

# 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 AGAPITOS GUESTHOUSE



Ionian Island Holidays and the property owners would like to welcome you to Agapitos Guesthouse, Mouresi, Pelion. We trust that your journey to Pelion 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 Pelion. 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, Ithaca, 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 AGAPITOS GUESTHOUSE

## CLEANING

The property is cleaned on Tuesday and Friday. The cleaner will dispose of your rubbish.

## HOT WATER

The water is heated by the use of a boiler system. Hot water should be available at all times. If otherwise, please contact your Representative.

## AIR CONDITIONING

The air conditioning is operated by a remote control. The usual temperature is around 22°C. All doors and windows should be closed for air conditioning to function properly.

## 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 not drinkable. We advise you to consume bottled water.

## INTERNET

Wifi connection is free of charge by the bar and pool area. Details of passwords are given in your welcome letter.

## SWIMMING POOL

The pool is cleaned twice a week.

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## 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 MOURESI

Set in a perfect commanding position just above Damouchari and Papa Nero Agapitos Guesthouse epitomizes the timeless quality of this incredibly beautiful corner of Greece. The breath-taking panorama extends around this area of dramatic natural beauty, the turquoise azure coastline contrasts with verdant hillsides and dark mysterious mountains creating a perfect backdrop to this exquisite and unique boutique hotel. Picturesque Agios Ioannis, just a few



One of the many beautiful sandy beaches in Pelion



View from a traditional Greek village in Pelion

minutes' drive has a wide selection of beach tavernas and bars as well as the ubiquitous well stocked mini markets. Within easy reach are the famous 'kalderimia' or mule trails, many now restored. Adventurous walks up dramatic gorges where the trees and limestone crags fight for supremacy, or gentle strolls across the shaded hillsides, the choice is yours. Greece is a world to itself and the Pelion is a world within a world.





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## LOCAL AMENITIES

### BANK

Your nearest bank is located in Zagora village, at a 30 minute drive from Mouresi. The branch is open Monday to Friday, 8.00am to 2.00pm.

### MINI MARKET

Your nearest mini market is located in Mouresi, at a 5 minute drive from your accommodation. You will find it open throughout the day, all week long.

### PHARMACY

Your nearest pharmacy is located in Tsangarada village, at a 10 minute drive from Mouresi. It remains closed from 2.00pm to 5.30pm daily. Should you require more information please contact your Representative.

### DOCTOR

Your nearest doctor, a GP, is located in Kala Nera village, at a 50 minute drive from Mouresi. In the villages of Argalasti and Zagora you will also find a Medical Centre. Should you require more information please contact your Representative.

### DENTIST

The only dentist around Pelion can be found in Volos, 40km from Mouresi. Should you require more information please contact your Representative.

### BAKERY

Similar to your local mini market, the bakery is located in Mouresi, at a 5 minute drive from your accommodation. You will find it open throughout the day, all week long.

### RESTAURANTS

Apart from the Agapitos restaurant, you will find plenty of Greek tavernas in Agios Ioannis village, at a 5 minute drive from your accommodation.

### BEACHES

Your nearest beaches are Papa Nero and Agios Ioannis at a 5 minute drive. Damouchari and Mylopotamos are also near at 10 and 20 minutes respectively.

### POST OFFICE

The post office is located in the village of Zagora, at a 30 minute drive from Mouresi. The opening hours are Monday to Friday, 8.00am to 2.00pm.

### PETROL STATION

Your nearest petrol station can be found in Mouresi. Another two stations you will find in the village of Zagori. Usually petrol stations will stay open until 10.00pm.



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# EXPLORING PELION

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The Greek Gods knew that the Pelion was special home and birthplace of the half man half horse centaurs, though of fearsome reputation they had a deep knowledge of plants and herbal healing it was a centaur, Cherion, who was entrusted with educating heroes and demigods, almighty warriors such as Hercules, Achilles and Jason.

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Legendary home of the centaurs, the mountains of the Pelion Peninsula are quite simply unique. Covered in forests of chestnut and beech, riven by deep gorges, and with very few settlements they might seem accessible only to intrepid explorers.

Appearances can be deceptive. Although few roads cross the central mountains, the high villages with their distinctive tall stone merchants' houses are all connected to each other and down to the coast by a network of ancient trails known as 'kalderimia'. One such village, Milies, is still connected to the coast by a narrow gauge railway designed by an Italian civil engineer, Evaristo de Chirico. The line crosses the

many gorges via a series of graceful viaducts that formed a central feature of his son, Georgio's, famous dream-like paintings. But there is far more to this fascinating area than wild forest and mountain.

The claw-like Pelion Peninsula forms one arm of the almost landlocked Pagasitic Gulf. This gentler landscape with its scattered fishing villages, olive groves, vineyards and excellent beaches is more typically Greek than the mountains behind.

The Aegean coast of the peninsula is more spectacular. Here, steep stream-filled valleys and ravines end in tree-lined coves and rocky headlands, often with small villages such as Mylopotamos, perched on the steep hillsides. Every cove, inhabited or not, has its stretch of sand or shingle and most are connected by kalderimia that follow the coast.

Volos, one of the major cities and ferry ports of Greece, is the gateway into The Pelion from the vast plains of Thessaly. In recent years the city has been transformed, with new shopping precincts, an excellent museum and one of the largest open air markets in the region.

These days the chances of meeting a centaur on a mountain path might be somewhat remote, more likely a donkey, but the Pelion with its varied landscapes, fascinating history, unique architecture



and beautiful coastline, is a wonderful and unspoilt holiday destination. Here it is easy to see the connection between myth and historical fact. It only takes five minutes on one of the many ancient paths that still link the isolated communities of these majestic mountain forests, to recognise many of the herbs and plants, used medicinally by the ancients, as well as the centaurs, growing in profusion amongst the trees.

The Pelion Peninsula is unique, still largely unknown to foreign visitors, but long recognised by the Greeks as a national treasure to be appreciated and preserved. One can recognise the Pelion on the map as the long peninsula with a claw like promontory at its southern end that divides the Aegean Sea from the Pagasitic Gulf. Cut off in the north by the Pelion Massif, the only easy access by land is a narrow corridor from the great plain of Thessaly to the west at the head of the gulf through the city of Volos. The mountains, snow covered in winter (there

streams. The region is one of the most fertile and verdant in the eastern Mediterranean.

The Pelion is famous for its fruit, particularly apples. In the springtime when the blossom appears and the native chestnut, oak and beech trees are bursting into leaf, the colours and textures are simply breathtaking. In the full heat of summer the tree cover means that the temperature is at least five degrees less than out in the open. One of the great pleasures of a holiday here is to be able to enjoy lying in the sun on a beach with the clear Aegean waters lapping at your feet, before moving to relax in the cool shade of an ancient chestnut tree. September is apple picking time, the orchards are laden with fruit of every colour, whilst the cooler nights turn the forests above into a sea of russet and gold.

The inhabitants of the Pelion, despite a long tradition of independence from the 'mainland', are extremely hospitable and friendly. It is the only region in Greece that remained autonomous throughout the centuries of foreign intervention. Even the usually fearless Ottomans left these mountain villages well alone. Standing on the beach at Mylopotamos, the mouth of a narrow and precipitous ravine, one can easily understand how even the fiercest Turkish general would think twice about committing his warriors to an assault up the twisting steep and narrow trails!

By the 19th century, they had not only survived but many had become prosperous through selling their produce to the increasing population of Volos, a fast-growing port and industrial centre at the head of the Pagasitic Gulf. Wealthy merchants built distinctive large mansions in villages such as Vizitsa and Makrinitza, each trying to out-do their neighbour with colourful embellishments on the upper walls and ornate stained



is even a ski resort on the flanks of Mount Pelion), feed the many rivers and



glass windows, enjoying an exclusive eagle's eye view over the Gulf and the Thessaly Plain.

By the early years of the 20th century, roads were built up into the hills and a railway line was constructed linking Volos with the important village of Milies. Designed by an Italian engineer, Evaristo de Chirico, the narrow gauge line with its graceful viaducts and arches later figured in the work of his son, Giorgio de Chirico, the famous surrealist painter who was born in Volos. The line remains in use to this day as far as Ano Lehonia on the coast and is a deservedly popular tourist attraction.

Small family-run hotels can be found along both coastlines, taking advantage of the many coves and quiet bays, each with beaches of white pebbles or sand. There are a wide variety of tavernas and restaurants which have opened, many offering such delicacies as wild boar and desserts based on the local fruit.

Perhaps the best way to explore this fascinating region is on foot, using the 'kalderimia' mule track network. Although by car the recently improved roads leading into the mountains are no longer a driver's challenge. As one local put it, when asked about the road up to the apple centre of Zagora, "Ah, it's ok,

but it's like a politician, many twists and turns!".

The Aegean coast though rugged, has a number of delightful small villages. Some are no more than a cluster of silver roofed stone cottages above a small cove which make a perfect base for exploring gentler paths that often follow the shoreline past pristine beaches.

The Pagasitic Gulf coast is more sheltered and typically Mediterranean, with olive groves and pine trees overlooking the sand and pebble beaches. Exploring this coast by small boat is a delight or one can take a caique cruise down to the 'claw' of Pelion at Trikeri, with its small island and monastery.





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# TOP BEACHES

## POTISTIKA BEACH

Surrounded by rocks, Potistika is a large, sandy, tranquil, though fashionable beach.



Potistika beach

## FAKISTRA BEACH

Surrounded by a rocky landscape with lush vegetation, Fakistra beach is close to the village of Tsagarada.



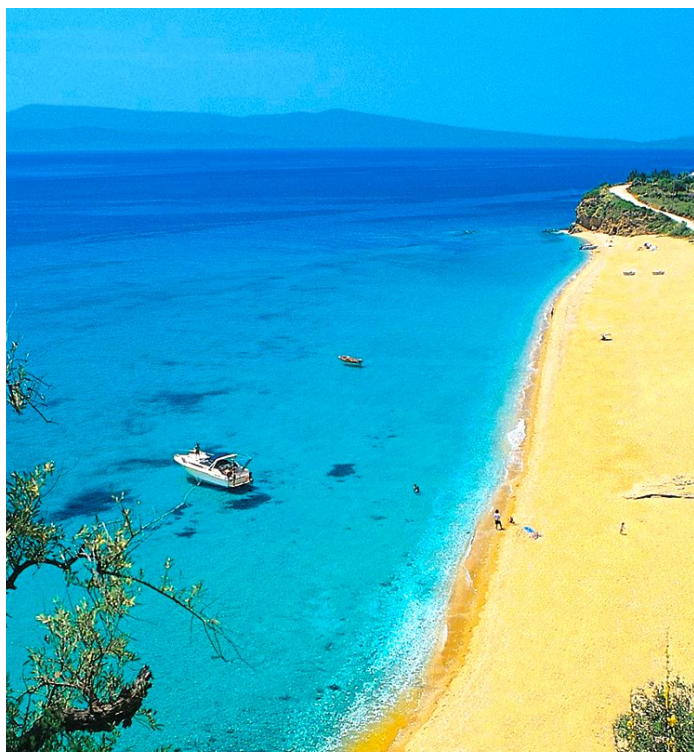
Fakistra beach

## AFISSOS BEACHES

There are a number of beautiful beaches here. The two pebble beaches of Abovos and Lagoudi, and the popular, 'blue flag' sandy and shingle beach of Kaliftheri.

## BOUFA BEACH

Situated between Afissos and Kala Nera, this sandy beach is one of the largest on the peninsula and therefore very popular, but definitely worth a visit.





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## MYLOPOTAMOS BEACH

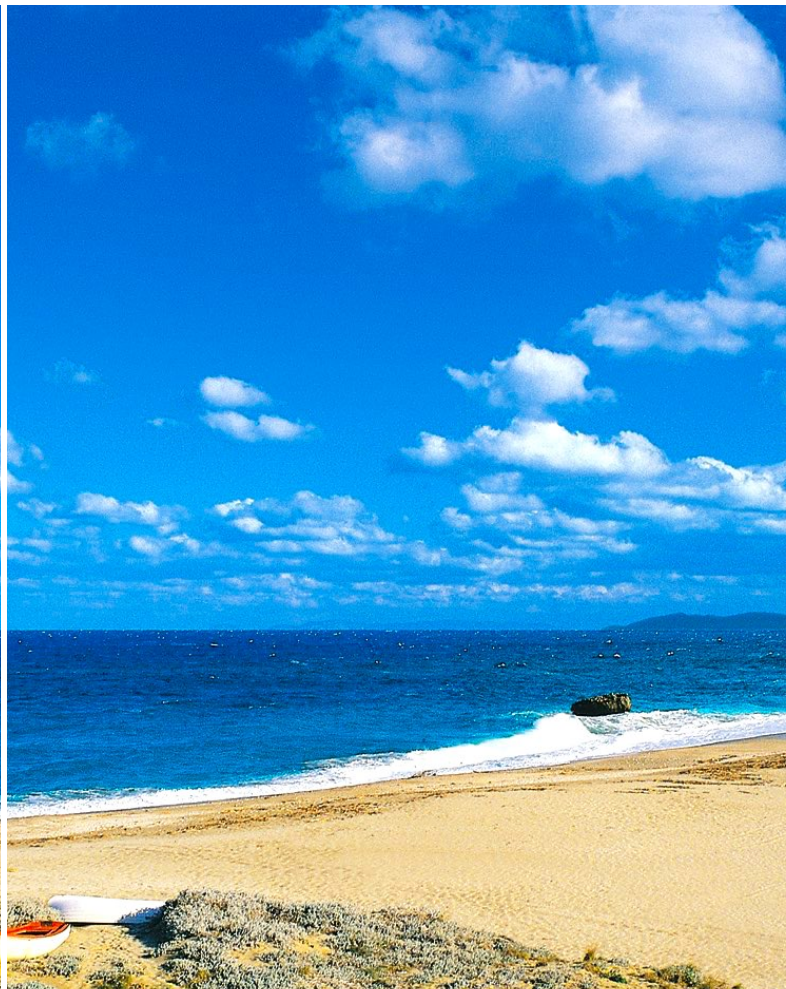
The dramatic twin coves of Mylopotamos Beach, with their golden sand and crystal blue waters, make it one of the most famous beaches on the peninsula.



Mylopotamos beach

## PAPA NERO BEACH

Mountains covered in lush vegetation stretch down to the fine white sands of tranquil Papa Nero beach.



## AGIOS IOANNIS BEACH

This popular coastal town has a large sandy beach.



Agios Ioannis beach

## HOREFTO BEACH

Surrounded by lush vegetation, Horefto beach is a tranquil location for this mile-long, sandy beach. Its far end is popular with naturists.



## LOCAL FOOD

The Pelion Peninsula 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

## 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

## BOUGATSA

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

## 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.



Locally produced honey

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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.paws-peliongreece.com> 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



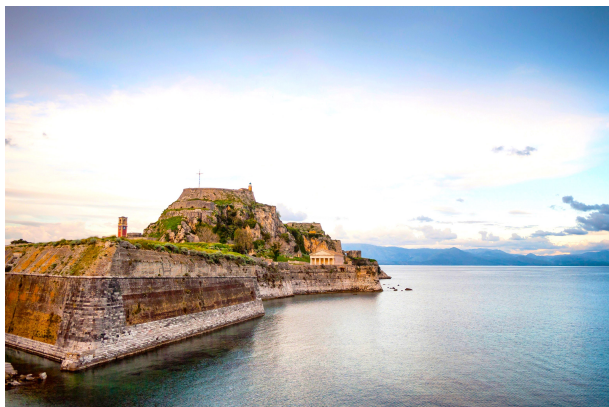
## KEFALONIA

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.



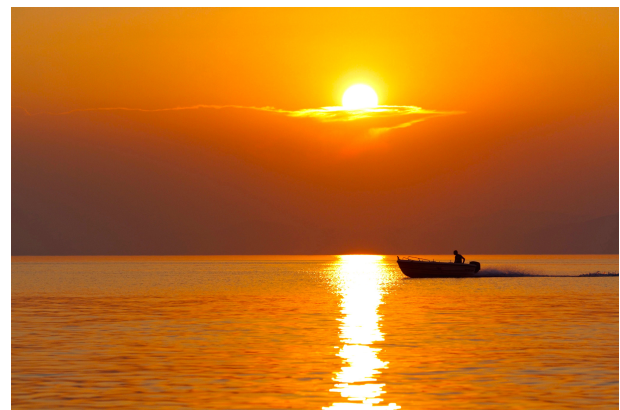
## ITHAKA

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.



## 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.



## SKOPELOS

The island of reefs, a magnificent craggy coastline hiding secluded bays and narrow inlets, each with a sheltered beach fringed by pine forests and olive groves. Skopelos is remarkably undeveloped. The island's eponymous capital is a bustling harbour with a maze of narrow paved streets, old churches and a Venetian fortress.

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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