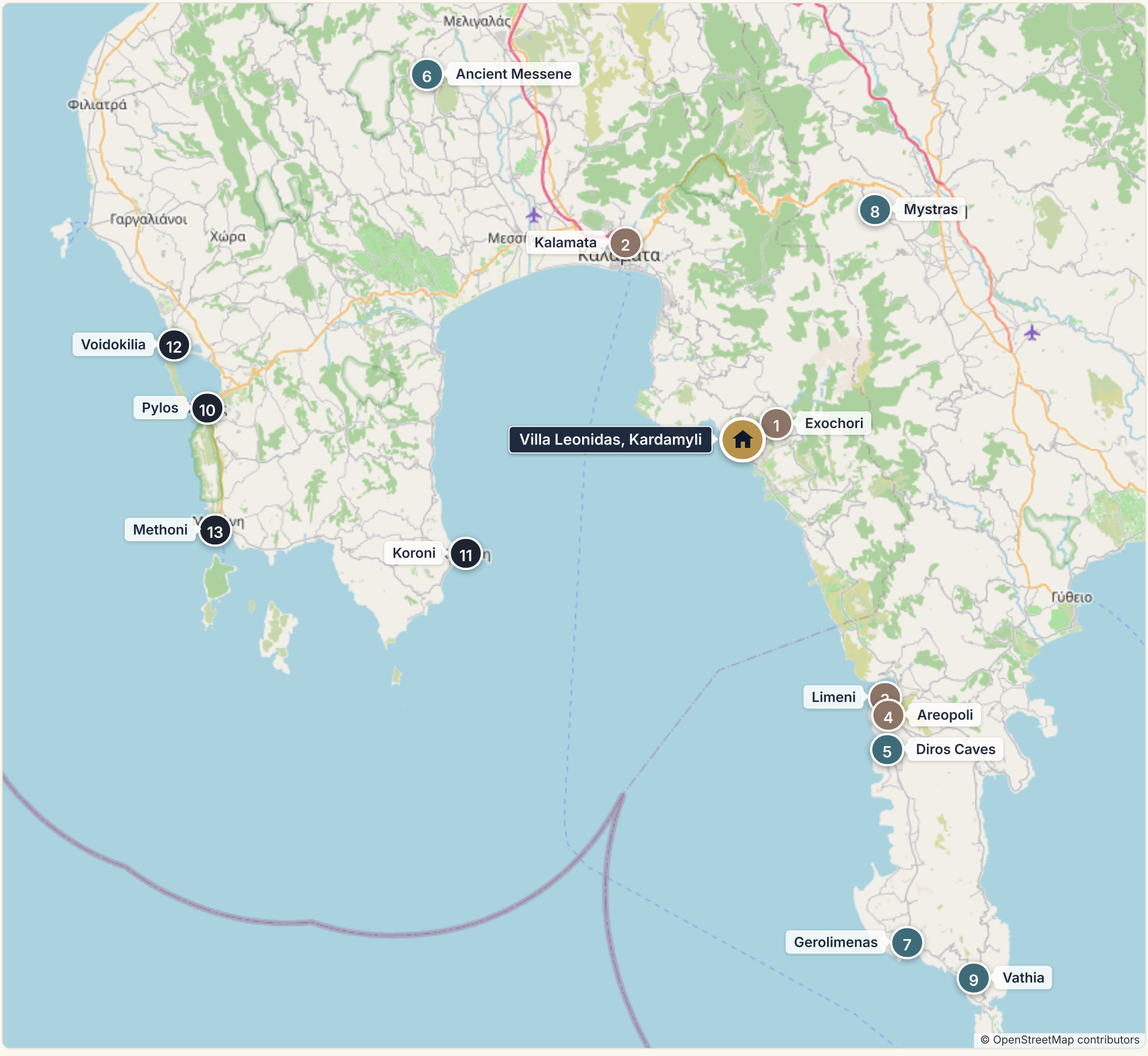
VILLA LEONIDAS
KARDAMILI

Days out from Villa Leonidas

WITHIN ABOUT TWO AND A HALF HOURS BY CAR · WEST MANI · GREECE



Up to about 1 hour 10 min

1. **Exochori** about 10 min · 8 km
   The mountain village above Kardamyli, with views into the Viros Gorge. Patrick Leigh Fermor scattered Bruce Chatwin's ashes by its chapel of Agios Nikolaos.
2. **Kalamata** about 55 min · 36 km
   The old town and castle, the central market for olives, figs and cheese, and a long seafront for an evening walk.
3. **Limeni** about 1 hr 5 min · 40 km
   A tiny harbour below Areopoli with fish tavernas on the water and the tower of Petrobey Mavromichalis.
4. **Areopoli** about 1 hr 10 min · 44 km
   The capital of the Mani: tower houses, cobbled lanes and the square where the 1821 uprising was declared.

About 1¼ to 1¾ hours

5. **Diros Caves** about 1 hr 25 min · 54 km
   A boat ride through flooded caves full of stalactites. Check opening hours before you go.
6. **Ancient Messene** about 1 hr 35 min · 74 km
   One of the best-preserved ancient cities in Greece, with its stadium, theatre and walls, and a site museum.
7. **Gerolimenas** about 1 hr 35 min · 67 km
   A small harbour village in the deep Mani, with a waterfront for a long lunch.
8. **Mystras** about 1 hr 45 min · 86 km
   The Byzantine hill city near Sparta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Wear good shoes: it is steep.
9. **Vathia** about 1 hr 50 min · 76 km
   The most photographed cluster of tower houses in the Mani, on a hill above the sea.

Longer days, over 2 hours

10. **Pylos** about 2 hr 10 min · 92 km
    A harbour town on Navarino Bay, with the castle of Niokastro above it.
11. **Koroni** about 2 hr 15 min · 90 km
    A Venetian castle and a hillside town of pastel houses at the tip of Messinia.
12. **Voidokilia** about 2 hr 20 min · 94 km
    The famous half-moon bay of sand near Pylos, beside the Gialova lagoon.
13. **Methoni** about 2 hr 25 min · 101 km
    A great sea castle ending in the little Bourtzi tower out on the rocks.

Drive times are estimates from Kardamyli, rounded up, and change with traffic and season. Opening hours for sites and caves change through the year: check before you set off. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors.

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