

Ionian Islands & suggested itineraries



The Ionian Sea is one of the most idyllic cruising areas of the Mediterranean. Crystal clear turquoise waters, charming little villages, spectacular countryside and a pleasant north westerly breeze which rarely exceeds force 5, make it a sailor's paradise!



It is located at the western side of mainland Greece and it stretches all the way from Corfu in the north to Zante in the south. The Ionian Sea is one of our favorite cruising areas, so we'll try to describe the islands for you here, although it's difficult to put in words their real beauty!

One thing that makes the western side of Greece different is the lush vegetation, which consists mostly of olive groves, vineyards, a variety of fruit trees but also pine and cyprus forests. And all that, thanks to the high rainfall that this area receives in the winter, between November and March.

With the exception of the two bigger and more touristy islands (Corfu and Zante), the rest are off the beaten track and the best way to visit them is by yacht, as they

don't even have ports or airports. The locals who are mostly fishermen and farmers are very laid back and friendly, so we are not surprised when we often hear our guests mention that during their evening walk they were invited by an old lady to her garden for a cup of coffee!



For our cruises we have chosen Lefkas as a base, because it is located in the center of the Ionian Islands.

From Lefkas town we have the option to sail south towards the central Ionians for a more relaxed holiday, or north towards Paxi, Antipaxi and Corfu for those who would like to sail longer distances and don't mind the bigger swell of the northern Ionian.



The big advantage of Lefkas is that although it is an island, it's connected to the mainland with a floating bridge at its northern tip, making it easy for our guests to come from Athens by direct bus, or fly from the UK to Preveza airport from where we pick them up with our car.

The bus ride from Athens is just over 5 hours, but it's definitely worth the extra effort, so you can have your cruise in this little paradise.



The history of these islands goes back a few thousand years, so there are a few archaeological sites in the area, although they are not as big and important as the ones you would find on the Greek mainland.

Rather than big and impressive temples, archaeologists in this area have discovered mostly objects and smaller buildings. An island well known for its ancient history is Ithaca (the island of Homer's

Odysseus), where you can visit the small museum with all the findings from the excavations, but also the remains of the palace.



Ancient Olympia (the birth place of the Olympic Games) is also in the Ionian Sea, situated on the west coast of the Peloponnese (the southern part of the Greek mainland).

It is very famous worldwide and one of the most impressive archaeological sites of Greece, but as it is at the southern Ionian (on the

latitude of Zante) you would need a two week cruise in order to visit it, or a one week cruise where you should be prepared to spend longer days at sea.

- Central Ionian Islands:

Lefkas, Ithaca, Kefalonia, Meganisi, Kalamos, Kastos, Atokos, Arkoudi, Skorpios

- Northern Ionian Islands:

Corfu, Paxi, Antipaxi

- Southern Ionian:

Zante, ancient Olympia (not actually an island, but on the western coast of the Peloponnese)



What makes the Ionian Islands an amazing sailing area, is that there are so many villages and bays to visit which gives us numerous options for the route to follow.

Our itineraries take into account the prevailing wind directions, distances between islands and swim stops and are ideal for a relaxed cruise, combining a few hours of sailing per day, a few hours in a bay for swimming and a few hours on the islands every evening.

The first evening, when you come onboard we will open the chart, have a look at our options, give you a few suggestions and make a plan for your cruise.



Or if you don't want to make any decisions during your holiday, let us take you to the nicest places....

Suggested Itineraries

A	1 week - Central Ionian (relaxed cruise)	N.M.
Sun	embarkation and departure for Meganisi (Vathi)	13
Mon	Kalamos	13
Tues	Ithaca (Vathi)	18
Wed	Kefalonia (Sami)	16
Thur	Kefalonia (Fiskardo)	12
Fri	Lefkas (Sivota)	13
Sat	Lefkas (Lefkas town)	16
Sun	disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	
		101
B	1 week - Central Ionian (relaxed cruise)	N.M.
Sun	embarkation and departure for Meganisi (Vathi)	13
Mon	Kastos	14
Tues	Ithaca (Kioni)	12
Wed	Kefalonia (Agia Efimia)	16
Thur	Kefalonia (Fiskardo)	10
Fri	Meganisi (Spartochori)	17
Sat	Lefkas (Lefkas town)	14
Sun	disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	
		96
C	1 week - Central/southern Ionian (relaxed itinerary but 1 long day at sea)	N.M.
Sun	embarkation and departure for Meganisi (Vathi)	13
Mon	Zante (Agios Nikolaos)	48
Tues	Kefalonia (Poros)	15
Wed	Kefalonia (Sami or Agia Efimia)	12
Thur	Kefalonia (Fiskardo) or Ithaca (Vathi)	14
Fri	Lefkas (Sivota) or Meganisi (Spartochori)	15
Sat	Lefkas (Lefkas town)	11
Sun	disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	
		128
D	1 week - Ancient Olympia (a few long days at sea)	N.M.
Sun	embarkation and departure for Meganisi (Vathi)	13
Mon	Katakolo (Peloponnesse)	60
Tues	Katakolo - spend the day at ancient Olympia	0
Wed	Kefalonia (Poros)	37
Thur	Kefalonia (Fiskardo) or Ithaca (Vathi)	20
Fri	Lefkas (Sivota) or Meganisi (Spartochori)	15
Sat	Lefkas (Lefkas town)	11
Sun	disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	
		146

E	1 week - Northern Ionian (a few long days at sea with bigger swell)	N.M.
Sun	embarkation/departure for Preveza (mainland)	10
Mon	Paxi (Mongonisi)	35
Tues	Paxi (Gaios)	3
Wed	Sivota (on the mainland)	12
Thur	Paxi (Laka)	10
Fri	Antipaxi (night in a bay)	9
Sat	Lefkas (Lefkas town)	30
Sun	disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	
		109
F	1 week - Northern/central Ionian (a few long days at sea with bigger swell)	N.M.
Sun	embarkation/departure for Preveza (mainland)	10
Mon	Paxi (Mongonisi)	35
Tues	Paxi (Laka)	9
Wed	Paxi (Gaios)	3
Thur	Meganisi (Vathi)	45
Fri	Lefkas (Sivota)	5
Sat	Lefkas (Lefkas town)	16
Sun	disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	
		123
G	2 weeks - Central Ionian (relaxed)	N.M.
Sun	embarkation and departure for Meganisi (Vathi)	13
Mon	Kalamos	10
Tues	Kastos	5
Wed	Ithaca (Vathi)	15
Thur	Ithaca (Kioni)	6
Fri	Kefalonia (Sami)	16
Sat	Zante (Agios Nikolaos)	27
Sun	Kefalonia (Poros)	15
Mon	Kefalonia (Agia Efimia)	12
Tues	Kefalonia (Fiskardo)	14
Wed	Kefalonia (Atheras)	13
Thur	Lefkas (Sivota)	28
Fri	Meganisi (Spartochori)	7
Sat	Lefkas (Lefkas town)	14
Sun	disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	
		195

2 weeks - Central/southern Ionian	
H including ancient Olympia (relaxed route but 2 longer days at sea)	N.M.
Sun embarkation and departure for Meganisi (Vathi)	13
Mon Kalamos	10
Tues Kastos	5
Wed Ithaca (Vathi)	15
Thur Katakolo (Peloponnesse)	48
Fri Katakolo - spend the day at ancient Olympia	0
Sat Zante (Agios Nikolaos)	30
Sun Kefalonia (Poros)	15
Mon Kefalonia (Sami)	12
Tues Kefalonia (Agia Efimia)	4
Wed Kefalonia (Fiskardo)	10
Thur Lefkas (Sivota)	13
Fri Meganisi (Spartochori)	7
Sat Lefkas (Lefkas town)	14
Sun disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	
	196

I 2 weeks - Central/northern Ionian. (2 long days at sea with bigger swell)	N.M.
Sun embarkation/departure for Preveza (mainland)	10
Mon Paxi (Mongonisi)	35
Tues Paxi (Laka)	9
Wed Paxi (Gaios)	3
Thur Antipaxi (night in a bay)	5
Fri Meganisi (Vathi)	40
Sat Kalamos	10
Sun Kastos	5
Mon Ithaca (Vathi)	15
Tues Ithaca (Kioni)	6
Wed Kefalonia (Agia Efimia)	16
Thur Kefalonia (Fiskardo)	10
Fri Lefkas (Sivota)	13
Sat Lefkas (Lefkas town)	16
Sun disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	
	193

J	2 weeks - Northern Ionian (many long days at sea with bigger swell)	N.M.
Sun	embarkation/departure for Preveza (mainland)	10
Mon	Paxi (Mongonisi)	35
Tues	Paxi (Gaios)	4
Wed	Sivota (on the mainland coast)	12
Thur	Plataria (on the mainland coast)	9
Fri	Sagiada (on the mainland coast)	18
Sat	Corfu town	14
Sun	Corfu (Kassiopi)	12
Mon	Erikousa	17
Tues	Othonoi	9
Wed	Corfu (Palaiokastritsa)	18
Thur	Paxi (Laka)	32
Fri	Antipaxi	10
Sat	Lefkas (Lefkas town)	30
Sun	disembarkation at 9 a.m. after breakfast	193

