

# Corfu

Ionian // Corfu by Greeka.com



**Information about villages, beaches, sightseeing, restaurants, activities and more...**

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## About Corfu

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The island of Corfu (called Kerkyra in Greek) was one of the first Greek islands to open itself to tourism, mostly because of its historical and cultural background. Today, this is one of the most popular and tourist developed islands of the country, but still it has managed to keep its special culture.

Corfu is part of the Ionian Islands and lies in the north of Ionian Sea, right at the entrance of the Adriatic Sea. This is the second largest island of the Ionian group, after **Kefalonia**. With a coastline of 216 km, Corfu has gorgeous beaches all over, from long coasts to tiny coves.

Because of the mild Mediterranean climate and the huge rainfalls in winter, Corfu has verdant vegetation and wild plants. This makes it one of the greenest islands in Greece. Mostly a mountainous island, the highest mountain rises at an altitude of 914 metres and it is called Mount Pantokrator. A lovely monastery is found on the slopes of this mountain.

Corfu has both crowded and quiet tourist resorts, therefore it is a great destination for all tastes. Paleokastritsa, Agios Stefanos, Acharavi, Kavos, Gouvia, Dassia and Agios Gordis are among the busiest beaches on the island. However, there are other family resorts to enjoy more privacy and some peace. Such resorts are mostly located on the southern side of the island, which is the least tourist developed.

Despite the fact that tourism is rampant in the coastal areas, it hasn't spoiled yet the villages which keep their authenticity and local colors. Strinilas, Agios Mattheos, Agioi Deka and Pelekas are great villages to give you a view of the rural life in Corfu.

The economy of Corfu is mainly based on tourism but a small part is still related to agriculture. The inhabitants produce high quality olive oil and wine. Also they cultivate a unique fruit in Greece called **kumquat**. With this fruit, they make traditional spoon sweets and liqueurs. Another local product of Corfu is the ginger beer, produced only there from all the country.

The capital and main port of the island is Corfu Town. Built between two fortresses and full of superb Venetian buildings, Byzantine churches and flowered squares, Corfu Town is a real architectural jewel. In fact, it has the second largest square in Europe: **Spianada Square** is the second largest after Saint Mark Square in Venice.

The island also has vibrant nightlife for the young and restless. Beach bars stay open all night and play loud music. Night swimming and fires on the beach are very popular close to these beach bars, giving a romantic sense to your holidays.

## Villages of Corfu

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### Town

**Location:** In the centre of the island, on the eastern coast

**Description:** Corfu Town, the capital of the island, is one of the most beautiful and elegant towns in Greece. It distinguishes for its Venetian architecture and the two fortresses that guard the city.

**Sightseeing:** Archaeological Museum, Byzantine Museum Of Antivouniotissa, Fortress Of Saint Mark, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Ionian Academy, Kapodistrias Museum, Mon Repos Palace, Municipal Gallery, Museum Of Asian Art, Numismatic Museum, Old Fortress, Platytera Monastery, Saint Jason And Sospater, Saint Spyridon, Solomos Museum, Spianada Square, Town Hall, Vidos Islet

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### Kasiopi

**Location:** 35 km north of Corfu Town

**Description:** Kasiopi is a small fishing village dominated by a Roman fortress. Along the port, there are some delicious fish taverns. Picturesque beaches surround Kasiopi and the region is popular with diving.

**Sightseeing:** Kasiopi Tower

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### Agios Matheos

**Location:** 23 km south of Corfu Town

**Description:** Agios Matheos is mountainous village that gets its income mostly of agriculture. Totally untouched by tourism, it is located on the slopes of a hill and provides gorgeous view to the sea.

**Sightseeing:** Gardiki Castle

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### Pelekas

**Location:** 13 km west of Corfu Town

**Description:** The small village of Pelekas is quite busy in summer. Due to its central location, it is used as a starting point for excursions around the island. Pelekas is said to have the best sunset on Corfu.

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### Strinilas

**Location:** 28 km north west of Corfu Town

**Description:** Strinilas is the last village before you reach the mountain of Pantokrator. Strinilas offers gorgeous view to the sea and the green mountainside of Corfu.

**Sightseeing:** Pantokrator Monastery

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## Beaches of Corfu

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### Paleokastritsa

**Location:** 23 km north west of Corfu Town

**Description:** Paleokastritsa is the most famous and probably most picturesque beach resort of the island. Huge, green cliffs surround the coast and many sea caves can be visited by boat around Paleokastritsa.

**Sightseeing:** Angelokastro Castle, Paleokastritsa Monastery

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### Agios Gordios

**Location:** 19 km south west of Corfu Town

**Description:** The beach of Agios Gordios is one of the most popular beaches in Corfu. The sandy beach is surrounded by impressive rock formations, much greenery and tourist facilities.

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### Glyfada

**Location:** 16 km west of Corfu Town

**Description:** One of the most popular and beautiful beaches of the island, Glyfada is west of Corfu Town. The large surface of fine sand is surrounded by tree-covered cliffs.

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### Myrriotissa

**Location:** 17 km west of Corfu Town

**Description:** The beach owns its name to the beautiful Monastery of Virgin Mary Myrriotissa which is located just above it. It is an unorganised beach, totally unspoiled and unofficially nudist.

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### Sidari Canal d'Amour

**Location:** 36 km north west of Corfu Town

**Description:** The famous coves of Canal d'Amour are situated at the west of Sidari, on the northern side of the island. It is one of the most impressive and photographed spots of Corfu.

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## Sightseeing in Corfu

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### Achillion Palace

**Location:** Gastouri

The Palace was built in 1890 exclusively for Elizabeth (Sissy), the Empress of Austria. It used to serve as the summer retreat of the Empress, who named it Achillion after her favourite Greek hero, Achilles. After her assassination, it was sold to the Kaiser of Germany.

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### Old Fortress

**Location:** Town

The Old Fortress of Corfu stands next to Spianada square and Liston. It is an impressive castle built on a peninsula into the sea and connected to the mainland by a narrow bridge. A lighthouse stands on its top and offers great view of the town and the sea.

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### Museum Of Asian Art

**Location:** Town

The Museum of Asian Art of Corfu is the only Asian museum of Greece and is housed in the Palace of Saint Michael and Saint Georges. It was founded in 1927 after that Gregory Manos, an ambassador, donated to the prefecture its private collection of 10, 500 objects of Sino Japanese origin. The museum was first a Chinese and Japanese Art Museum (until 1974) and became an Asian Art Museum later, when its collection was enriched with other private collection objects and items from Asia.

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### Fortress Of Saint Mark

**Location:** Town

This fortress is also known as the New Fortress of Corfu, in contrast to the Old Fortress near Spianada square. It played an important role for the protection of the town against pirates and enemies in the Medieval times. The entire fortress is an intricate network of compartments and galleries.

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### Mon Repos Palace

**Location:** Town

Mon Repos used to be the summer residence of the former royal family of Greece. It is located on the way to Kanoni, Corfu Town, among a lovely green setting.

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### Paleokastritsa Monastery

**Location:** Paleokastritsa

Built in the 13th century on the hill of Paleokastritsa, the monastery houses a small museum with Byzantine and post Byzantine icons. The museum gives great views to the sea and it is open to visit.

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## Angelokastro Castle

**Location:** Paleokastritsa

The name of Angelokastro means the "castle of the Angels" in Greek. It is located on top of a steep cliff overlooking the sea, near Paleokastritsa. It takes a bit of rough walking to get there but the view rewards visitors.

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## Aqualand

**Location:** Agios Ioannis Afra

This Aqualand is said to be the most amazing water park in Europe and the third largest in the world! It has many fun water games, including the Crazy River and the Black Hole. It is located in Agios Ioannis village, close to Corfu Town.

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## Archaeological Museum

**Location:** Town

The archaeological museum stands in Vraila Street, near the Garitsa coastal road and was built to house the Gorgon pediment from the temple of Artemis which was found in the area of Paleopolis. This pediment is dated back to 580 BC and is supposed to be the oldest one in Greece. In the archaeological museum of Corfu, visitors will also admire other finds from excavations from the archaeological sites of the island, from the ancient town of Cassiopeia and items from a private collection.

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## Saint Spyridon

**Location:** Town

The church of Saint Spyridon is located in the Old Town of Corfu, right behind Liston. It has the largest bell tower of all churches in the city and it is its red dome that visitors first see when they arrive by boat to Corfu. This saint is the protector of the island, as the myth says that he saved the town from a plague in the 17th century.

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## Some Accommodations in Corfu

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### Delfino Blu

**Location:** [Agios Stefanos](#)

**Class:** 4 Stars

**Number of rooms:** 15

**Type:** Hotels, Apartments

**Website:** [www.delfinoblu.gr](http://www.delfinoblu.gr)

**Phone:** 0030 26630 51629

Delfino Blu is a small boutique hotel that will bewitch you with its beautiful simplicity. It is amphitheatrically built at the foot of a hill by one of the most beautiful beaches of the island. Particular attention has been drawn to details and aesthetics, combining corfiot tradition with modern living. Delfino Blu is both a shelter of serenity, far away from cosmopolitan Corfu and very close to the intense nightlife of Sidari. It is composed of 13 apartments and 2 suites (of which one is a Honeymoon Suite). It disposes of 2 pools (one of which suitable for children).

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### Dinas Paradise

**Location:** [Agios Gordios](#)

**Class:** 3 Keys

**Number of rooms:** 11

**Type:** Apartments, Studios

**Website:** [www.dinasparadise.gr](http://www.dinasparadise.gr)

**Phone:** 0030 26610 53184

Dinas Paradise Hotel - Apartments is situated at the beautiful Agios Gordios on Corfu Island within easy transfer distance from the Airport. The hotel is high enough on the hillside to offer its guests spectacular views yet only 350 metres from a lovely beach and the centre of the resort. The hotel includes 10 apartments and 1 suite with sizes varying from 25 to 65 square meters. The apartments are cleaned daily, towels replaced three times a week and linen replaced twice a week and linen replaced twice a week. Throughout its areas the hotel adheres to high cleaning standards.

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### Menigos Resort

**Location:** [Glyfada](#)

**Class:** 3 Keys

**Number of rooms:** 39

**Type:** Apartments, Bungalows, Maisonettes, Honeymoon

**Phone:** 0030 26610 94563

The distance to Corfu Town and the airport is approximately 14 km, and to the nearest famous village of Pelekas, where Kaiser used to admire the unique sunset from his special wide observation balcony, approximately 5 km.

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## Green Hill

**Location:** Pelekas

**Class:** 2 Keys

**Number of rooms:** 7

**Type:** Apartments

**Website:** [www.greenhillcorfu.com](http://www.greenhillcorfu.com)

**Phone:** 0030 26610 94603

The house is located on the hillside beneath the village of Pelekas, 200 meters over Kontogialos beach, within easy distance of all sights over the island. Our apartments The Green Hill's Apartments and Studios are ideal for couples or for families with 2-4 children. The apartments are cleaned twice a week, towels replaced three times a week and linen replaced twice a week. Throughout its areas the building adheres to high cleaning standards under the supervision of the owners.

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## Oceanis

**Location:** Barbati

**Class:** N/A

**Number of rooms:** 13

**Type:** Apartments, Studios

**Website:** [www.oceanis-rooms.gr](http://www.oceanis-rooms.gr)

**Phone:** 0030 26630 91759

Oceanis Apartments are located at Barbati, a magic coast of the North-East Corfu Island in Greece. Built alongside the beach and on pantokrator mountain foot, in a spectacular natural environment combining the beauties of sea and mountain, it is surrounded from one side by the Ionian sea and from the other sides by long terraced stretches of olive trees.

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## Other places of interest in Corfu

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### Lemon Garden

**Category:** Restaurants

**Location:** [Acharavi](#)

The Lemon Garden is situated in a grove full of lemon and orange trees, offering you a beautiful, traditional Mediterranean environment. A veritable explosion of colors from the wide variety of plants and flowers make the garden a sight worth seeing.

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## Diving in Corfu

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### Dive Easy

**Location:** [Acharavi](#)

We dive everyday. Beginners (non-certified) and Experienced (certified) divers. Small groups always guided by a certified Instructor (special procedures with children). We also offer diving courses. Dive sites chosen depending on weather conditions and divers experience.

We offer: Try scuba dive, Wrecks, Walls, Reefs, Caves, Enriched Air Nitrox, Snorkeling

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### Calypso Diving Center

**Location:** [Paleokastritsa](#)

Agios Gordis, a small secluded village nestled into this coastline, with a 1.5km golden beach, is home to Calypso Corfu Diving Center. In 1969 the Dukakis family saw Agios Gordis, with its backdrop of cliffs, cypress trees and olive groves as a perfect vacation spot and built a beachfront taverna with simple accommodation. As an avid spear-fisher, Andreas Dukakis, wanting to share the underwater beauty, trained to instruct scuba diving and opened a small diving centre.

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