









Odysseus Sailing Holidays is the right choice for a sailing holiday in the Ionian Islands. The Ionian Sea, with its beautiful islands, secluded coves, rocky bays and sandy beaches is known as a yachtsman's paradise and Odysseus has been organizing bareboat charter and a very popular flotilla program in this idyllic sailing area for over 30 years.

The Ionian is a favourite destination for both novice and experienced sailors. Gentle calm seas make it one of the safest sailing areas in the world and yet there is plenty to do and see.

The scenery is beautiful and there are numerous secure anchorages, picturesque villages and lively towns. If you're lucky, a school of dolphins may join you as you sail along and you may spot a turtle powering its way through the translucent water.



Our main base at Palairos is just a few miles south-east of the Lefkas Canal, facing Scorpios Island. It is a charming Greek fishing harbour and the perfect place to start your sailing holiday, with a beautiful sandy beach just a few steps away from your yacht. Whether you charter bareboat or join one of our friendly flotillas, you'll have easy access to the islands of the Southern Ionian such as Lefkas, Ithaka and Kefalonia.

Bareboat yacht charter is also available from Lefkas, a great destination for sailing enthusiasts wanting to discover the beautiful islands of the Southern Ionian. We also offer yachts for bareboat charter from Corfu in the Northern Ionian.

The Ionians - a magical combination of myth and tradition...

perfect for a sailing holiday in the sun.

The Ionian Islands rise out of sparkling blue water. Tiny, colourful villages nestle on the slopes of hills clad in olive and cypress. The whole area simply oozes historic atmosphere. It's a land of poetry, of history and of legend.

Homer's Odyssey set sail across these very waters with a fleet of black-sailed ships to fight at Troy, while numerous forts and other ruins bear witness to centuries of domination by Venice. Many of the olive trees date back to Venetian times, when islanders paid taxes to their overlords in the form of olive oil.

Women in traditional costume sit shaded by vines and apricot trees as they tat intricate lacework. The fisherman in his picturesque boat nods a smiling "Yassou" of greeting. If you are lucky you may get the pick of his catch to cook for your supper: mullet, lobster, swordfish or octopus.

During spring and autumn the temperature in the Ionian is similar to a bright summer's day in Northern Europe. In high summer it gets considerably hotter, but the sea breezes ensure that you remain comfortable. The sea is warm enough to swim in throughout the season.

The prevailing winds are north-westerly, but vary from island to island and even bay to bay. Winds are usually Force 3-4, perfect for a pleasant afternoon sail, but can occasionally reach Force 5 or 6 which gives keen sailors a chance to put the yacht through its paces, whilst the less energetic can relax in one of the many ports of safe anchorages.

| WHEN TO GO | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Average Temp C ^o | 6-12 | 6-12 | 8-15 | 11-18 | 15-23 | 19-28 | 22-31 | 22-31 | 19-28 | 15-22 | 11-17 | 8-14 |
| Average Rain Fall (cm) | 4.3 | 4.3 | 4.9 | 2.5 | 1.7 | 0.6 | 0 | 0 | 1.6 | 5.7 | 7.7 | 6.9 |



Create your own magical **Odysseus** holiday

charter bareboat, add a skipper or join a friendly flotilla.

Imagine spending warm lazy days sailing among unspoilt islands under friendly skies, anchoring in some deserted bay to explore the local countryside or to cool off with a dip in unbelievably clear blue water, then meeting up with friends in the evening for a relaxing drink and dinner in the local taverna.

Odysseus sailing holidays are ideal for novices and expert sailors alike, for couples, families, friends and free spirits. And we promise you, you'll want to come back again and again and again!

All our yachts are available for bareboat charter for independent sailing. If you are an experienced sailor and want the freedom to choose where and when to sail for your entire holiday then you can charter any of our yachts. Bareboat chartering puts you in total control, but we make sure that you're not 'all at sea' because you have the back-up and support of our staff

FLOTILLA SAILING with Odysseus

You can add a skipper to any of our yachts so you can experience 'the sailing way of life' regardless of your previous sailing experience. A skippered charter allows you the chance to join in or just relax, sit back and enjoy the magical seascapes.

Each flotilla is accompanied by one of our staffed yachts with an experienced flotilla skipper and hostess on hand with advice and assistance. They are ready to help out with itineraries, navigation and finding that ruined fort or the best local taverna. They will sort out any problems with unfamiliar equipment, introduce you to new friends and take your mooring lines at the quay. Your flotilla skipper and hostess are alongside to help you enjoy your holiday.

You get all the advantages of independent cruising, plus the support of experienced help should you need it. As the skipper of your own yacht, you can sail at the pace you want. You can also 'go it alone' for several days, joining up with the flotilla for barbeque evenings or other social events. It's your holiday so sail it your way.

During school holidays there are always other families sailing on flotilla. Children and teenagers love sailing holidays - there's plenty going on afloat and ashore. And the constant thrill of new destinations means there's lots of exploring to be done.





We specialise in one area - The Ionian Islands - which we believe gives you the perfect combination of sailing, socialising and scenery. We know all the whys and wherefores of local sailing, culture, history and geography, making us experts at organising trouble-free sailing holidays.

Top class fully-equipped yachts

All our yachts are fitted and equipped to extremely high standards. They all have roller furling genoa and either in-mast furling mainsail or slab reefing mainsail with lazy-jacks and lazybag, allowing you to reef or furl the sails from the cockpit.

All our yachts have an electric anchor windlass, hot and cold running water, toilet waste holding tank, GPS, CD player, refrigerator and bimini sunshade. Yachts 36' and larger have autopilot and yachts 39' and larger include a free outboard for the tender. Full specifications can be found on pages 8 to 10.

Personal service

Our staff are on hand offering any advice and support you may require. From freeing a snarled anchor rope to recommending a local restaurant and helping you to reserve a place on the quay in the evening, our staff are here to help.

Freedom

We don't believe in 'regimented' flotilla sailing. We believe in letting you choose where you want to go and what you want to do. Your flotilla skipper and hostess are always there to make suggestions but they are advisers rather than organisers. You are free to devise your own route and your schedule for arriving at each day's destination. And if you are an experienced sailor you can choose to charter bareboat.

You can count on us

We have been organising sailing holidays in the Ionian for over 30 years and offer a very popular flotilla program with a first-class reputation. We have an excellent fleet of over 50 yachts based in the Ionian, so we are small enough to give you excellent personal service, yet large enough to provide efficient organisation, a wide variety

of superb yachts, a choice of itineraries and complete back-up facilities. With Odysseus, you'll find we have thought of every detail to ensure you enjoy your holiday.

Sail with Odysseus for:

- Expert local knowledge
- Comfortable, well-equipped yachts
- Completely unregimented flotillas
- Efficient organisation and helpful staff
- Friendly atmosphere and good company
- One of the safest and most beautiful sailing areas in the world

Add a generous helping of sunshine, fair breezes, a little ouzo - and you'll see why Odysseus sailors return regularly, year after year.



We offer a selection of flotillas from Palairos

so you can choose the one that is right for you.

For a 2-week flotilla holiday, join the exciting NORTH/SOUTH PAXOS itinerary which heads north to the islands of Paxos and Anti-Paxos, just south of Corfu, before returning south in the second week to explore the Southern Ionian. If you only have 1 week but want to visit Paxos and Anti-Paxos, you can join the start of this flotilla, returning to Palairos at the end of the first week. For a 1-week itinerary choose the SOUTHERN IONIAN flotilla.

Here is a 2-week itinerary in detail to give you the feel of an Odysseus holiday. However, your actual programme may vary slightly, depending on local conditions at the time of your holiday.

NORTH/SOUTH PAXOS



Day 1 Embark at Palairos.

You join your flotilla in our beautifully located Palairos base, just a short drive from Preveza airport. The superb setting, with views across to Meganisi and Scorpios, the island owned by the Onassis family, will soon put you in the holiday mood! And there's time for a stroll around the shops after check in on your yacht.

Day 2 Preveza (17 nm).

The day starts with a sail across the bay, then a motor north through the Lefkas Canal and then a beautiful sail again across to the mainland and the typical Greek working town of Preveza. The pedestrianised waterfront is very popular for that evening institution, "the volta", (stroll) and watching the whole thing sipping a nice cocktail.

Day 3 Parga (31 nm).

This attractive harbour on the mainland is dominated by the 'Kasteli' fortress. This historic and picturesque town is now a wellestablished resort with plenty of tavernas and bars.

Day 4 Lakka, Paxos (12 nm).

Today we sail to the island of Paxos. Lakka is a popular anchorage in an almost landlocked bay. The tavernas and bars along the quayside provide a lively evening.

Day 5 Gaios, Paxos (12 nm).

We visit the beautiful anchorages of Antipaxos for lunch and a swim. The waters of Emerald Bay truly live up to their name. Gaios, on the southern tip of Paxos, is a popular harbour that spreads along the waterfront.

Day 6 Lefkas Marina (34 nm).

Early start for our sail south. A lovely downwind run to Lefkas Marina. Here you will find everything you need including banks, supermarkets and a good selection of restaurants and cafes in the charming town and it's little alleys and interesting back streets.

Day 7 Palairos (12 nm).

We head south through the Lefkas Canal back to Palairos where 1-weekers will finish. 2-weekers are free to explore any of the beautiful bays on Meganisi, safe for an overnight stav or return to Palairos for the evening.

Day 8 Free Sailing.

Relax among the idyllic bays of Meganisi island or sail across to Nidri, on the east coast of Lefkas, where you can cycle or walk around Vlichos Bay to see the waterfalls. In the town there is a large variety of shops, boutiques, restaurants and cafes.

Day 9 Sivota, Lefkas (10 nm).

We meet up for our group meal at Sivota, a beautifully located and

> unspoilt fishing village. While sipping your ouzo on deck, you will be amazed by the beauty of this wonderful bay, surrounded by impressive mountains covered by olive and cypress trees.



Day 10 Fiskardo, Kefalonia (12 nm).

This beautiful old fishing harbour is considered the pearl of the Ionian Islands. You'll find a wide choice of stylish and sophisticated shops, cafes and a variety of tavernas and restaurants.

Day 11 Kioni, Ithaca (11 nm).

The village is an exceptional beauty set amidst a setting of olive groves. The lovely houses form an amphitheatre around the steep slopes of the bay with its amazing deep blue waters. After an enjoyable sail, relax moored to the jetty, only a few steps away from the tavernas.

Day 12 Spartochori, Meganisi (18 nm).

Spartochori is a great place to spend an evening, watching an amazing sunset above the hill top village.

) Day 13 Varco (7 nm).

Tonight we have our beach BBO in this quiet anchorage with good shelter.

Day 14 Return to Palairos (5 nm). Rather than heading straight back you can return to one of the many

anchorages on Meganisi, perhaps Abelike Bay, for a last lunch stop and swim before returning to Palairos.



















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