

A New Pact for a Sustainable Mediterranean Future

Travelling | Logistics Guide

19-21 May 2026 Athens, Greece



CIRCLE THE MED
9TH EDITION

Co-organised with



**Innovative
sustainable economy**

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Contents

01 Event Overview

02 The Venue

03 About Athens & Piraeus

04 How to Reach Athens

05 Transportation to the Venue

06 Important Information

07 Hotel Suggestions

08 Contact Information

01 | Event Overview

Join us in **Athens on 19, 20 and 21 May 2026** for three days of high-level dialogue, knowledge exchange, networking and community building.

The **9th edition of Circle the Med – The Mediterranean Forum** will take place jointly with the **MED Innovation Summit 2026** and the **5th in-person gathering of the ISE Community of Practice (CoP)**.

Organised within the framework of the Innovative Sustainable Economy (ISE) Mission of the Interreg Euro-MED Programme, and hosted by **DVISION** and **MIO-ECSDE**, this flagship Mediterranean platform brings together policymakers, innovators, researchers, public authorities, civil society and private sector actors to advance a **New Pact for a Sustainable Mediterranean Future** rooted in innovation, circular economy and resilience.

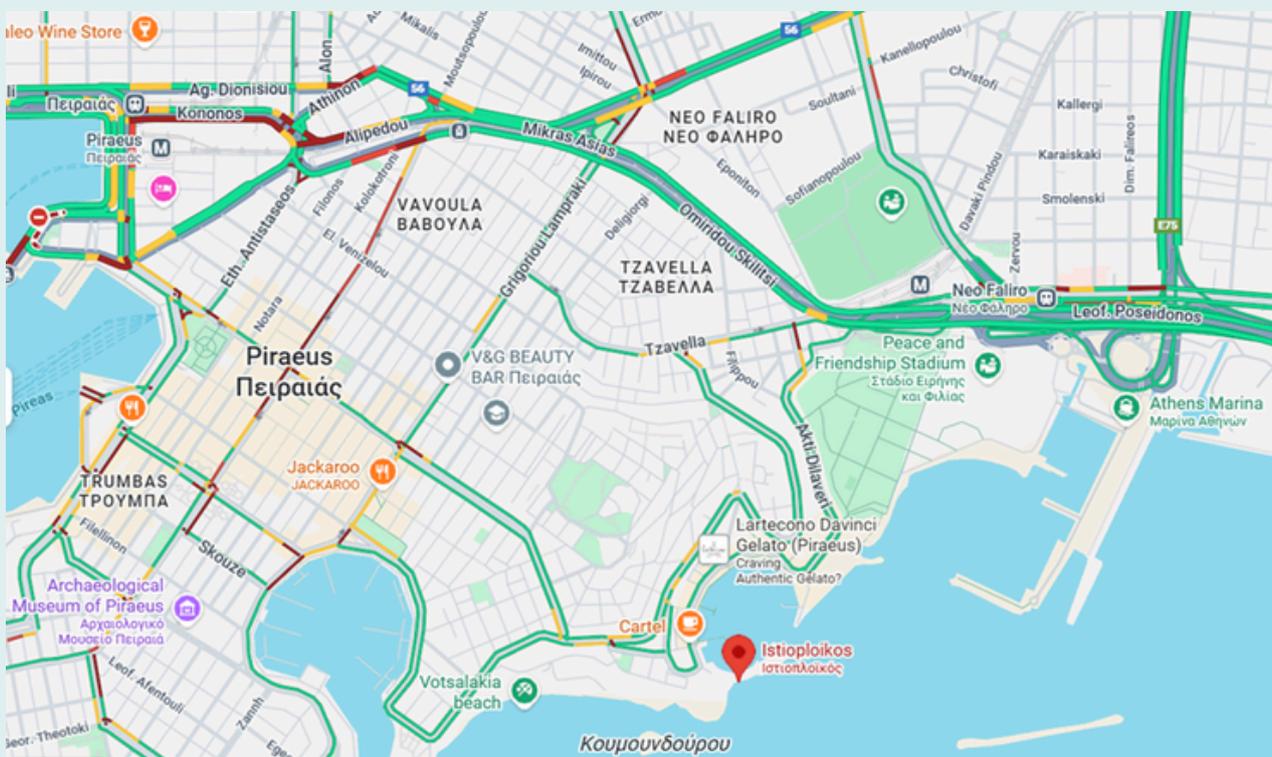
The Forum will showcase collaborative solutions driving green and blue transition across the Mediterranean region while strengthening cooperation within the ISE Mission community.

Further details regarding the agenda and speakers will be shared separately.

02 | The Venue

The event will take place at: **Istioploikos Piraeus Sailing Club**, Akti Mikrolimanou
185 33 Piraeus, Greece
Tel: +30 210 4134084

Located in the picturesque Mikrolimano marina, the venue offers a unique coastal setting overlooking the Saronic Gulf.



03 | About Athens & Piraeus

Athens

Athens, the capital of Greece, is one of the world's oldest cities and a historic center of democracy, philosophy, and culture. The city blends ancient landmarks with vibrant contemporary life, offering world-renowned heritage sites, dynamic neighborhoods, and Mediterranean cuisine.

Piraeus

Piraeus is Athens' historic port city and one of the largest passenger ports in Europe. Today, it is a lively coastal district known for its maritime identity, seafood restaurants, and marina views. Mikrolimano, where the venue is located, is one of its most charming seaside areas.

Distance from Athens International Airport to Piraeus: approximately **50–60 minutes by car (53 km)**.

04 | How to Reach Athens

Airport

Athens is served by one international airport:

Athens International Airport Eleftherios Venizelos

Distance to Piraeus: 53 km

Transportation from Athens Airport to City Center

By Metro (Recommended)

Take **Metro Line 3 (Blue Line)** from the airport station.

Direction: Dimotiko Theatro (Piraeus direction)

Key stops in the city center:

- Syntagma (central square)
- Monastiraki

Travel time:

- ~35 minutes to Syntagma
- ~55 minutes to Piraeus (Dimotiko Theatro)

Frequency: Every 30 minutes

Tickets can be purchased at airport machines or counters. Card payments are accepted at ticket barriers.

By Express Bus

Bus X95

Route: Airport → Syntagma Square

Operates: 24/7

Travel time: 60–90 minutes depending on traffic.

Tickets are available at the airport kiosk or onboard.

By Taxi

Official taxis are available outside the arrivals exit.

Fixed fares to Athens city center:

- Day (05:00–00:00): approx. €43
- Night (00:00–05:00): approx. €55

Travel time: 35–60 minutes depending on traffic.

05 | Transportation to Istioploikos venue (Piraeus)

Official Shuttle Buses

Shuttle buses will operate between **Syggrou-Fix Metro Station** and Istioploikos on all three event days.

Day 1 – 19 May

12:00 – Departure from Syggrou-Fix to Istioploikos

20:00 – Return from Istioploikos to Syggrou-Fix

Day 2 – 20 May

08:30 – Departure from Syggrou-Fix to Istioploikos

18:00 – Departure from Istioploikos to Athens city center

(exact drop-off location TBC – near cultural activity venue)

Day 3 – 21 May

08:00 – Departure from Syggrou-Fix to Istioploikos

17:30 – Return from Istioploikos to Syggrou-Fix

Participants are kindly requested to be at the departure point 10 minutes before scheduled time.

Public Transport Option (Alternative)

You may reach Piraeus using:

- Metro Line 3 (Blue Line) → Dimotiko Theatro
- Then trolley line 20 to Mikrolimano (~13 minutes)

Google Maps provides accurate and reliable directions in Athens and Piraeus.

06 | Important Information

Electricity

In Greece, power plugs and sockets of type C and F are used.

Standard voltage: 230 V

Frequency: 50 Hz

Adapters are widely available in convenience stores and kiosks.

Safety

Athens has a relatively low crime rate. However, as May is high tourist season and the venue is in a popular coastal area, participants are advised to:

- Keep personal belongings secure
- Be cautious in crowded public transport areas

Emergency Numbers

EU Emergency Number: 112

Ambulance Service (Greece): 166

Payments

By law, all shops, restaurants, and taxis in Greece accept card payments, including most international debit and credit cards.

07 | Hotel Suggestions

Near Syntagma Square (Central, Excellent Metro Access)

- **Hotel Grande Bretagne, a Luxury Collection Hotel** – Iconic luxury property right on Syntagma Square with excellent service and facilities; ideal for VIPs and international guests.
- **NJV Athens Plaza** – Classic 4★ hotel directly on Syntagma Square; comfortable and reputable choice for business and conference travellers.
- **Athens Capital Hotel – MGallery Collection** – Stylish boutique luxury just off the square, with strong reviews for service and comfort.
- **Electra Palace Athens** – Trusted 4★ hotel with a rooftop pool and views; a few minutes' walk from the metro.
- **Electra Rhythm Athens** – Contemporary and well-appointed mid-range option near Ermou Street's shops and Syntagma.
- **Elia Ermou Athens Hotel** – Good value choice in the downtown area, a short walk to Syntagma and metro connections.
- **Gatsby Athens Hotel** – Trendy boutique stay close to the metro, with easy access to both transport and central attractions.

Near Syggrou-Fix Metro Station (Closest to Shuttle Departure)

- **Hotel @ Syngrou Fix** – Comfortable, well-located option just a couple of minutes from the metro.
- **Suites@ Syngrou Fix** – Spacious rooms and excellent reviews for comfort and service; great for groups or longer stays.
- **NLH FIX | Neighborhood Lifestyle Hotels** – Stylish, budget-friendly choice with reliable amenities near the metro.
- **Neoma** – Modern, comfortable hotel within easy walking distance of Syggrou-Fix metro.
- **Urban Stripes Athens** – Contemporary hotel with good design and reviews, perfect for event attendees.
- **Koniama Acropolis Hotel** – Solid mid-range option a short walk from Syggrou-Fix and well placed for exploring the city.

Notes for Participants:

- **Syntagma Square area** offers more variety, services, and dining options, and is ideal if you plan to explore the city before/after the event.
- **Syggrou-Fix area** is slightly quieter but very convenient for shuttle access and direct metro travel to the venue.

08 | Contact

Should you have any questions regarding logistics or transportation, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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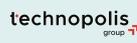
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