

# Delos *archaeologies of adaptation and reuse*



Delos Island (Aegean Sea, Greece). View of the vernacular farmhouse currently restored by Boulouki. Photo Credit: G. Koutropoulos

**STUDIO BOULOUKI**  
Ionas Sklavounos  
Grigoris Koutropoulos  
Nikiforos Meimaroglou  
Katerina Krupickova

ETH D-ARCH  
Autumn semester 2025

Travel: Departure from Zurich  
October 18, return October 26

Estimated Total Cost: CHF 750  
(Category C)

Participation Fee includes:  
Accommodation on Delos and  
Mykonos (shared rooms)  
Transportation to Delos  
Two dinners  
Workshop materials and tools  
Guidance from Boulouki  
craftspeople and specialists

Participants: 15-24

Contact person:  
krupickova@arch.ethz.ch

## Seminar week HS 25 19–25 October 2025

This integrated Seminar Week takes students to the Aegean islands of Delos and Mykonos (October 19-25), to engage directly with a landscape where ancient urbanity intersects with overlooked vernacular heritage.

While Delos is renowned worldwide as a UNESCO World Heritage Site—home to the sanctuary of Apollo and one of antiquity's most important trading centers—our exploration focuses on a different layer of its history: the rural farmhouses built by Mykonian farmers, particularly from the late 19th century onward.

When French archaeologists began systematic excavations in the 1870s, they employed local peasants, some of whom established small agricultural settlements across the island. These farmers developed an intimate understanding of Delos's terrain, climate, and resources, constructing modest buildings through adaptive reuse of available materials from different eras—ancient marble fragments alongside local stone and byproducts of ongoing archaeological

operations. This created a material vocabulary rooted in resourcefulness and circularity, where building practices continuously evolved to incorporate all the elements that the island's layered landscape provided.

Working alongside the Boulouki collective's restoration of one such vernacular farmhouse, students will engage hands-on with traditional building techniques while exploring how these structures relate to their broader landscape context. Through collaboration with experienced craftspeople, local inhabitants, archaeologists, and specialists in oral history and ethnography, students will investigate how this network of scattered farmhouses might inform contemporary approaches to sustainability and landscape resurgence. This on-site engagement deepens understanding developed in the fall semester design studio, connecting theoretical investigation with direct material encounter.

Participation in the Integrated Seminar Week for the Boulouki studio students is entirely optional.