

# IONIAN & AEGEAN ISLAND HOLIDAYS



EXCLUSIVE HOLIDAYS TO THE GREEK ISLANDS

FURTHER INFORMATION BOOKLET

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We kindly ask that you leave the booklet at the property in a visible location, handy for the arriving guests to read and enjoy. If you have any queries regarding any of the information in the book or if there is anything else you would like to know, please do not hesitate to speak to your Representative.

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# WELCOME TO VILLA SGOURI



Ionian Island Holidays and the property owners would like to welcome you to Villa Sgouri, Vathi, Meganisi. We trust that your journey to Meganisi was a pleasant one and that everything is in order with the villa. By now your Representative will have given to you your welcome letter which will include the place and time of the welcome meeting. We recommend that you take a few moments from your holiday to attend even if you are familiar with the island and your surroundings as at this time you will be given important information regarding your stay.

Please take time out to read this information booklet which has been put together with your holiday in mind and help you get the most from your stay in Meganisi. If you have any queries regarding your holiday or if there is anything else you would like to know, please do not hesitate to speak to your Representative.



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# ABOUT IONIAN ISLAND HOLIDAYS

We are a small independent specialist tour operator offering exclusive holidays to Greece and the islands, our properties range from villas by the sea, villas with pools, waterside apartments, apartments with swimming pools, boutique hotels, deluxe spa hotels and family run pensions. We operate entirely in Greece & more specifically the Ionian Islands of Kefalonia, Ithaka, Lefkada, Meganisi, Paxos, Corfu and to the mainland Epiros

coastline. In the Aegean we feature Skopelos, Alonissos, Skiathos and the mainland Pelion Peninsula.

The quintessential Greek Islands; hot sun, warm sea, shaded olive groves, historic monuments, ancient vine terraces, dramatic cliffs, the hum of cicadas and perhaps, most important of all, that timeless quality, uniquely Greek that is 'Filoxenia' or Friendship to Visitors.

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## OUR PHILOSOPHY

As a specialist and totally independent tour operator, we have a simple philosophy - "To provide quality holidays to the Greek Islands, backed by solid experience and a high level of customer care". Ionian Island Holidays are part of that heritage. We love our islands, and are determined that their beauty, culture and tradition should not be changed irreversibly by inappropriate

development. To this end, we have encouraged the sympathetic restoration of many of the old houses and villas and to fully support all initiatives that maintain this tradition.

It is equally important to us that the company should be very much a part of and contribute to the local economy to the benefit of all the islanders.

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## OUR SERVICE

We believe that people who book with Ionian Island Holidays will benefit from our experience, knowledge and the personal attention that we, as a small independent tour operator, can offer. When you contact our office in London, you will be speaking to an experienced and knowledgeable team who know the islands and the accommodation intimately.



Our home in Kefalonia



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# ABOUT VILLA SGOURI

## HOT WATER

The water is heated with the use of an automatic diesel boiler system. If you experience any issues with the water please contact your Representative.

## ELECTRIC APPLIANCES

The washing machine is located in the upper floor. The dishwasher is located in the kitchen. If you are having trouble with any of the appliances, please contact your Representative.

## AIR CONDITIONING

The air conditioning is operated by a remote control. The usual temperature is around 22°C.

## KEYS

The keys to your property can be found in the front door and instructions on where to leave them will be given in your departure letter. We would ask that you take good care of the keys to the property as if they are your own. In the unlikely event you were to lose the keys, please contact your Representative and you will be provided with a spare set.

However, should it be necessary to change the locks for security reasons as a result of lost keys, we reserve the right to make a charge for which you may be liable for. We would ask that you also be mindful when you are outside the villa and around the pool area not to lock yourselves out. This can happen easily as the wind can slam doors very quickly. Should you get locked out contact your Representative.



Please note that these extra keys are for use only in emergency - we cannot provide spare keys as a matter of course.

## WATER

The property's tap water is drinkable but we would still advise you to consume bottled water.

## FIRE NOTICE

Fire drill instructions can be found in the property.

## SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX

The safe is located in the upper floor and is operated with a key.



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## SWIMMING POOL

The pool is cleaned every other day.

## INTERNET

Wifi connection is free of charge. Details of passwords are given in your welcome letter.

## LOST PROPERTY

Please ensure all personal possessions are packed when leaving your accommodation. Whilst we will endeavour to assist when items are left, unfortunately we are unable to guarantee the return of any items which have been left unattended and will not be liable for any items lost or damaged. If we are able to locate your lost item, postage, packaging and handling fees may apply for the return of the lost items.

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# HEALTH & SAFETY

To help ensure that your holiday will be both happy and safe, we would kindly ask that you take the time to read the following information.

Part of the enjoyment of traveling abroad is experiencing a different way of life. Please remember though, that it may also mean experiencing different standards from those we are used to at home. We are continually working to raise safety standards in all of our properties and will of course do our best to ensure that your holiday is safe and trouble-free, but we do ask that you take extra care while you are away. With this in mind, we would like to highlight the following important points.

## FIRE SAFETY

Other countries have different fire safety regulations and procedures. Please read carefully all safety information available in your property and in this information book. When you first arrive, please make sure you familiarise yourself with the location of the fire exits and the location of all fire extinguishers.

To help avoid the risk of fire, please take particular care when cooking and using the barbecue.

### IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT OF A FIRE:

- RAISE THE ALARM
- CALL THE FIRE BRIGADE - 199
- DO NOT PANIC

Leave the building. Do not stop to take personal belongings with you

- IF THE EXITS/STAIRS ARE BLOCKED keep the doors shut and try to get out onto a balcony for fresh air and to attract attention
- DO NOT RE-ENTER THE BUILDING - AWAIT FOR CLEARANCE FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE

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## BATHROOMS

In common with many Mediterranean countries, your bathroom will probably have a marble or tiled floor. Shower curtains are not always provided and most bathrooms do not have non-slip mats in either the bath or shower, so extra care must be taken when the floor is wet, particularly with children.

Due to the size of the standard bore sewerage pipe used, Greek toilets cannot properly dispose of any paper or other waste material. To avoid blockages, please ensure that all paper, nappies and sanitary items are placed in the bin provided, which will be emptied regularly.

## GLASS PANELS/DOORS

Although most properties have safety stickers on glass doors this may not always be the case, so particular care should be taken when walking through glass patio doors, as it can be difficult to tell if they are open or closed.

## SECURITY AND VALUABLES

Where available, it is generally advisable to use the safety deposit facilities, or hotel safe, at your property, particularly for valuables.

## WATER

Although tap water is purified it can cause upset stomachs and so it is best to drink bottled water, which may be purchased in local shops. To avoid dehydration and the effects of the sun it is advisable to drink water, in addition to other drinks you may consume.

## PLUMBING

Drainage systems in Greece are not always efficient as small bore pipes are often used. A blockage will cause considerable inconvenience and during the summer season plumbers can be hard to find. To avoid problems of this nature, please do not put any products other than a small amount of toilet paper into the toilet. A bin is provided in the bathroom for disposable nappies and other sanitary products.

## RUBBISH DISPOSAL

The maid will dispose of your rubbish on visits to the property. If you wish to dispose of rubbish in between visits, your Representative will advise you of the nearest disposal bin. Please keep the lid on the bin and tie any rubbish sacks up securely to stop any rodent/insect infestation.



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## GAS SAFETY

If your accommodation has a gas cooker, always double check that it has been turned off properly just as you would at home. Please follow any Gas Safety instructions provided. In many cases you will find that the gas is supplied direct from a bottle - as an extra precaution, turn the supply off at the bottleneck when it is not in use.

Never attempt to locate a gas leak yourself or tamper with the gas supply. If you are unsure about how any of the gas appliances operate or have any queries or concerns please ask your Representative for assistance and advice.

## SMOKING MATERIALS

Please take care when discarding matches, cigarettes etc. Always use the ashtrays provided. Never throw a cigarette end carelessly within the grounds or outside, especially near trees and plants. In summer the vegetation can be tinder-dry and fires can start all too easily. Please note that it is absolutely prohibited to use any type of flammable materials inside the villa.

## KEYS

Please be careful when you are outside the villa not to lock yourselves out. This can happen easily as the wind can slam doors very quickly! Should you get locked out keys are held by the maids and your Representative. Please note that these extra keys are for use only in emergency - we cannot provide spare keys as a matter of course.

## SUNBATHING

A healthier colour makes us all feel better, but taking too much sun can be both painful and dangerous. Build up your tan gradually by minimising your exposure during the first few days of your holiday. Remember the sun's rays are at their strongest between the hours of 11.00 to 15.00.

- Always use a sunscreen that protects against UVA and UVB (ultra violet) and has a high SPF (sun protection factor)
- Avoid midday sun, but if you have to go out, cover up with loose clothing and wear a wide brimmed hat
- Never expose babies under six months to direct sunlight
- Remember you can still burn in the shade, when it's cloudy or when you're swimming.

Wind and water intensify the sun's effect, so while you may feel cool, you could be burning. Always re-apply sunscreen after swimming

- Where possible, seek natural shade

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## SWIMMING POOL SAFETY

You will find that many swimming pools are not designed in the same way as the UK and may have unusual features. Take care when walking around the pool, as pool surrounds are often slippery when wet. Do not use the pool if you cannot see the bottom and do not tamper with the pool filter covers, report any defects to your Representative immediately. In general, pools do not have a lifeguard so we strongly recommend that you read through this Swimming Pool Safety section.

**NEVER** put any liquids or chemicals into the pool yourself. The pool pump house housing the pump and filtration equipment should normally be locked and not accessible. However, if for some reason the pump house is open, perhaps for access to the “Pool Lights” switch, **NEVER** touch any of the equipment. Keep children out of the pump house at all times. If pool chemicals such as chlorine and acid are in the pump house, under no circumstances touch them and ask your Representative to have them removed to a safe place. Concentrated chlorine and acid will cause severe burns on contact with skin.

Please take a few minutes to read this information and familiarise yourself with the points mentioned below.

- Please note that the pool is unattended and therefore you are responsible for the safety of any children and non-swimmers in your party to act responsibly around the pool area.
- Diving is NOT permitted.
- If you are at a shared pool please consider others and be respectful of other swimmers.
- Please familiarise yourself on arrival with the depth of the pool. In particular the deep and shallow ends as well as the steepness of the slopes. Pay close attention to the depth markings.
- Shower before and after using the pool - this will help maintain good hygiene standards, keep the pool clean and functioning properly.
- Please do not swim in the pool after using suntan lotions or oils as this can damage the filter systems.
- It is your responsibility to ensure children in your party are supervised at all times when using the pool and the surrounding areas.
- Please do not run or allow children to run around the pool areas.
- Please remove all toys and swimming aids from the pool and the pool area when the pool is no longer in use and when an adult is not supervising the area.
- Please avoid using drinking glasses, bottles and anything breakable around the pool area.
- No alcohol should be consumed before or during the use of the swimming pool.
- Should the weather turn windy, please ensure any parasols are closed or where possible removed from the pool area. Please ensure they are also closed when not in use.
- Beware of slippery surfaces and raised edges in and around the pool.
- Do not tamper with the pool filter covers, pool lights or any pool equipment.



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## DRIVING

Driving overseas can be great fun and a good way to explore. However, conditions and procedures can differ to those we are familiar with in the UK. The rules of the road can be very different, drivers are not always obliged to stop at pedestrian crossings and you may need to look the other way when crossing the road! Please be fully aware of the local regulations regarding the "Highway Code". Information on speed limits can be obtained from the car hire company.

Never drink and drive, as it is an offence



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# GREEN LIVING

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We at Ionian Island Holidays take an active role in assuring that we do our utmost to be energy aware and we do all we can to aid conservation to help the environment. We know many of our guests want to conserve energy and water, so here are a few tips to help you during your stay

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## WATER CONSERVATION

- 🌿 Turn taps off when brushing your teeth or shaving
- 🌿 Take shorter showers: recommended time 4 mins
- 🌿 Fully load the washing machine/ dishwasher OR, if not full, use the half load button if available
- 🌿 Use lower economy settings on washing machines and dishwashers
- 🌿 Do not leave taps running unnecessarily



## ENERGY CONSERVATION

- 🌿 Switch off lights when not in use
- 🌿 Kettles use lots of electricity - so only boil what you need and don't overfill
- 🌿 Don't leave TVs/DVD-players/Radios on standby - this still uses a lot of electricity
- 🌿 Don't leave your mobile phone or other device charger plugged into the socket when not charging, as this still draws on electricity
- 🌿 If it's not too hot, instead of using the air-conditioning, open doors and windows and let the cool summer breezes in
- 🌿 To maximise air-conditioning, ensure external doors and windows are shut (air-conditioning in some properties will not work otherwise)
- 🌿 Optimum air-conditioning temperature is 22-24°, helping conserve energy and preventing units from potentially freezing up and causing water leakage (Remember, it's not recommended to sleep with air-conditioning as you may catch a chill)
- 🌿 If the hot water switch is on, make sure it is turned off when not needed



# EXPLORING VATHI

The largest of Meganisi's two ports, Vathi is a charming and traditional fishing village, flanked with churches originally erected to bless all boats with safe passage to and from the island. Not much has changed here for hundreds of years and the main action still revolves around the arrival and departure of the daily ferry from Nidri to Lefkada.



View from the harbour of Vathi

Vathi has a selection of waterfront tavernas and cafes from which to watch the action in the harbour, and one or two have an excellent choice of freshly caught seafood dishes. Vathi is a good choice for an evening out, being easily accessible from the hotel in around 10 minutes stroll downhill - although don't forget that you will need to walk back up again to get home!



Many fishing boats moor in Vathi

The nearest beach to Vathi is Ambelakia, on the northern coast, located 15 minutes walk east of the harbour. Ambelakia is the largest beach of the island and boasts a good stretch of golden sand.



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## LOCAL AMENITIES

### SHOPS

You will find two souvenir shops down in Vathi.

### BANK

There are no banks or ATMs on the island of Meganisi. Your nearest such facilities can be found in Nidri, Lefkada, at 30 minutes with the ferry, leaving from Spartochoiri.

### MINI MARKET

Your two nearest mini markets are located in Vathi. You will find them open from early in the morning until around 8.00pm.

### PHARMACY

The island's pharmacy is situated in the capital, Katomeri, next to a drinks shop. Generally, the pharmacy will remain closed, as part of its 'siesta' break, between 2.00pm and 6.00pm daily. For more information please contact your Representative.

### MEDICAL CENTRE

The medical centre in Meganisi is located in Katomeri, with two doctors on duty during the day. Should you require more information please contact your Representative.

### DENTIST

There is no dentist on the island of Meganisi. Your nearest dentist is located in Nidri High Street, on the island of Lefkada. However, we advise you to contact your representative should you require more information or want to book an appointment.

### BAKERY

Your nearest bakery is located in the centre of Vathi, a minute away from the mini markets.

### RESTAURANTS

Your nearest restaurants are situated in Vathi, by the bay. You will find a plethora of restaurants ranging from traditional Greek tavernas to Italian cuisine to wine bars.

### BEACHES

One of your nearest beaches is the beautiful and serene beach of Pasoumaki.

### POST OFFICE

The post office in Meganisi is located off Vathi square. The opening hours are 9.00am to 2.00pm, Monday to Friday.

### PETROL STATION

The island of Meganisi only has one petrol station, located right outside the village of Spartochoiri.



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# EXPLORING MEGANISI

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Located along the Western side of the Greek mainland, the Ionian is made up of seven unique islands dotted along the beautiful coastline. From norther-most Corfu, just off the tip of Albania, down to Zakynthos which reaches as far as the Peloponnese near the Greek mainland, each island has a wealth of history, culture and tradition, which, coupled with stretches of some of the best beaches in Europe makes for a perfect holiday destination.

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Meganisi is simply another world, tranquil, almost sleepy and very relaxing. Only twenty square kilometres in area, yet somewhat paradoxically named 'large island', Meganisi is an island which is often rejected in favour of its larger neighbour Lefkada, making it, still blissfully unspoilt.

Reached by boat from Nidri, passing Skorpios, the contrast between the bustle of that busy resort and the quiet solitude of Meganisi's lonely bays and traffic free lanes couldn't be more marked. With just three or four villages, hardly more than hamlets in reality and almost no tourist development, this is the perfect island to escape from the stresses and

strains of a busy life. Even the entrance to Vathi, the island's main harbour is watched over by twin churches to bless those arriving and leaving.

Mythology tells us that King Tafios, a son of Poseidon, was the founder of the town of Tafion. Later, according to Homer's Odyssey, Ulysses gave his fleet to Mentor, the Tafion king at the time, when he left for Troy. Tafion is the island we now know as Meganisi. He would no doubt be comforted to see that there have not been a lot of changes to his beloved island since he was last there!

There are a number of beaches within walking distance of our accommodation. Spilia, close to the little port of Spartochori has a pebble strand, Ambelakia on the north coast is one of a string of beaches that can be reached by walking. Alternatively, caiques from Vathi can be taken there.

Another way to enjoy this remarkable island is to join one of the regular round island boat trips from Nidri which have the added attraction of visiting the famous shipping magnate, Aristotle Onassis' island of Skorpios and the other smaller islands. Other boats visit Ithaka, Kefalonia and the inner islands on a regular basis.

Walking is excellent on the island and the only real method of travel to truly reveal



View of Spilia bay from Spartochori

the wonderful views and perspectives of the island and to visit the tranquil and uncrowded beaches that are dotted around the island. Below some of the pathways or monopaths, steep cliffs are honey-combed with caves, only accessible by boat, some even large enough, so the story goes, to hide submarines during World War Two.

Meganisi is one of the most picturesque and peaceful in the Ionian. Having a population of less than 2,000 it is also one of the smallest.

This is real Greece!



## SPILIA

The smaller of Meganisi's two ports, reached first when traveling by ferry from Nidri, Spilia is situated just in front of the charming village of Spartochori. Unlike the larger settlement of Vathi, Spilia is more of a landing stage than a port, situated on a pebble beach in the north

of the island, but it is still an important part of the island nevertheless, functioning as a gateway between Meganisi and Lefkada. It has a choice of three waterfront tavernas, and a short walk around the bay leads to a longer sandy beach with a further selection of snack bars. There is also an unofficial campsite by the bay, where shop and shower facilities can be found.

## KATOMERI

Home to the island's only hotel, our own Hotel Meganisi, the charming settlement of Katomeri is situated around an hour's walk from Spartochori with magnificent views of the island from its elevated position on the hillside. The road from the port to Katomeri is a lovely walk, and not only boasts some of the best views of the island, but also is very rarely disturbed by passing traffic, as once again, cars and mopeds are very rare along this route!

Katomeri has a small selection of tavernas, a couple of bars, and a traditional caffeine within its pretty narrow alleyways, and is also home to the island's only petrol station.

## PAPANICOLIS CAVE

Like the fantastic landscape of the southern coast of her larger neighbour, Lefkada, Meganisi also boasts a rugged coastline of white rocks that give way to the fascinating Papanikolis Cave. This stunning cave is situated on the south west coast of the island and accessible only by winding footpath or by boat, but is well worth a visit - particularly enjoyable for those of you that have opted for motorboat hire, who will be able to enjoy the views from within the cave, where crystal waters allow the white rocks below to be viewed as deep as 20 feet down.



The cave is said to have been used as a safe haven for many sailors over the years, most notably during the World War II when a submarine was hidden here from the Germans and used as a base for carrying on operations against the occupying forces in 1941.

## SPARTOCHORI

Tucked away behind the port of Spilia and high up on the cliff overlooking the bay on the north of the island, is the pretty village of Spartochori. Ten minutes' walk from the port, this village although small, is full of traditional Greek charm and character, with excellent views over the water and out to the islands of Lefkada, Skorpios and Madouri. The village has remained unchanged for many years, having only gained electricity in 1973, and until recent years the village had just two cars which served all of the inhabitants! Certainly not much has changed since then, as the roads are extremely narrow and much skill is required to maneuver anything more than a moped around the twisting roads and alleyways of the

village. It is much easier and probably more enjoyable to explore on foot, as tourism has done little to alter the character of this sleepy town - although in addition to the small selection of traditional tavernas and shops there is now one souvenir shop and a pizzeria!

An easy twenty minute walk west along the new road from Spartochori will bring you to the excellent beach of Agios Ioannis. This is the best beach of the island and is the one place that you may be likely to find anything resembling crowds - although even here this is pretty unlikely! There is one taverna on the beach.





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# TOP BEACHES

## AGIOS IOANNIS

An easy twenty minute walk west along the new road from Spartochori, will bring you to the excellent beach of Agios Ioannis. This is the best beach on the island, and with it's taverna, is the one place that you may find something resembling a crowd - although even here this is pretty unlikely!



Limnonari beach

## FANARI

This picturesque pebbly beach with its crystal clear waters, surrounded by lush vegetation, is located 3 km north of Katomeri. Fanari beach should be your first choice if you are looking for an isolated beach where you can swim and sunbathe in peace.

## AMBELAKIA

This is the nearest beach to Vathi, situated on the north coast and only a 15 minute walk east of Vathi harbour. It is the largest beach of the island and boasts a good stretch of golden sand.



Ambelakia bay

## BARBAREZOU

The beautiful and quiet beach of Barbarezou is situated 5 km east of Katomeri. Many people visit the beach by boat, although there is a road taking you to this pebbly cove.





## PASOUMAKI

3 km northwest of Katomeri you will find the beach of Pasoumaki. This small cove, only a few minutes away from Vathi, is frequented because of its clear waters, natural shade and relaxing atmosphere.



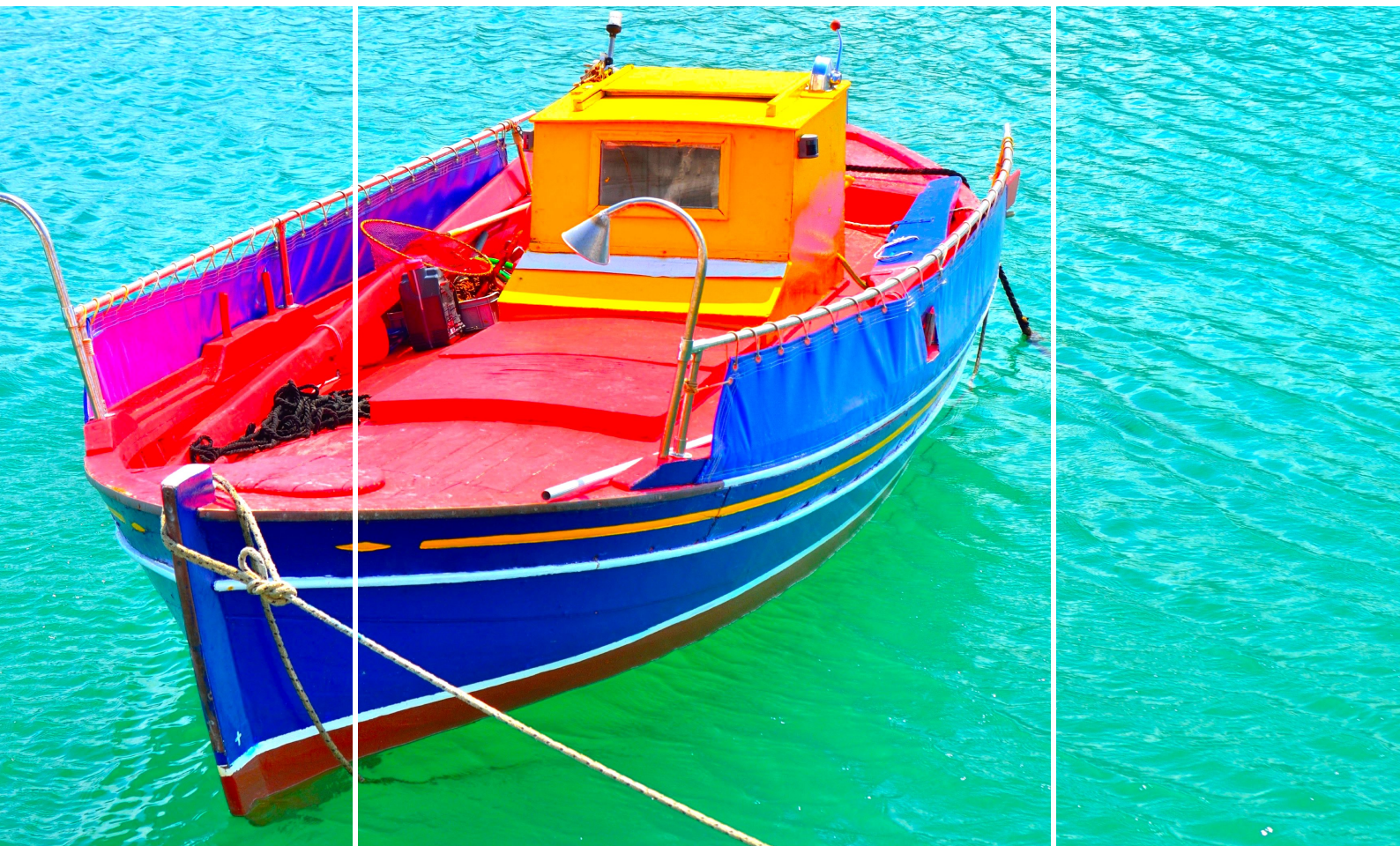
Vathi



Spilia bay

## SPILIA

This clean, pebbly beach is surrounded by greenery offering natural shade. It's located at the far end of Spartochori bay and there you will find a few Greek tavernas to enjoy traditional dishes. From the village of Spartochori you can enjoy a beautiful view of the entire bay.





## LOCAL FOOD

The island of Meganisi promises to offer a rich gastronomic experience with dishes made of fresh ingredients and home made pastries. Throughout the island you will find a plethora of luxurious Greek restaurants, traditional tavernas and plenty of diverse eateries offering quality international cuisine.

### FETA CHEESE

Made of sheep's and goat's milk and produced in blocks, feta is the most popular Greek cheese used in lots of Greek dishes, salads and even pastries. High quality feta should have the aroma of ewe's milk, yoghurt and butter, together with a smooth and thick texture.



A refreshing block of Feta

### COURGETTE BALLS

These lightly fried balls are certainly among the most popular starters on the Greek table - usually paired with some freshly made tzatziki.



Known as 'kolokythokeftedes'

### GREEK COFFEE

There is lovers and there is haters. People who have tried the Greek coffee, also known as Turkish - although you are better off ordering it as 'Greek' - have either fallen in love with its strong coffee smell and thick texture or have found it hard to even get a sip off the cup. Order this unfiltered coffee with a spoon of sugar, otherwise you will be joining the haters in no time.



Greek coffee in a pot

### GALAKTOBOUREKO

For the majority of Greeks, Galaktoboureko is the tastiest sweet in the country. Made of home made pastry and custard filling with eggs, milk and sugar, Galaktoboureko resembles the French mille-feuille. Unlike the French delicacy though, in this instance, the custard is baked with the pastry.



A delicious Greek version of the French mille-feuille



## GREEK SALAD

During the hot summer days, you can't go wrong with a refreshing Greek salad. You can even have it as your main course. Why not throw some grilled meat on the side?



A healthy choice

warm Bougatsa. In most bakeries you will be offered the savoury version of the pastry as well. You can find the Bougatsa where in place of custard, the pie will be filled with cheese or minced meat.



The sweet and creamy Bougatsa

## PASTELI

Pasteli is a sesame seed candy, made of local honey. You will find Pasteli in a flat bar, just like a chocolate bar. Pasteli is another perfect, sweet snack.



Fresh Pasteli

## HONEY

The country produces its own high quality - and of exceptional taste - honey. The geography's biodiversity and environmental state promote the yield of such unique produce.



Skopelos-produced honey

## BOUGATSA

Bougatsa is the country's most popular breakfast pastry, made of homemade custard between layers of filo pastry. In every bakery on the island you will find a



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# GREEK ANIMAL WELFARE

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We at Ionian Island Holidays are passionate about Greece and its inhabitants, which includes all the local animals as well as the indigenous wildlife. Since Greece are not as fortunate as we are in the UK to have such fantastic charitable organisations and infrastructure such as the RSPCA, The Dogs Trust, Battersea Dogs Home and all the other wonderful animal charities that prevent us from seeing strays on our streets.

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## HOW IT WORKS

Your local Representative will place an animal welfare charity envelope inside your welcome letters and we kindly ask if you would kindly like to donate any of your left over change before you depart on your journey home in order to help the animals on the island or in the area where you have stayed.



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For more information visit <http://www.kefalonias-animal-trust.org> or email [mail@ionianislandholidays.com](mailto:mail@ionianislandholidays.com)

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The money raised will help local animal charities to purchase vaccinations, microchipping neutering and paying vets bills, feeding, fostering and rehoming.

Your donations will save the many lives of dogs, cats even donkeys, mules and horses and as all our chosen charities are run by volunteers all the donations go directly to helping the animals.

We thought you might like to read a story about how your donations helped Sasha a pure bred German Shepherd who was found wandering the streets of Corfu. She was in very poor condition, extremely weak from hunger in fact so weak she could barely walk. Sasha was ridden with fleas, ticks and suffering from a severe case of Mange.

CARE (Corfu Animal Rescue Establishment) were alerted and they immediately took Sasha to the local vets where she was placed on medication for all the ailments she was suffering from.

Sasha was in such poor condition that it was felt she would be best looked after by one of the volunteers from CARE who took her in and fostered her. Sasha was very well looked after and received the specialist attention and care she needed to recover.

Now some months later, Sasha has made a remarkable recovery. A bounding lively girl, Sasha is 10kgs heavier and full of energy, exhibiting all the characteristics one would expect to see from this fascinating breed. The kind volunteers from CARE have found Sasha a loving permanent home in Corfu.

Your donation has had a direct impact on this dog's life - in fact the money donated actually saved her life.

This is just one story how your donation will help make happy endings!

From all of us at Ionian Island Holidays and on behalf of the many volunteers of the charities we would like to say Thank You!

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# RESPONSIBLE & SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Ionian Island Holidays is committed to high standards of service and believes in regular and thorough training of employees. We continually seek to review and improve our holidays. We listen to our customers and always welcome suggestions for improving standards.

## OUR INVOLVEMENT IN SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

We are committed to the conservation and preservation of the natural environment. With strong local connections, we feel we have a moral responsibility towards the environment and the local community.

## SUPPORT FOR THE ECONOMY OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

We support small scale agriculture and local crafts of the local community, introducing you to the products and services available locally, from traditional wine and olive oil procedures to honey farmers.

## PROVIDING PRACTICAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL INITIATIVES

We support and sponsor initiatives that seek to maintain the natural beauty of our region, including regular beach cleaning, footpath clearance and management of the wildlife.

## INCREASING CLIENT AWARENESS AND INVOLVEMENT IN LOCAL ISSUES

You may only have a short time to spend in this region, but we realise that this has an important part to play in ensuring that the qualities that attracted you to the area in the first place are preserved.

## WORKING CLOSELY WITH OWNERS AND LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITIES

We encourage appropriate future development and share a mutual responsibility towards maintaining the natural beauty of our surroundings and to ensure appropriate future development.





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## YOUR NEXT TRIP WITH US...

When the Gods chose Greece for their home they knew what they were looking for...

- A land so beautiful time has almost stood still
- A sea so blue it shimmers against cloudless skies
- Endless hot summer days drifting into starlit nights
- Hundreds of tiny islands each unique with its own proud history and culture
- Spectacular secluded beaches stretching as far as the eye can see
- Never ending olive groves whistling in the wind
- A land with endless possibilities and choices

Ionian Island Holidays feature some of the most beautiful areas this glorious country has to offer and we are certain that you will become as captivated and passionate about Greece as we are!

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## LOYALTY DISCOUNT

### EXCEPTIONAL SAVING WITHOUT COMPROMISING ON QUALITY

Ionian Island Holidays love to reward our loyal clients. To show our appreciation to returning guests, we offer an additional **5% loyalty discount** off any holiday with Ionian Island Holidays.

Should you book two holidays with us in the same season at full brochure price, we will reduce the cost of your second holiday by **15%**.

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# YOUR NEXT DESTINATION



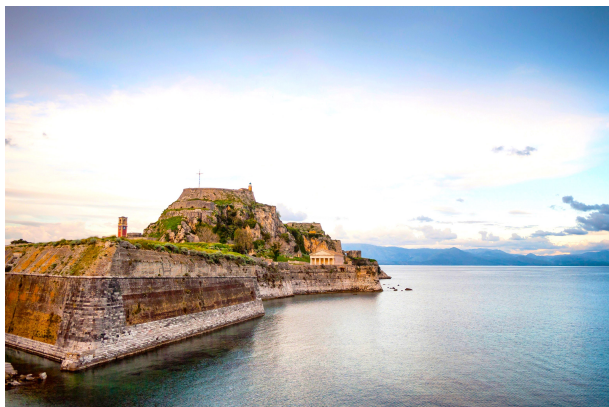
## KEFALONIA

Home of Ionian Island Holidays and the largest, most varied of the seven islands. Dramatic mountains and a coastline made for exploration, green valleys, secluded bays, havens of peace and solitude. The island has some of the most beautiful beaches in Greece.



## LEFKADA

Known as the White Island, Lefkada is wild in the west, with perfect beaches, a turquoise sea and rugged mountains above fertile eastern valleys. The rural tradition of centuries lives on in unspoilt villages amongst vineyards and olive groves.



## CORFU

The most romantic and verdant island of the Ionian. Corfu has inspired writers and poets for over a thousand years. Despite its popularity, the magic remains through its remote, traditional mountain villages, glorious bays and beaches, as well as its rich architectural and archeological heritage. We operate solely to the beautiful bays and harbours of Corfu's idyllic north eastern coastline.



## PARGA

Parga is justifiably referred to as the jewel of mainland Greece. It is an incredibly beautiful town and the most perfect place by the sea. Picturesque and dramatic scenery enriched by a long and interesting history provide compelling reasons to explore the area.





## PAXOS

The island of olives is a holiday paradise welcoming visitors returning year after year. Apart from Gaios, the bustling island port and capital, the rest of Paxos is comprised of small hamlets and isolated houses with no large holiday complexes. Even at the height of the season, this remains a peaceful island where it is possible to wander along old mule tracks and discover shaded paths down to hidden coves.



## ITHAKA

An island of hidden coves, green mountains and secret valleys where reality is as inspiring as the legend. Our properties are located in the south around the bustling main harbour Vathy and in the timeless small fishing harbour, Kioni in the north.



## MEGANISI

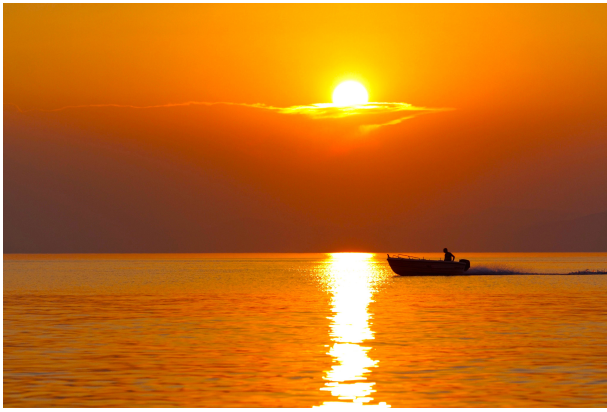
A unique island of where tradition and relaxation are combined to create a small, peaceful island where time really does stand still.



## PELION

The Pelion Peninsula is truly unique. The Aegean on the one side, the sheltered inland sea of the Pagasitic Gulf on the other and the mountains of the Pelion in the north. The protected forests of oak, chestnut and beech are the crowning glory of the Pelion. Unaltered over the centuries, they cover every hillside, valley and ravine. The Pelion is unsurpassed for exploration on foot.





### ALONISSOS

The remotest of the three inhabited islands, this is the haven we all dream about when life becomes too stressful. This narrow wooded island, once called Ikos is about relaxation and tranquility. There are many old trails, criss-crossing the island leading down to the uncrowded beaches.



### SKIATHOS

The smallest of the three inhabited islands and the most popular, due in part to its airport, but mainly because of its string of golden sandy beaches, bustling Skiathos Town and its clear waters. The west coast is spectacular and largely undeveloped, whilst the interior is still rural with olive groves, pine woods and aromatic hillsides that few explore.

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If you should have any questions that remain unanswered, please do not hesitate to contact your Representative.

On behalf of all the Ionian Island Holidays Team, we wish you a very enjoyable holiday!







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