Corfu

A Mediterranean Destination of Extraordinary Beauty





Destination: Corfu

Amidst the Mediterranean waters on the North coast of Greece, there is an island of extraordinary beauty, crystal blue beaches, lush green mountains and history that dates back to the Odyssey... welcome to Corfu!

Welcome to the mythical island of the Phaeacians and the place where Odysseus disembarked and fell in love with princess Nausicaa.

Corfu is the third most popular Greek island for tourism, after Santorini and Crete, with over a million visitors every year.

It is located by the North-West coast of Greece surrounded by the Ionian Sea and the Adriatic waters.

Other than being a great destination for families and naturalists, it is also famous for its music, gastronomy, cultural tourism and sailing.



How to get to Corfu from the USA

Corfu is located on the North West coast of Greece, only a 50min flight from Athens.

1. You can fly directly to Athens and then take one of the many daily flights

2. You can take a plane to the following destinations in Europe, and then hop on a direct flight to Corfu:

United Kingdom Ireland Germany Czech republic Luxemburg Italy Belgium Vienna Netherlands Sweden France Poland Denmark, Switzerland, Spain



1. Corfu Old Town Wondering around Corfu town and the kantounia

Start your day with a stroll at the Old Town. The entire Old Town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site"- and a source of tremendous interest for architecture enthusiasts. There is no better way to explore Corfu than wandering through the lovely narrow alleys, known as "Kantounia". There are so many points of interest to visit but a walking tour covering the highlights would include: Liston & Spianada Square, Old and New Fortress, Palace of St Michael & St George (Museum of Asian Art).



2. Explore the Old Fortress A Venetian fortress from the 16th century

The emblematic Old Fortress of Corfu town is one of the first things a visitor sees when approaching Corfu. It stands on the eastern side of the town, on a rocky peninsula that juts into the sea. This fortress was constructed by the Venetians in the 15th century on the site of a former Byzantine castle. The entrance to the fortress is available through Spianada, the famous square of Corfu, which is, in fact, the second largest square in Europe.

The entrance is arched and has a Venetian symbol above it, carved in marble. After the entrance, there are two rooms on both sides that now host the Byzantine. On the eastern side of the fortress, there is a flatland, used today for cultural events in the summer. In this flat square, there is the church of Saint George, built by the Venetians as an ancient temple



3. Explore the Corfiot coastline and its beaches A stupendous coastline of emerald waters

Explore Corfu's enchanting coastline and untouched natural landscapes by car or by boat. Whizzing along the beautiful coastline you will come across unexpected rocky formations, turquoise waters, secret coves, small water caves and beaches accessible only by sea.

Take in the richness of nature, the diversity of landscapes and swim in crystal clear waters. From south to north Corfiot's coastline is a treasure of geology. Do not miss Issos and Chalikouna beach, a nature reserve with flamingos, Barbati beach with its white round pebbles, Palaiokastritsa beach with its icy waters to revive your skin, Agios Gordios, Pelekas, Agios Georgios ton Pagon to name a few. The serene and transparent waters make them the perfect spot for snorkeling and swimming. Discover the isolated landscapes, against a background of green hillsides with your own boat.



4. Live like the Durrells The author that referred to Corfu as "Paradise"

Spend a day living like the Durrells! Take a boat tour to the the small waterfront village of Kalami set on the north-east coast of the island, surrounded by the turquoise waters of the Ionian Sea. Enjoy the view while listening to a live narrative and enter Kalami cove where The Durell White House stands proud on a rock by the water.

Explore the former residence of British author Lawrence Durrell who lived there in the 1930's with his wife, Nancy. Their Kalami home was regularly visited by his family including, a young Gerald Durrell who later became a leading conservationist and popular author and referred to Corfu island as "paradise".

Spend the day soaking up the warm sunshine or swimming in the tranquil waters. End your day watching the sunset at world famous White House Restaurant by the Michelin Chef Lazarou. What could be more perfect than the taste of the local catch, freshly caught by their own fishing boats?



5. Cruise away in an Ionian ambiance Visit the Sapphire waters of Antipaxos

If a unique beach day is what you are in search of, let the sapphire waters and golden sands of Antoipaxos greet you. Located in a sheltered cove, covered by vibrant plants this beach escape will make you feel as though you've entered a natural haven.

Experience the most refreshing dips into cool waters and enjoy unforgettable moments in the sun. While in Corfu, do not miss the unique chance to visit the small islets of Paxos and Antipaxos. Cruise away for a day with a luxury yacht or motorboat and discover the secret wonders of Corfu's coastline. Corfu is perfect for those wanting to have an authentic Greek luxury yacht charter experience. Snorkelling, dining on board, discovering secret caves, enjoying secluded beaches, and exploring the hidden coral reefs of Corfu island.



6. Discover Benitses Village A traditional Greek seaside village

Discover our beautiful neighbouring village of Bentises, perfectly placed between the shining sea and rolling hills. While strolling through the quaint, traditional streets you are sure to find charming architecture and stunning views around every corner.

Take a walk along the brand new Bentises Marina where you can enjoy some more peaceful moments and enjoy a traditional Corfiot dish in one of the local taverns.



7.Walk the mountains and secret trails of Corfu An oasis of Mediterranean forests

Start the day exploring secret pathways leading up Corfu's mountains and discovering the small stone-built remote churches on the tops known as "Xoklisia" (small stone remote churches on mountain tops).

Corfu boasts official trails 180 km in length, spanning the entire island from south to north for all levels of fitness. Embark on a journey to appreciate nature like never before in the perfect Mediterranean setting. Explore the countryside of olive groves and picturesque small villages, vineyards and waterfalls For those who prefer a faster pace, you can rent an e-bike or even a car to explore the island.



8. Mon Repos Palace A Palace set on a private peninsula

Mon Repos Palace is situated on top of Analipsis hill, near Kanoni area, in the middle of a beautiful setting full of greenery. It was built in 1826 by the British Commissioner Frederic Adams as a gift to his Corfiot wife, Nina Palatianou. It is a small but very beautiful palace with colonial architectural elements.

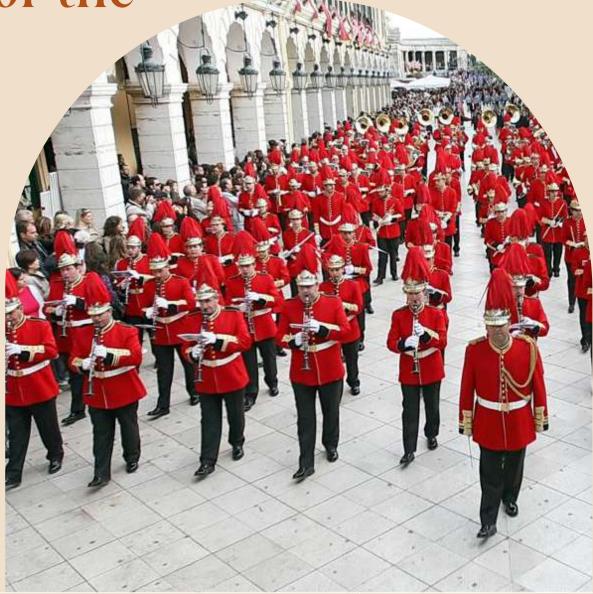
It hosts a museum that includes many Ionian treasures. The palace itself is placed in a very nice environment and is surrounded by a large park. The remains of the ancient town of Corfu, which have been found the opposite to the palace, make archaeologists believe that Mon Repos was built right on the site where the ancient city of Corfu used to be.



9. Experience the march of the Philharmonic Bands Corfu: The Mediterranean Island of

Music education dates back to ancient times in Corfu, when Homer in the Odyssey referred to a Corfiot blind musician named Demodocus, singing of the quarrel between Odysseus and Achilles at Troy. With music traditions continuing in the Byzantine era and the Venetian occupation, Corfu is world known as one of the most musical islands in the Mediterranean, with its first Philharmonic founded in 1840. Since then 37 Philarmonics have been established on the island.

The island's philharmonic orchestras are particularly famous for their performances during celebrations, every first Sunday of the month and religious special occasions. The musicians of the philharmonics, well dressed with fancy costumes carrying their shiny instruments march on the streets in orchestrated parades and celebrate by playing their tunes for the excited crowds.



Music

10. Experience the local Corfiot Gastronomy

Locally grown ingredients, traditional dishes and internationally acclaimed Chefs

Discover the flavours of Corfu and gain unmatched insight into the culinary culture with an exclusive and authentic Corfiot gastronomy experience in one of the many restaurants in the Old Town, by the seaside and traditional mountain villages. Take a guided gastronomy tour with our expert guides and indulge in flavours inspired by Byzantine, Mediterranean and Venetian traditions.

Home of many internationally acclaimed Chefs, including our very own Michelin star Chef Botrini, and our executive Chef Tasos Andriotis, president of the Corfiot Chef's Club, Corfu is definitely one of the most inspiring gastronomy destinations in the Mediterranean.

Indulge in some of the island's most mouthwatering dishes as fresh, local ingredients tantalise your palettes, such as "Pastitsada", "Sofrito", "Bianco" and so many more.



11. Horse riding Pick the best horse riding experience for you and your loved ones

Horse facilities abound all over the island, whether for a group trail rides on the beach or in the mountains for novice riders, and for very experienced riders too. One of the most popular romantic experiences you can enjoy with your loved one is horse riding by sunset at Chalikounas beach on the South coast of Corfu.

For those interested in a self-development type of experience, spending time with Corfu's notorious miniature Skyrian horses in a covered arena can be a novel and impactful experience, as the horses mirror the parallels in dynamics that humans and horses share within their chosen 'herd.' Through some practical and fun exercises with a registered equine counsellor, whether in a single session or over a full weekend course, families, leisure travellers, or professionals will learn to appreciate the importance of Non-verbal Communication, Boundary Setting, and Group Dynamics, just to name a few.



12. Visit Corfiot Wineries The wineries of Corfu await to welcome you for magical days in the stunning Ionian.

Indulge in an adventure focused on crisp notes, fruitful flavours, and the most delicious blends of wine. From discovering the vineyards, to the process of making wine, enjoy a day designated to relaxation and new experiences.



13. Organic Olive Oil tasting A tradition that dates back centuries

Visit a traditional olive mill and discover the secret Olive Tree variation that exists on Corfu island. Visit on elf the numerous estates that keep up to 2000 olive trees. A large proportion of these groves are made up of the "Lianolia Kerkyra" olive tree, a variety native to Corfu, some of which are over 700 years old and is considered incredibly therapeutic.

Other varieties that belong to the family include the Koroneiki, these olive trees have been planted more recently and produce an olive oil with an intense green color, fruity grassy flavor and distinctive aroma. It's rich in precious organoleptic substances, vitamins and low acidity.

Visitors can taste fresh olive oil with homemade bread and local delicacies and learn about the process of pressing the olives.



14. Golf Day

Golf pros and amateurs can uniquely design their perfect golf getaway

Located just 30 minutes from the resort, Corfu's Golf Club is one of the most beautiful hidden secrets of Europe. Situated by the vast expanse of Ropa Valley, the golf course features tree-lined fairways harmoniously combined with several lakes and meandering streams against the backdrop of the surrounding lush green hills. Both advanced and beginner players can enjoy a memorable round of golf in Odysseus secret valley that provide guests with the most enjoyable golfing experience possible in an environment that is friendly and lush with nature all around the year.



15. Experience the magic of Paliokastritsa

A "Little Old Castle" perched on the rocks

Take a day to explore Paleokastritsa, a stunning village with rich mythological history that dates back to the journeys of Odysseus. Here you will be delighted by the clearest waters and rocky coves, as well as beautiful bays that will greet you with sandy shores. Along with traditional taverns and quaint island streets filled with shops, Paleokastritsa is home to a unique monastery located just above the cape.

Palaiokastritsa meaning "Little Old Castle", referring to nearby Byzantine Angelokastro is a village in northwestern Corfu, Greece. The monastery in Palaiokastritsa, which dates from 1225, houses a museum.



16. An evening at Pontikonisi

A little green island and an 11th century Byzantine chapel

The islet of Pontikonisi, just off Corfu, awaits to be discovered. Take a boat trip to the verdantly green islands blossoming with beautiful plants. Hidden between the tall trees you will find an 11th century Byzantine chapel that calls to the past and the island's beautiful history.



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