspire creativity!

Local artist and Spark Creativity director Fiona Weir has explored and researched the island to find locations where songs and voices can weave wonderfully through the local landscapes and structures.

We were delighted when Jess Baker agreed to lead this course! Jess is a singer, performer and wonderful tutor. She is a long-time member of the Natural Voice Network, and runs choirs and groups in her local community as well as travelling nationally and internationally to teach and sing. Jess was part of Bobby McFerrin's Circlesong retreat in New York 2013, Rhiannon's 'Mele A Hakuwale' in 2018 and has recently completed the internationally acclaimed mastery level improvisation course 'All The Way In'. She lives in the beautiful Pennine Hills of West Yorkshire (UK).



Jess teaches by ear, so that you do not need to read music, and uses a 'whole body' approach. She will teach participants songs, vocal exercises and improvisation techniques.

Jess will be assisted by Fiona Weir from Spark Creativity, who lives on Aegina and has sung with Jess for many years. (And this is Fiona's dog Ruby!)



A fabulous teacher



Jess teaching circle songs at Goldsmiths, London



Very special accommodation



We have found the perfect accommodation and base for this singing holiday: The Beachhouse is right on the waters' edge, on the north coast of Aegina. Your apartment will be just a few steps from the sea, and you will have an unrestricted sea view. On a clear day you can see Athens in the distance too! Share with another participant or pay a supplement (3) for your own room.

The Beachhouse is run by Lizzy Koster, who makes sure every guest has a special stay. There are lovely spaces inside and outside to sing, gather, enjoy the sun, sit and chat, or escape for a bit of time alone. There is a bar, too. For more info, photos & to extend bookings, contact Lizzy or visit www.thebeachhousegreece.com.



From the Beachhouse, you can stroll along the coast to the fishing villages of Vagia and Souvala. Bustling Aegina Town is only a 25 minute drive. The ancient temples of Aphaia and Apollo, and the Byzantine churches of Palaiachora (shown), are just a few kilometres away.

NEW for 2020 – Book now!

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE: For 2020 only, the cost of the Aegina Acapella 'sunshine & singing' holiday 2020 is £695/€795 (3).

A 50% non-returnable deposit is payable by 31/03/20. The remaining 50% is due by 30/04/20. See the booking form for payment details.

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS!

Receive a 10% discount if you pay 50% by 29/02/20 or pay in full by 21/03/20 (4).

We hope to see you soon!

**CONTACT US: Call Fiona on 00447734 705098
or email fiona.sparkcreativity@gmail.com**



Small print

1) We love healthy and delicious food! We will serve fresh, local products where available. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free diets are no problem – just let us know. Please contact us if you have other dietary requirements.

2) Days and times of some activities may vary depending on weather.

3) Holiday price includes: professional singing/voice improv teaching; 5 nights accommodation in a twin en suite apartment with kitchenette, balcony and sea view; organised trips and outings; water and hot drinks; 5 x Greek breakfast (Tues-Sat); 5 x meze buffet lunch (Mon-Fri); dinner on the final night when we'll share a celebratory meal together after our moonlit sing. Single occupancy of a room is available for an additional fee of £275/€320. If you would like to add nights to the beginning or end of your holiday, this may be possible: please contact The Beachhouse directly to check availability and book.

NOT included: Your travel to The Beachhouse on Aegina. Transfers from Aegina port can be arranged for an additional charge (approx. €20). Soft drinks & alcohol are sold in the cafe-bar.

4) A 50% deposit is payable (rather than our usual 35%) because of the late booking deadlines for this course. This is non-returnable. The remaining 50% is payable by 30/4/20. If you have paid in full but need to cancel due to unforeseen circumstances, 50% will be refunded up to 7/5/20.

5) We are sorry to say that Aegina island and this holiday is unlikely to be accessible for many people with mobility difficulties. Please contact us if you would like to discuss your needs; we will always try to enable you to attend if we can.

6) Spark Creativity Ltd. is a UK registered company (company number 12461702).

**Find us on Facebook: [fb.me/sparkcreativityeurope](https://www.facebook.com/sparkcreativityeurope)
Website coming soon at sparkcreativity.net**



It's true: you REALLY don't need any previous experience to enjoy this singing holiday!

Natural Voice is about celebrating the voice you were born with, rather than trying to train it to be 'perfect'. It's about welcoming all voices into a group and working from there to make a great group sound.

Build your skills in harmony, rhythm and melody-making, and enjoy collaborating with other singers and leading as an individual. You are actively encouraged to experiment and sing together outside the taught sessions, and to bring new songs and improvisations to share with the group. You don't even need to read music!

"Improvisation is a gift, a necessity, a skill, a dance with the unknown. It is the practice of approaching the unknown, not with fear but with curiosity, and with trust that the path will be revealed. It is about staying awake, really awake, all senses vibrant, as you learn to be available to it all: the fear and the endless possibilities of each new moment. When you improvise you become part of all that is alive".

- Rhiannon

Natural Voice & improvisation

