



XK Gazette

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South Attica Sea tour

Alex Holis celebrates the beginning of the sun-soaked Greek summer with a gathering of XKs and E-types

After a long lockdown period where we were all obliged to stay safe at home awaiting our turn to be vaccinated, finally, on 16 May, bars and restaurants were allowed to accept customers and we felt enthusiastic of meeting again. Our Jaguars were waiting for this 'chequered flag' to get out of their dark garages and show their 'smiling chrome radiator grilles' under the Greek sun.

At 30 degrees Celsius, it was a perfect day for our first 'Lockout' tour in the South of the Attica Riviera. We preferred to choose the inland winding roads to drive our 19 cars through the vineyards and the olive trees of Mesogeia to arrive at the Bolla Beach Bar in Thoriko.

This location is perfect for swimming and sipping an ice coffee under the palm trees, but also for starting a short walk to visit the ancient Thorikos Theatre, the oldest surviving theatre in Greece, built between 525 and 480 BC. With 21 rows of seats, the theatre had a total capacity of 4,000 spectators.



- Above: group included Jaguars old and new, while the route took everyone through olive groves and down winding inland roads (top)



Having lived for so many months inside our homes, very often also 'smart working', our eyes were filled with beauty and immensity, not only from the vastness of the sea and the archaeological uniqueness of the theatre, but also by the spectacular view of our cars side by side as colourful steel friends.

We left the east coast of the Aegean Sea to climb the mountain and then continued downhill to the west coast of the Saronic Gulf, near to Sounio at Thymari. The crews who could do so lowered their car's hood and felt the freshness crossing the pine forest at Agios Konstantinos Kamaritsa even more, and later appreciated the sea breeze.

- Top: relaxing at the Bolla Beach Bar in Thoriko
- Above: XK rests in the shade of the mulberry trees



- Clockwise from left: XKs and E-types soak up the sun; panoramic view of 10 big cats; ancient Thorikos Theatre; open-top motoring was the order of the day; a glimpse of the sea at To Apomero



Our last destination was the fish tavern To Apomero under the shade of the mulberry trees. We chose this magical location because it was far from the crowds on the beaches, so perfect in term of security. It was also close enough to the sea to admire the view of the sails passing and enjoy the variety and freshness of the catch of the day.

Another successful meeting was over. We were tempted to hug our friends, as we used to before COVID, but we refrained, promising each other to meet soon again in another tour. 🚗