

Alonissos

Sporades // Alonissos by Greeka.com

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About Alonissos

Alonissos is an island in the Aegean Sea, located close to Skopelos, with lush green vegetation to the point that pine woods sometimes reach the numerous beaches on the island. Alonissos, along with Skyros, Skiathos and Skopelos, form the Sporades Islands. Its surface is 66 sq km and has approximately 2700 inhabitants.

Alonissos is an isle of outstanding beauty with the most impressive abysses in the Aegean Sea. The island has been inhabited from prehistoric times, and it was the object of a number of disputes over it, especially between Athens and Macedonia.

Alonissos was conquered by the Romans in the 2nd century AD, and then the Byzantines arrived, who built the walls of the castle of Chorio, and left a set of awesome buildings which were unfortunately torn down by the frequent earthquakes on the island. After the Byzantines, several other peoples ruled the island, such as the Venetians, and the Turks in 1538. Alonissos became part of Greece in 1830.

Alonissos is a peaceful island, quite lively on the Southern area, where there are a number of modest villages with narrow streets and picturesque buildings and houses.

Patitiri, the capital of the island located in this area, offers a variety of transportation services connecting the island with the other islands nearby and the mainland. There are beautiful locations around Patitiri, such as Rousoum village, which has one of the most beautiful beaches on Alonissos and offers comfortable nightlife establishments, and houses to rent.

If visitors go on along the coastline, they will find Votsi Village, much more peaceful than Rousoum Village, and with the typical small town houses overlooking the sea, surrounded by the yellow-ochre reefs that give the place a very special vibe.

After the serious **earthquake in 1965**, Alonissos changed once and for ever, and whole towns were abandoned by the locals and rebuilt in safer areas. That is the case of the former Capuluogo, located on the hills placed at about 3 kilometres from Patitiri towards the centre of the island.

Steni, another remarkable town, is a typical Aegean fishing port and it is located at 12 kilometres far from Patitiri. It has some secluded beaches, ideal for those who want to run away from the worldly noise and their business routine.

Alonissos also offers some outstanding tour attractions such as the "National Marine Park of Alonissos - Northern Sporades" (NMPA-NS). This is a valuable natural park in Greece, founded in 1992. The island also has sponsored the first international **Multi Terrain Marathon**.

Villages of Alonissos

Chora

Location: 4 km west of Patitiri

Description: Alonissos Town, or Chora, used to be the capital of the island until a severe earthquake in 1965 destroyed the village and made most inhabitants to move to present capital, Patitiri. Now the village has been restored to its old beauty.

Sightseeing: Church Of Agios Athanassios, Church Of Agios Georgios, Church Of The Christ

Patitiri

Location: On the southern side of the island

Description: Patitiri is the capital of the island, built amphitheatrically around a bay. Tourist developed with many facilities, many excursion boats leave from Patitiri to the Marine Park of Alonissos.

Sightseeing: Marine Park, Mavrikis Folklore Museum, Small Islets

Votsi

Location: 2 km north east of Patitiri

Description: This calm beach has developed some tourist facilities over the last years. Fishing boats and yachts moor in the picturesque port, creating a picturesque environment.

Beaches of Alonissos

Tzortzi Gialos

Location: 6 km north east of Patitiri

Description: Tzortzi Gialos is the ideal place for total relaxation. Secluded and surrounded by pine trees, this beach has turquoise water and small pebbles.

Chrisi Milia

Location: 5 km north east of Patitiri

Description: The sand on Chrisi Milia is soft and golden. It is an organized beach with sun beds, umbrellas and some watersports centres.

Glyfa

Location: 10 km north east of Patitiri

Description: Glyfa is a nice beach with white pebbles and crystal water. It provides a picturesque environment for swimming.

Marpounta

Location: 3 km south of Patitiri

Description: Located south of Patitiri, this is a narrow beach surrounded by high cliffs and organized with sunbeds and umbrellas.

Sightseeing in Alonissos

Marine Park

Location: Patitiri

The Marine Park is located on the northern side of Alonissos. The area is rich in marine life and it is the habitat of the endangered species, the Mediterranean Monk Seal (*Monachus Monachus*), one of the rarest animals in Europe with only around 800 surviving worldwide.

Blue Cave

Location: Agios Dimitrios

The Blue Cave can be reached with an excursion boat from Patitiri that makes the tour of northern Alonissos and the close islets.

Mavrikis Folklore Museum

Location: Patitiri

This privately owned museum is located on a hillside in Patitiri with view to the port. On display there are traditional costumes and other folklore objects, as well as war memorabilia, items from the wine making tradition and local artworks.

Small Islets

Location: Patitiri

There are several islets around Alonissos with wild coastline and nice chapels on them. Peristera, Piperi, Papous are some. They can be reached with an excursion boat from the port of Patitiri.

Some Accommodations in Alonissos

Milia Bay

Location: Milia

Class: 2 Stars

Number of rooms: 21

Type: Hotels, Apartments, Studios

Website: www.milia-bay.gr

Phone: 0030 24240 66032

The setting is splendid with a breathtaking view of the Aegean archipelago. The architecture reflects both the traditional heritage and the commitment to simple elegance. Milia bay consist of 22 apartments which are separated in 5 independent villas. Care was taken to create accommodation strikingly different from those of traditional hotels.

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