

ISSUE #1
OF 1

SPECIAL EXCLUSIVE · HONEYMOON EDITION
SUPER POWER COUPLE CLUB · SEP 2026

RINTENDO FLOWER

SPECIAL EXCLUSIVE · HONEYMOON EDITION



GREECE: THE IONIAN SAGA

▶ 123 LOOT CARDS INSIDE

▶ FOLD-OUT WORLD MAP

▶ 5 BOSS ZONES · 16 DAYS

▶ PLAYER SELECT: AVERY + VANESA

Avery & Vanesa — congratulations, you two absolute co-op legends. You asked the universe for sixteen days in the Greek Ionian and the universe answered with a loot table. This is your strategy guide: every cove, feast, dive and clifftop we could scout, graded, mapped, and stamped with the intel to actually pull it off. Play it start to finish or roll a loadout and freestyle — there are no wrong builds on a honeymoon.

Each card is scored on **C3NCE** — our six-axis quality read — and turned into a star rating. Rarer borders mean bigger swings. Green boxes are **PRO TIPS**. Blue boxes are your **IF IT RAINS** plan B. Teal **SAVE POINTS** are where to call ahead. Now go.

— *The Editors, Rintendo Flower · Super Power Couple Club, Chapter of One*

“My barber didn't know when to quit... do you?”





— *Punch-Out !! (Mike Tyson's Punch-Out !!)* · NES · 1987
US

◆	PLAYER SELECT	CHARACTERS
◆	WORLD MAP	FOLD-OUT
01	CORFU	26 CARDS
02	PAXOS	24 CARDS
03	LEFKADA	25 CARDS
04	ITHACA	22 CARDS
05	KEFALONIA	26 CARDS
★	COLLECTIBLE MERCH	SPRITES
★	CLASSIFIED INFORMATION	CHEATS
★	COUNSELOR'S CORNER	Q&A

★ HOW THE STARS WORK — C3NCE / 60 → + / 5

- CZ** Crazy — ambition, nerve
- CO** Cool — surface swagger
- CX** Complex — depth, layering
- N** Nerd — the deep-cut detail
- CH** Coherence — how it all fits
- EF** Efficiency — payoff per effort

◆ RARITY BORDERS

-  LEGENDARY · boss loot · unmissable
-  EPIC · feature encounters
-  RARE · solid finds
-  UNCOMMON · quick bonus pickups

PLAYER SELECT

PLAYER 1 · NAVIGATOR

♥ HEALER



VANESA

CLASS: PARTY HEALER · THE NAVIGATOR

VITALITY	MAX
NAVIGATION	S-RANK
CHAOS RESIST	HIGH
SUNSET-SPOTTING	S-RANK

Petite, quick, and reads a map like a chart of the stars. The party healer — and a word to the wise: do not upset the party healer. Her ancestors historically sent people to meet god with an obsidian blade. Keep her fed, keep her at sunset, and she will keep this whole expedition alive.

PLAYER 2 · DRIVER

⚙️ WHEELMAN



AVERY

CLASS: DRIVER · THE WHEELMAN

HORSEPOWER	MAX
WEST-COAST CRAWL	S-RANK
KI (羈)	OVER 8000
GELATO INTEL	HIGH

Rectangular glasses, a bleached-blond swept-back top over shaved sides, and a full colour sleeve of DBZ ink that powers up in direct Ionian sun. Hand him the keys and a west-coast road and the whole island becomes a playground.

▶ HOWARD & NESTER — "THE FERRY CAPER" · continued next issue



Our chibi correspondents are still getting their portraits painted — the four-panel strip drops the moment the couple-restyle art lands. Consider these panels a spoiler-free placeholder.



- FERRY
- ROUTE
- ☠ BOSS ENCOUNTER (LEGENDARY)
- ZONE CHECKPOINT
- ▲ AIRSHIP CURSOR

16 DAYS · 5 ISLANDS · 123 CARDS

ZONE 01 • 3 NIGHTS • SEP 12-15

CORFU

Venetian, green and grand — the soft-landing zone. Shake off the 20-hour flight with long dinners, not early ferries.

◆ 26 CARDS

1 BOSS ENCOUNTER

⊕ 3 NIGHTS • SEP 12-15

◆ **BASE CAMP** Corfu Old Town boutique (~\$180-260/nt) or Kanoni/Kommeno for a sea-view resort.

You made it. Breathe all the way out. The long haul is behind you, and this green place is yours to settle into slow.

⊕ BEST-LIGHT RUNNING ORDER • DAWN → NIGHT

Morning • 07:00-10:30	Canal d'Amour Swim
Morning • 07:00-10:30	Dawn Bougatsa-and-Fish-Market Crawl
Midday • 10:30-16:30	Paleokastritsa Coves
Midday • 10:30-16:30	Nissaki Clear-Water Snorkel
Midday • 10:30-16:30	Pilot Your Own Boat (No License)
Midday • 10:30-16:30	Theotoky Estate — Bond's Robola
Midday • 10:30-16:30	Apiary Tour With the Beekeeper's Own Hands
Midday • 10:30-16:30	Cave-and-Reef Dive Beneath Paleokastritsa
Midday • 10:30-16:30	Throw a Pot on the Wheel
Midday • 10:30-16:30	Hidden Cove: Agni Bay
Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30	Ghost Village to Corfu's Rooftop Summit
Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30	The Achilleion — Sissi's Grief-Palace
Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30	Vlacherna & Mouse Island
Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30	Porto Timoni's Double-Cove Secret
Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30	Golden-Hour Fortress Walk
Sunset • 19:15-19:50	Angelokastro Sunset Climb

Sunset · 19:15- Private RIB Along the Kassiopei Coastline at Sunset

19:50

Sunset · 19:15- Kaiser's Throne Sundown

19:50

Evening · 20:00- ★ Tripa — the Endless Feast Since 1936

23:30

Evening · 20:00- Dinner on the 1699 Well

23:30

Evening · 20:00- Corfiot-Venetian Table

23:30

Evening · 20:00- The Liston After Dark

23:30

Evening · 20:00- Cook a Corfiot Dish in a Local's Kitchen

23:30

Evening · 20:00- Kavadales Village Wine Festival

23:30

Night · 22:00-Late Doukades Square, Under the Plane Tree

Anytime Kumquat Gelato at Papagiorgis

▲ LIGHT-WINDOW CLASH these compete for the same light — you can only be one place per golden hour, so split them across your nights:

▶ Golden Hour — Ghost Village to Corfu's Rooftop Summit, Golden-Hour Fortress Walk, Porto Timoni's Double-Cove Secret, The Achilleion — Sissi's Grief-Palace, Vlacherna & Mouse Island

▶ Sunset — Angelokastro Sunset Climb, Kaiser's Throne Sundown, Private RIB Along the Kassiopei Coastline at Sunset

◆ ZONE ROSTER · TICK THEM OFF AS YOU CLEAR THEM

★ Tripa — the Endless Feast Since 1936	★★★★★	📅	Pilot Your Own Boat (No License)	★★★★★	📅
Ghost Village to Corfu's Rooftop Summit	★★★★★	📅	The Liston After Dark	★★★★★	📅
The Achilleion — Sissi's Grief-Palace	★★★★★	📅	Theotoky Estate — Bond's Robola	★★★★★	📅
Angelokastro Sunset Climb	★★★★★	📅	Apiary Tour With the Beekeeper's Own Hands	★★★★★	📅
Private RIB Along the Kassiopei Coastline at Sunset	★★★★★	📅	Cook a Corfiot Dish in a Local's Kitchen	★★★★★	📅
Kaiser's Throne Sundown	★★★★★	📅	Dawn Bougatsa-and-Fish-Market Crawl	★★★★★	📅
Paleokastritsa Coves	★★★★★	📅	Cave-and-Reef Dive Beneath Paleokastritsa	★★★★★	📅
Vlacherna & Mouse Island	★★★★★	📅	Doukades Square, Under the Plane Tree	★★★★★	📅
Dinner on the 1699 Well	★★★★★	📅	Golden-Hour Fortress Walk	★★★★★	📅
Porto Timoni's Double-Cove Secret	★★★★★	📅	Throw a Pot on the Wheel	★★★★★	📅
Corfiot-Venetian Table	★★★★★	📅	Hidden Cove: Agni Bay	★★★★★	📅
Canal d'Amour Swim	★★★★★	📅	Kavadales Village Wine Festival	★★★★★	📅
Nissaki Clear-Water Snorkel	★★★★★	📅	Kumquat Gelato at Papagiorgis	★★★★★	📅

★ Tripa — the Endless Feast Since 1936

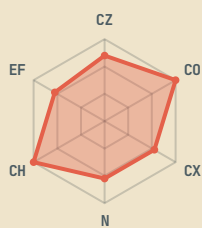


4.0/5 · 49/60

× BOSS · LEGENDARY



LEGENDARY



C3NCE 49 / 60

FEAST

CO-OP

🕒 EVENING · 20:00-23:30

€ ~45/pp

ENERGY ●○○

▶ FEEDS YOU

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Taverna Tripa, Kinopiastes

CALL

+30 26610 56333 (mobile +30 694 4841793)

BOOK

1-2 weeks ahead

RES

REQUIRED

Show up hungry and just say yes to everything. Eat, laugh, dance badly, stay too long. This one's a story-maker.

There is no menu at Tripa. There hasn't been since 1936. You sit down at Kinopiastes, in the same family's taverna it's always been, and the food simply starts arriving — meze after meze after meze, then spit-roast lamb, then more than you could have ordered if they'd let you — until at some point the bouzouki players stop being background and a pair of hands pulls you up out of your chair to dance. That format hasn't changed in nearly ninety years, and here's the wild part: it didn't change even as the place quietly fed Onassis, Jane Fonda, François Mitterrand and Anthony Quinn, whose names sit in the guest book. This is the legendary card of the zone, the ★ feast, and it earns the star not with a view but with sheer momentum — the endless plates, the wine that never quite empties, the near-certainty that you two end the night dancing with strangers who won't be strangers by dessert. It is the single most joyful thing you can do in Corfu with your clothes on.

▶ HOW IT GOES

The one to book early. Taverna Tripa is in Kinopiastes, ~7km southwest of Corfu Town, and it's both a beloved local haunt and a coach-tour staple — which is exactly why you reserve 1–2 weeks ahead in September (+30 26610 56333, info@tripas.gr, or the booking form at tripas.gr). It's a fixed no-menu feast at ~€45 per person including wine, an evening card, and gloriously en:1 — your only job is to keep eating and, eventually, to stand up and dance. Come hungry in the most serious way; the meze alone will test you before the lamb even lands. Ask if they'll sell you a bottle of the unlabeled house wine to carry out. Sort your ride back — you won't want to be driving after this one.

◆ LORE

Run by the same family since 1936; the fixed-menu-plus-live-dancing format hasn't changed even as it fed Onassis, Jane Fonda, François Mitterrand and Anthony Quinn — their names are in the guest book.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: book 1-2 weeks ahead — Tripa is a coach-tour staple as well as a local favorite, so a September walk-in is a real gamble. Lock it via +30 26610 56333 or tripas.gr.
- ▶ Do not eat lunch. The no-menu feast is a marathon of meze before the spit-roast lamb even arrives, and pacing yourself is the only skill required.
- ▶ When the bouzouki players come to your table, get up — the dancing isn't a show you watch, it's the point of the night. Arrange a taxi home in advance.

📷 PHOTO OP

Two names tell the story. First, shoot down the long communal table mid-feast, meze plates crowding the cloth, string lights and the bouzouki players glowing behind — a wide, warm, overflowing composition. Then put the camera down until the dancing starts and grab one candid on the floor: you two, or the linked-hands circle, motion-blurred and lit only by the room.

◇ **IF IT RAINS**

If Tripa's fully booked on your dates, the closest cousin is Doukades Square, Under the Plane Tree — slow-cooked Corfiot food and live village atmosphere — or the intimate Dinner on the 1699 Well for a quieter celebration.

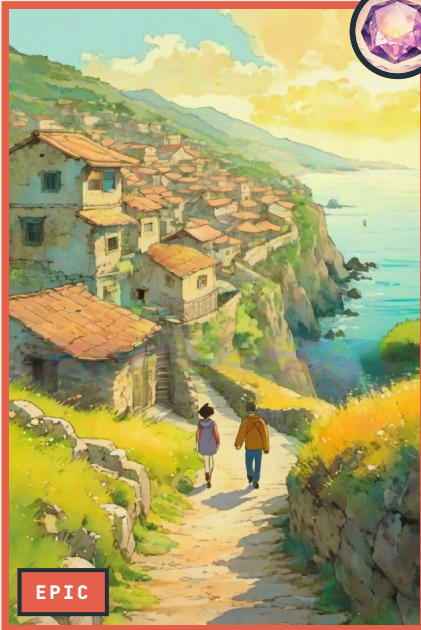
● **SCOUT REPORT**

The zone's lone legendary, and it posts the only double-10 in Corfu: Cool 10 and Coherence 10. Cool because ninety years of unchanged endless-feast that fed Onassis and Anthony Quinn is untouchable pedigree; Coherence 10 because the no-menu format means the card cannot miss — it delivers the exact same joy every single night. Crazy 8 for the you-will-end-up-dancing inevitability.

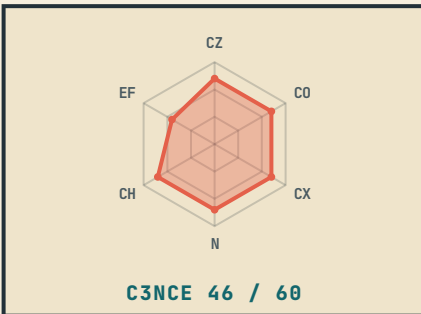
Ghost Village to Corfu's Rooftop Summit



4.0/5 · 46/60



EPIC



DRIVE P2 · AVERY

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ ~45/pp ENERGY ●●○

◆ **SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL**

SITE
RoLandos Corfu Car Hire (soft-top jeep/SUV)

CALL
+30 26610 53520

BOOK
1-2 weeks ahead — September jeep/soft-top inventory sells out at small local operators

RES
RECOMMENDED

Top down, road winding up, nowhere to be — the kind of drive where the getting-there is the whole gift.

Old Perithia is the ghost at the top of the island. It was built high on Mount Pantokrator's slope for one blunt reason — to hide from the pirates who worked the coast — and for centuries its stone houses held on, until the 1960s and 70s, when the last families finally moved down to where the tourists and the money were. What's left is a Protected Historic Monument of empty Venetian-era stone: genuinely medieval-adjacent masonry, not a heritage-park reconstruction. Avery, this is your driving card. You take a soft-top jeep up the hairpin switchbacks, prowl the abandoned lanes, then keep climbing the narrow paved road to Pantokrator's 906m summit — the single highest point on Corfu, where on a clear day you can see Albania to one side and Italy across the sea to the other. Two countries, one dead village, one summit monastery, and a road that earns every meter of the view.

▶ **NP PRO TIPS**

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: book the soft-top 1-2 weeks ahead — September jeep inventory at small local shops like Rolandos genuinely sells out, and a regular car robs you of the open-top summit drive.
- ▶ Only shoot from marked pullouts — the hairpins are blind and narrow; never stop on a curve for a photo, however good the light.

◆ **IF IT RAINS**

If low cloud caps Pantokrator (it does that), keep the jeep and reroute west to the Paleokastritsa Coves and the Angelokastro Sunset Climb — same rental, sea-level views that won't be socked in.

● **SCOUT REPORT**

A rare straight-8 sweep across Crazy/Cool/Complex/Nerd/Coherence — this card scores like a JRPG boss with balanced stats. Crazy 8 for hairpinning a soft-top through a 600-year-dead village to a two-country summit; Coherence 8 because ghost-village-then-rooftop is one clean ascending narrative. Efficiency dips to 6 only for the pre-booked rental and the driving hours the payoff demands.

The Achilleion — Sissi's Grief-Palace



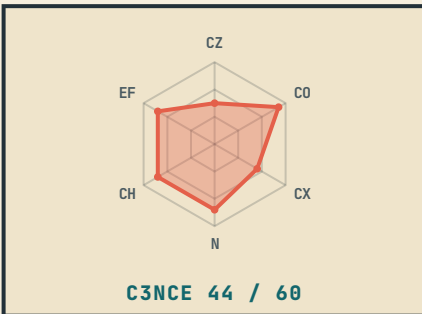
3.5/5 · 44/60



EPIC

Wander the statue gardens arm in arm, where old sorrow was turned into beauty. Today, just the beauty is yours.

This is a palace built out of grief. Empress Elisabeth of Austria — 'Sissi' — raised the Achilleion on a hill above Gastouri as a retreat after her son Rudolf died. She poured her mourning into it, and its centerpiece was a statue of the Dying Achilles, the wounded hero pulling the arrow from his heel — her grief made marble. Then the story twists: Kaiser Wilhelm II bought the place, and being Wilhelm, he had a different Achilles installed — a colossal bronze Achilles Triumphant, all crested helmet and conquest, glaring out over the Ionian. One palace, two Achilles, two utterly opposite ideas of what a hero is: a grieving mother's dying son and a Kaiser's war-god. You two walk the terraced gardens between them, reading the whole strange biography of the place in two statues. (Fair warning: the interior's been closed for renovation since 2021 — the gardens and statues are the visit, and they're more than enough.)



▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: set expectations before you go — the interior's been shut for renovation since 2021, so this is a gardens-and-statues visit, not a palace-rooms tour. Plan the 1.5-2 hours around the terraces.
- ▶ Go late afternoon for the gold light on the Achilles Triumphant bronze, and buy the e-ticket online to walk straight past any gate queue.

QUEST CO-OP

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ ~7/pp ENERGY ●●○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
Achilleion Palace, Gastouri

HOURS
Daily 08:00-20:00 (01/04-31/10 season, which covers September)

BOOK
walk-in, or buy e-ticket online same-day/day-before to skip any line

RES
WALK IN

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the gardens are mobbed or you want the same Sissi-era grandeur with a drink attached, the nearby Kaiser's Throne Sundown (Wilhelm's own sunset spot above Pelekas) is a short hop and free.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool and Coherence both hit 9 — the two-Achilles, empress-then-Kaiser story is one of the tightest, most cinematic narratives in the zone, and it's gorgeous to walk. Nerd 8 for that dense Habsburg-and-Hohenzollern history. Crazy sits at 5 because it's a serene garden palace, not a thrill — the drama's all in the marble, not the doing.

Angelokastro Sunset Climb



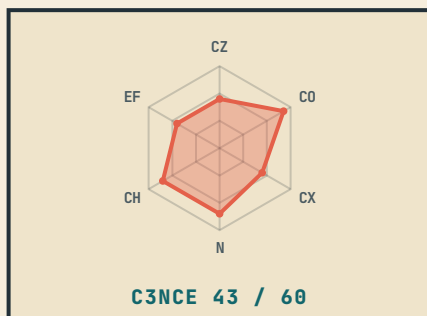
3.5/5 · 43/60



EPIC

Take the climb together, catch your breath at the top, and watch the light go gold over the water. Worth it, promise.

Angelokastro is a fortress that seems to grow straight out of a 305-meter cliff on the wild northwest coast — so high and so sheer that it was, for a stretch of the Middle Ages, the whole point of Corfu. From 1387 into the 16th century it served as the island's Byzantine capital and the seat of the Provveditore Generale, the Venetian governor. Inside the ramparts a little whitewashed chapel to the Archangel Michael still holds its faded frescoes, keeping watch as it has for centuries. You two climb it for the sunset, when the gold light spills down the ramparts and across the whole indented Paleokastritsa coastline far below — genuinely one of the best sunsets on the island. One honest catch: mid-September sunset (~19:15) falls after the site's 18:00 closing, so a DIY 'climb it at golden hour' plan risks a locked gate. To actually be up there for the moment, book the guided hike-and-sunset tour, which has the after-hours access.



TREK **CO-OP**

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ ~3/pp **ENERGY ●●●**

◆ **SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL**

SITE
Angelokastro

CALL
26610 48120 / 26610 48310
(Ephorate of Antiquities, Corfu)

HOURS
Standard site hours: daily except Wednesday, 10:00-18:00

BOOK
guided sunset tour: several days to 1 week ahead in September

RES
PREBOOK ONLINE

▶ **NP PRO TIPS**

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: the DIY sunset plan is a trap — the gate shuts at 18:00 but September sunset is ~19:15, so book the guided hike-and-sunset tour (the after-hours-access product) if you want the golden-hour ramparts.
- ▶ Closed Wednesdays. For a daytime visit it's a €3 walk-in, but wear closed shoes and carry water — the path up is genuinely rocky.

◆ **IF IT RAINS**

If the tour's booked out or it's a Wednesday, take the same coastline's sunset from below at the Paleokastritsa Coves, or drive to the island's rooftop for the Kaiser's Throne Sundown.

● **SCOUT REPORT**

Cool 9 for a Byzantine cliff-fortress sunset 305m over the sea — hard to beat for drama. Nerd 8 rewards the real history (Corfu's medieval capital, the Provveditore's seat). Crazy 6 and Efficiency 6 are held down by the same thing: the rocky en:3 climb and the annoying gate-closes-before-sunset logistics that force you into a booked tour to do it right.

Private RIB Along the Kassiopei Coastline at Sunset



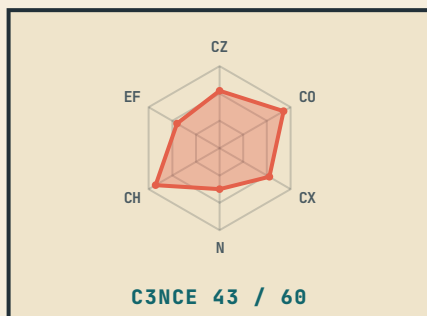
3.5/5 · 43/60



EPIC

The two of you, the whole coast to yourselves, the light going soft. Some evenings are made to be private.

The northeast coast between Kassiopei and the Erimitis peninsula is where discretion lives. European nobility — British royals among them — have quietly summered along this green, cliff-folded shore for decades, and the reason the string of coves past Kalami never got swallowed by mass tourism is beautifully simple: there's no road to them. You can only arrive by water. So you two do exactly that, and privately — no shared-boat crowd, no fixed schedule, just a skipper, a fast little RIB, and three or four hours of the coast turning gold. You'll cruise past Kalami, past Agni's toy tavernas, into the hidden bays the roads can't reach, with swim stops wherever the water tempts you. Then comes the moment the whole card is built around: the last fifteen minutes before sunset, engine cut, the boat drifting silent on a wake-free sea while the cliffs go copper. It's the splurge, and it's the honeymoon photo you'll actually frame.



▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: book Balos Yachts (+30 2661 099992) 1-2 weeks ahead — private sunset RIB slots are the first thing to sell out in September, and this coast is only reachable by water.
- ▶ Ask the skipper to cut the engine for the last 15 minutes before sunset — a still, wake-free sea is the whole shot, and most skippers happily double as your photographer for a tip.

VOYAGE

CO-OP

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ ~240/pp

ENERGY ●○○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Balos Yachts (Kassiopei)

CALL

+30 2661 099992 (mobile +30 698 8712384)

BOOK

1-2 weeks ahead for a private sunset charter in September (peak-season demand)

RES

REQUIRED

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the sea's too rough for a small RIB at sunset, self-skipper the calmer inshore version another day via Pilot Your Own Boat (No License) — or take the sunset from dry land at the Angelokastro Sunset Climb.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool and Coherence tie at 9 — a private roadless-coast sunset cruise is about as high-glamour and single-minded as the zone gets, and it delivers that one image cleanly. Crazy 7 for the exclusivity and the hidden-bay access. Efficiency drops to 6, and fairly: this is the priciest card in Corfu, the splurge you pay for the privacy.

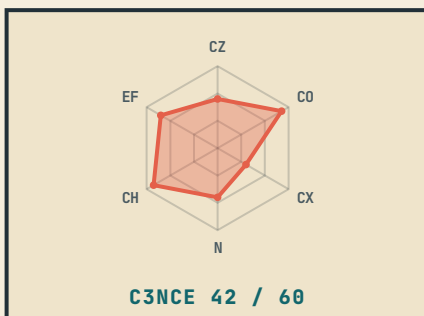
Kaiser's Throne Sundown



3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC



QUEST

CO-OP

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ ~8/pp

ENERGY ●○○

Find your spot up high, shoulder to shoulder, and let the day burn down gold. Nowhere to be but here.

Wilhelm II — the Kaiser who rode up from his palace at the Achilleion down the hill — used to have himself driven to this bald little knuckle of rock above Pelekas just to watch the sun go into the sea. The locals have called it Kaiser's Throne ever since. It is, quite literally, the roof of Corfu: the highest viewpoint on an island otherwise all olive-green softness, and from the platform the land falls away in every direction until the Ionian takes over. This is your soft-landing ritual — the very first card of the whole run, best played on night one when the jet lag is still humming in your bones. You two don't need a plan up here. You need a cold drink from the café, a west-facing ledge, and the good sense to let a 20-hour flight dissolve into a horizon going tangerine. Somewhere below, tomorrow's ferry is waiting. It can keep waiting.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: play this literally on arrival night — it's the lowest-effort, highest-payoff card in the zone, and it nudges your body clock westward while the jet lag's still fresh.
- ▶ The café draws the sunset crowd; arrive before the sun's on the horizon or you'll be standing. The ledges just off the platform are quieter than the terrace.

◇ IF IT RAINS

If cloud smothers the western horizon, swap to the Golden-Hour Fortress Walk in Corfu Town — same amber-hour payoff at sea level, and free.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool sits at a lordly 9 because you're drinking in a literal Kaiser's sunset from the island's rooftop — pure regal swagger. Coherence 9 and Efficiency 8: this is the platonic soft-landing card, one clean gesture that does exactly what it promises with zero friction. Crazy's a modest 6 — it's a viewpoint with a café, not a cliff-dive; the wildness is all in the light, not the doing.

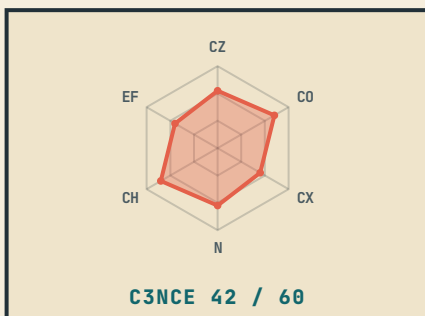
Paleokastritsa Coves



3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC



QUEST

CO-OP

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~20/pp

ENERGY ●●○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Small taxi-boats from Agios Spyridon beach, Paleokastrit...

CALL

+30 693 722 6459 (Seahorse, self-drive rental only)

BOOK

walk-in (taxi-boats); same-day to a few days ahead if self-driving via Seahorse

RES

WALK IN

Let a little boat carry you two from cove to cove, no map, no hurry — just the water and each other.

Homer's geography is fuzzy, but the Corfiots have never had any doubt: this is where Odysseus, shipwrecked and salt-crusted, supposedly washed ashore and was found by Princess Nausikaa. Whether or not a shipwrecked king ever crawled onto these pebbles, Paleokastritsa earns the myth. Coves fold into one another beneath green headlands, the water shading from jade to ink and back to blazing turquoise where the light gets in, and a whitewashed monastery from 1225 keeps watch from the clifftop, its courtyard fragrant with herbal oils sold at the monastery shop. You two get the best of it the lazy way: a little wooden taxi-boat pattering you into grottoes and coves the road can't reach, past caves the surface can only hint at. It's the postcard the whole island sells itself on, and for once the postcard undersells it.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: do the monastery before the boat and go early, before the tour buses peak — its exact hours aren't independently confirmed, so don't bank on a specific closure window either way.
- ▶ The taxi-boats leave when full, so a calm morning both fills them faster and gives you flat water for the grottoes.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the sea's too choppy for the taxi-boats to run the grottoes, drive over to the Angelokastro Sunset Climb for the cliff-top-fortress view over the same coastline.

● SCOUT REPORT

A balanced 7/8/6/7/8/6 line — this is the epic that behaves. Crazy 7 for the Odysseus-washed-up-here myth stitched onto real 1225 stone; Coherence 8 because monastery-then-boat-then-swim is a clean three-beat afternoon that never fights itself. Nothing spikes to legendary, nothing sags — the definition of a reliable epic.

Vlacherna & Mouse Island



3.5/5 · 42/60



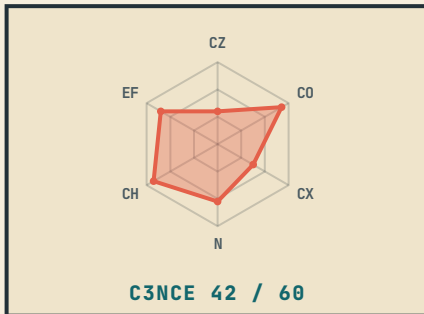
EPIC

Walk the causeway together, hop the little boat, and take in a view the whole island brags about. Unhurried.

This is the frame Corfu sells on every postcard, and it stacks three separate images into one: a tiny white monastery, Vlacherna, reaching out along a slender 300-meter causeway into a still lagoon; behind it, the cypress-crowned islet of Pontikonisi — 'Mouse Island' — with its little Byzantine chapel; and, if you're lucky, a plane banking low over the water on its way in. The myth gives the islet its gravity: Pontikonisi is said to be Odysseus's ship, turned to stone by a furious Poseidon, the chapel marking where the mast would have stood. You two walk the causeway to the monastery for free, then take one of the informal fishermen's rowboats across to the islet — a short hop, a couple of euros, cash in hand. Petrified ship, causeway chapel, low-flying planes: it's the most-photographed spot on the island, and it does not disappoint.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: the boat to Mouse Island is pure walk-up — no company, no booking, just informal fishermen's boats every ~10 minutes. Bring small cash (~€2-3pp) for the jetty.
- ▶ Shoot from the Kanoni viewpoint above, not just the causeway — that elevated angle is the actual postcard frame, monastery and islet in one shot.



QUEST

CO-OP

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ ~3/pp

ENERGY ●○○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Informal fishermen boat operators at the Vlacherna Monas...

BOOK

n/a — walk-in only

RES

WALK IN

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the boats aren't running or the pier's mobbed, the causeway monastery and the Kanoni viewpoint alone still deliver the shot — or shift the golden hour to nearby Kaiser's Throne Sundown for a wider sunset.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool, Coherence and Efficiency all sit high (9/9/8) — this is the postcard, it's basically free, and it never fails to deliver its frame. Crazy is the zone-low 4: you're walking a causeway and taking a short rowboat hop, hardly daring. But Nerd 7 earns its keep on the Odysseus-petrified-ship myth, which turns a pretty islet into a footnote from the Odyssey.

Dinner on the 1699 Well



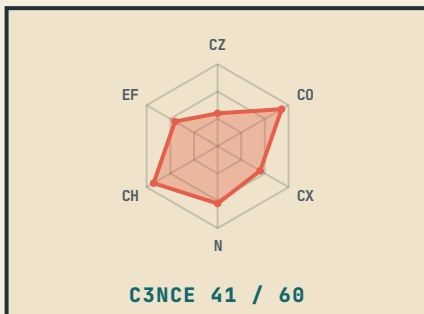
3.5/5 · 41/60



EPIC

Book the candlelit table in the hidden square and let the night feel exactly as momentous as it is. Just you two.

Tucked into the folds of the Old Town, away from the Liston's bustle, is Kremasti Square — small, quiet, easy to walk past — and at its center sits a carved stone wellhead that a wealthy Venetian gifted to the city in 1699. It's not decor. It's not a reproduction. It's a civic gift more than three centuries old that the restaurant simply grew up around, setting candlelit tables in a ring on the cobbles where the neighborhood has drawn water since. The Venetian Well works a refined Mediterranean-Corfiot menu — veal tartare, carefully composed desserts — out of a restored Venetian mansion, and the whole thing is quietly, seriously romantic. This is your 'wait, we're actually married' dinner: the one you book on purpose, the one where the square is small enough and the lamplight warm enough that it feels like the two of you have the Old Town to yourselves. Ask for a well-view table when you reserve. This is the card you'll both remember.



FEAST **CO-OP**

EVENING · 20:00-23:30

€ ~55/pp **ENERGY** ●○○

FEEDS YOU

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
The Venetian Well, Kremasti Square

CALL
+30 2661 550955 (mobile +30 6944282123)

HOURS
Mon-Sat 18:30-23:30, closed Sunday

BOOK
3-7 days ahead

RES
RECOMMENDED

▶ NP PRO TIPS

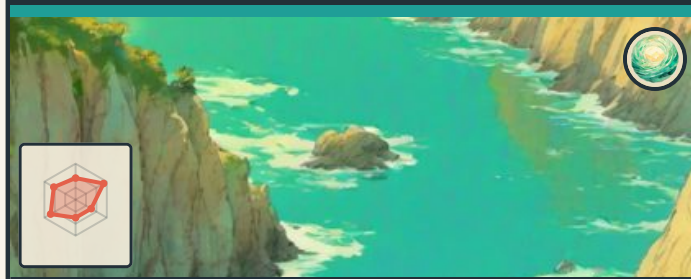
- ▶ NP PRO TIP: when you call +30 2661 550955, ask specifically for a well-view table — the square is tiny and those tables are the whole point; they go first.
- ▶ Closed Sundays, and it's a book-3-to-7-days-ahead kind of place in September — don't leave this one to a walk-in.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If they're full or it's a Sunday, keep the intimate-Old-Town-dinner mood at the Corfiot-Venetian Table in the Campiello, or go big and communal at ★ Tripa — the Endless Feast Since 1936.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool and Coherence lock in at 9 apiece — a candlelit ring around a genuine 1699 Venetian well is peak romantic atmosphere, and the card knows exactly what it is. Crazy bottoms out at 4, tied for the lowest of the zone's epics, precisely because it's calm by design: this is serenity, not spectacle. The Efficiency 6 is just the ~€50-ish head price of a special-occasion dinner.



Porto Timoni's Double-Cove Secret

COVE | **GOLDEN HOUR** · 18:00-19:30 | € FREE

★★★★★ 40/60

A little sweat, a little trail, and then the two of you alone above impossible blue. Worth every step.

Porto Timoni is a geological showoff. Two crescent beaches sit back-to-back on a slim isthmus at the northwest tip of the island, and here's the trick: the two bays are fed by opposing littoral drifts — different currents pulling from different directions — so on the same still afternoon they...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: shoot from the headland trail ABOVE before you descend — the classic double-bay frame only exists from the elevated approach, and you can't get it once you're down at sea level.



Corfiot-Venetian Table

FEAST | **EVENING** · 20:00-23:30 | € ~45

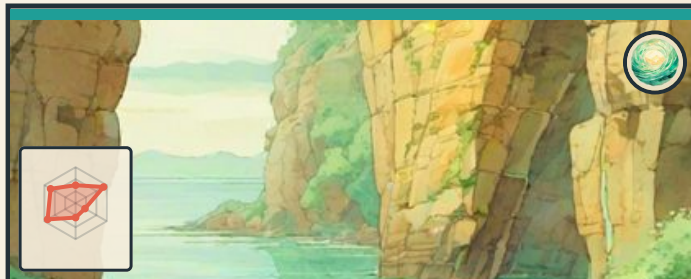
★★★★★ 39/60

Slip into a backstreet table and eat slowly — this is the kind of dinner you'll retell for years.

Corfu is the one corner of Greece where the traditional starch on the plate is pasta, not rice — and the reason is four hundred years of Venetian rule that never quite left the kitchen. The island's holy trinity of dishes tells the story: sofrito, veal braised soft in garlic and white wine;...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: order at least one of the Venetian three — sofrito, pastitsada, or bourdeto — over anything grilled; the whole point of this card is the spice-drawer that grill menus skip.

◆ **BOOK:** walk-in, or call Skalinada 2-3 days ahead if you want a locked-in table



Canal d'Amour Swim

COVE | **MORNING** · 07:00-10:30 | € FREE

★★★★★ 38/60

Slip into the quiet channel at first light, just the two of you. Some swims you take for the memory, not the water.

The legend at Sidari is refreshingly non-negotiable: swim the length of the Canal d'Amour — the 'Channel of Love' — and the two of you stay in love forever. (There's a bonus clause for singles: whoever reaches the channel's farthest tip finds the love of their life, but you...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: go at first light — by midday the sandstone ledges fill up and the water churns; early morning is the only time the channel is calm and yours.



Nissaki Clear-Water Snorkel

DIVE | **MIDDAY** · 10:30-16:30 | € FREE

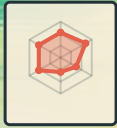
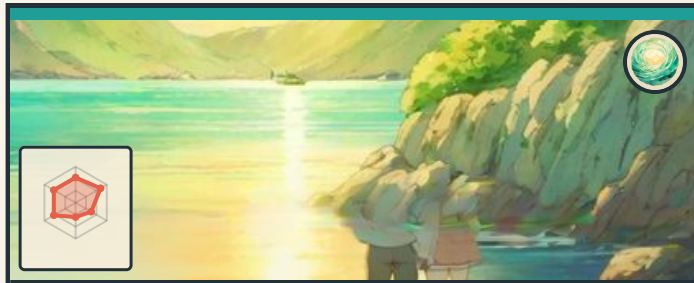
★★★★★ 38/60

Float face-down side by side over a bright, quiet seabed. No rush, no crowd — just the blue and the two of you.

There are two names Corfiots give when you ask where the water's clearest, and Nissaki is one of them (Paleokastritsa is the other). On the green northeast coast, this little pebble cove regularly runs 25 meters of visibility — the kind of clarity where you float on the surface and can count...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: arrive early for the tiny parking even though you want a midday swim — the mid-day sun angle is what unlocks the 25m visibility, so grab your spot then wait for the light.

◆ **BOOK:** n/a — walk-in; call Nissaki Boat Rental same-day/day-before only if adding a boat



Pilot Your Own Boat (No License)

VOYAGE

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~100

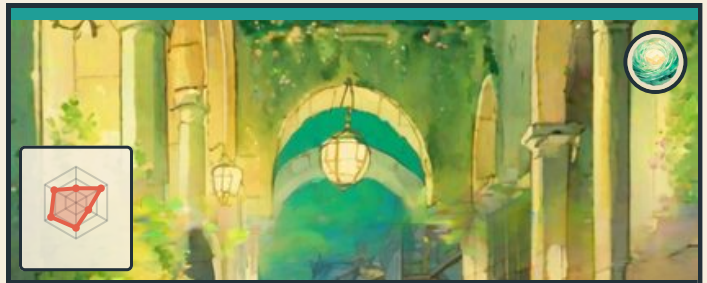
★★★★☆ 38/60

Take the tiller together, pick a cove, and go find it. A whole day on the water with no one's plan but yours.

Here's a small, wonderful loophole: Greek law lets anyone pilot a motorboat up to about 30 horsepower with no license at all. Which is exactly why the northeast coast is dotted with self-drive rental shacks — and why you two can wake up, walk down to a jetty, get a quick safety briefing, and...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: ≤30hp needs no license — book Kassiope Boats (+30 694 9411 900, they have a real online booking system) 2-3 days ahead, and the roadless coves past Kalami and Agni open up to you.

◆ **BOOK:** 2-3 days ahead in September; some walk-up availability possible off-peak mornings



The Liston After Dark

QUEST

EVENING · 20:00-23:30

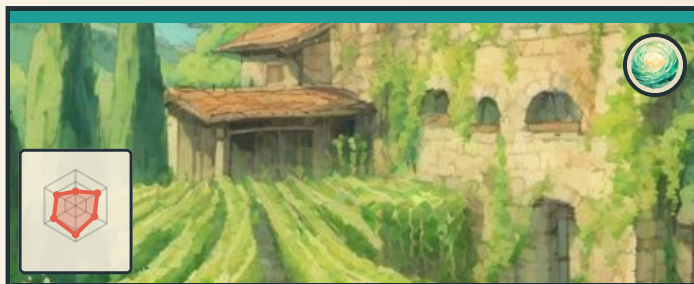
€ ~12

★★★★☆ 38/60

Settle under the arches as day turns to evening, drinks in hand, people drifting by. An easy, glowing night for two.

Everyone talks about Venetian Corfu, but the Liston is the island's clearest fingerprint of a different occupier: the French. Built during the French occupation and modeled deliberately on Paris's Rue de Rivoli, this long, elegant arcade of arches fronting the green Spianada is where...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: use this as your evening anchor, not a standalone plan — it slots perfectly after the Golden-Hour Fortress Walk or before a Campiello dinner, at blue hour when the fortress lights come up.



Theotoky Estate — Bond's Robola

TRAINING

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~20

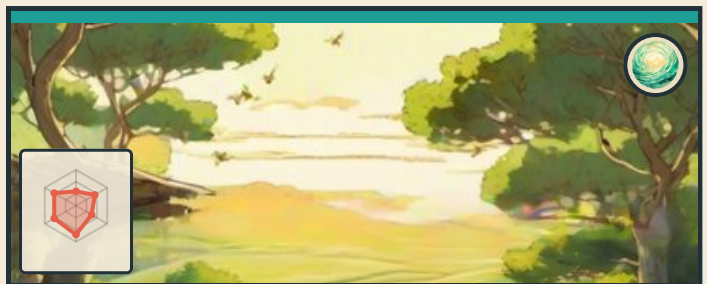
★★★★☆ 38/60

Drive out to the vines, taste slow, and let a lazy afternoon unspool between the two of you. No clock out here.

Inland from the beaches, in the green bowl of the Ropa Valley, the Theotoky family works 300 organic acres of vines and olives — and pours a card with a genuinely great party fact attached. The estate's dry white Robola, the 'Theotoky Aspro,' was reportedly James Bond's...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: there's no online booking — arrange the tour directly by phone/email (+30 6945 593016) 3-5 days ahead, or go through Viator/Gastronomy Tours if you'd rather have a platform confirmation.

◆ **BOOK:** 3-5 days ahead



Apiary Tour With the Beekeeper's Own Hands

TRAINING

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~20

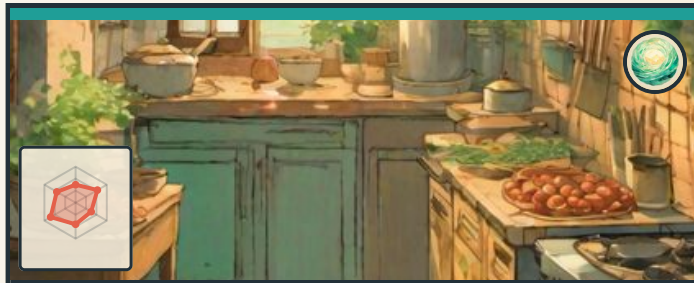
★★★★☆ 37/60

Pull on the veil together and taste something someone's perfected over a lifetime. Sweet, and real.

Vanessa, this is your card — and it's the opposite of a gift-shop honey purchase. At Corfu Beekeeping Vasilakis, in the inland village of Vatos, they hand you a suit, walk you out to the hives, and actually open one so you're standing over the living, humming frame with no glass counter...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: the phone is the only real booking channel — there's no working website. Call +30 2661 095241 a few days ahead and explicitly ask for the English tour.

◆ **BOOK:** call a few days ahead to lock a slot (small family operation, limited daily tour times)



Cook a Corfiot Dish in a Local's Kitchen

TRAINING

EVENING · 20:00-23:30

€ ~90

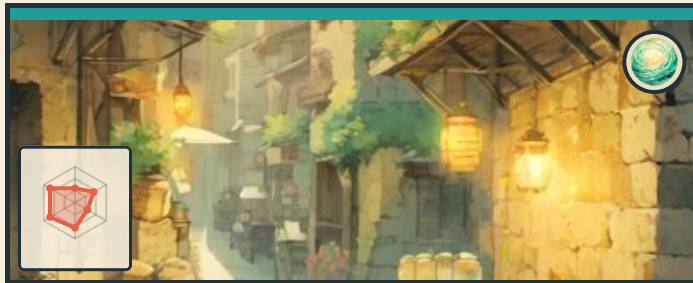
★★★★☆ 37/60

Cook side by side in someone's home kitchen, then sit down to eat what you made. That's a keeper of a night.

Vanessa, if the Corfiot-Venetian Table card teaches you what the island eats, this one teaches you why — from the inside of a home kitchen. It starts at the market, walking the stalls with your host to pick the ingredients, and ends around their own table eating what you made. In between, you learn...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: it's a rotating Airbnb Experiences listing, not a fixed restaurant — search Corfu Experiences ~1-2 weeks out to see the live host and lock a September slot before they fill.

◆ **BOOK:** 1-2 weeks ahead — Airbnb Experiences show limited daily slots in September peak season



Dawn Bougatsa-and-Fish-Market Crawl

FEAST

MORNING · 07:00-10:30

€ ~20

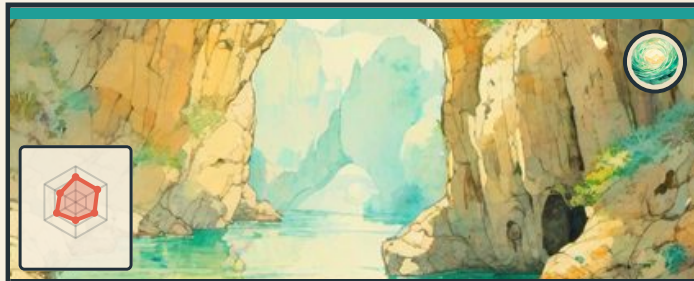
★★★★☆ 37/60

Set an early alarm together for once — warm pastry, sleepy streets, the town yawning awake just for you.

There's a rhythm to the Corfu Central Market that predates refrigeration and never updated: the fishing boats land their catch overnight, the wet-fish stalls under the New Fortress walls open at first light, and by mid-morning it's all sold and gone. So when every guidebook tells you to...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: the 7am start is not optional flavor — the wet-fish stalls genuinely sell out by mid-morning, so this is a beat-the-buses card or it's nothing.

◆ **BOOK:** walk-in



Cave-and-Reef Dive Beneath Paleokastritsa

DIVE

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~140

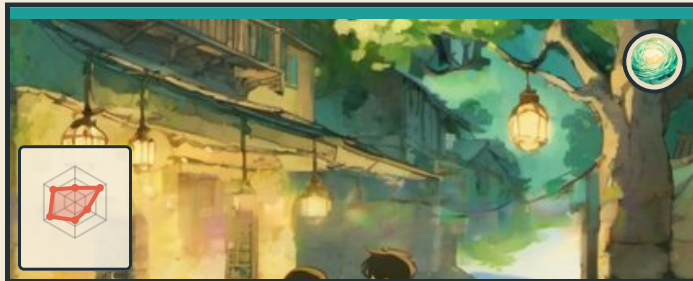
★★★★☆ 36/60

Sink beneath the calm and let the noisy world go quiet above you. Down here, it's just the deep and you.

Avery, this one's yours. Up top, the taxi-boats queue to photograph the sea caves at Paleokastritsa — but the rock here is soft limestone, which means those caves don't stop at the waterline. They keep going down, opening into swim-through tunnels and grottoes that every storm season...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: book diving-corfu.com, not the card's 'divingincorfu.com' — the latter is a totally different shop in Ermones. Call +30 693 272 9011 to lock the actual Achilleon center.

◆ **BOOK:** 3-5 days ahead in September (site has a BOOK NOW button)



Doukades Square, Under the Plane Tree

FEAST

NIGHT · 22:00-late

€ ~30

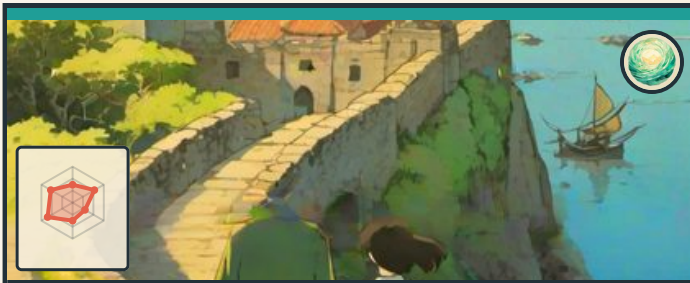
★★★★☆ 36/60

Take a table under the old tree where the whole square is the restaurant. Slow food, warm light, easy hours for two.

Some villages have a square with a tree in it; in Doukades, the square with the tree in it is the village. This protected traditional settlement sits inland in the northwest hills above Paleokastritsa, its Venetian-era stone architecture preserved and its lanes too narrow for cars, and at its heart...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: call ahead — neither Taverna Elizabeth (+30 2663 041728) nor O Doukas (+30 2663 041982, a single-sourced number worth double-checking on the call) publishes hours, and a...

◆ **BOOK:** same-day to 2-3 days ahead



Golden-Hour Fortress Walk

QUEST | **GOLDEN HOUR** · 18:00-19:30 | **€ FREE**

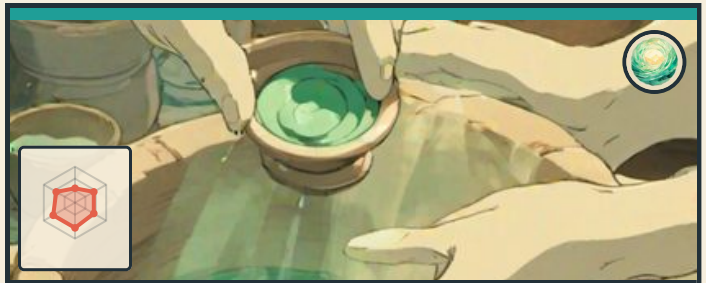
★★★★☆ 36/60

Wander the old walls hand in hand as everything turns to honey. Slow steps, warm light, just you two.

The English word on everyone's lips is 'Corfu,' but the name the Venetians used, Corfù, is a worn-down echo of the Greek koryphó — 'the peaks.' Those peaks are right here: the twin crags of the Old Fortress, jutting into the sea off the eastern edge of the Old Town,...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: chain this straight into an evening on the Liston — leave the ramparts as the sun sets and you'll hit the arcade exactly at blue hour.

◆ **BOOK:** walk-in



Throw a Pot on the Wheel

TRAINING | **MIDDAY** · 10:30-16:30 | **€ ~35**

★★★★☆ 36/60

Get your hands messy together and make something imperfect and yours. The wonkier the bowl, the better the story.

There's something right about making a physical object on a trip that's otherwise all sunsets and seawater — a thing with weight, that outlasts the tan. At the wheel, clay does what it wants until your hands teach it otherwise, and the two of you will almost certainly produce something...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: for a one-off session go with Saitas Ceramics (+30 2663 032097) — the codex confirms evening Raku workshops from €80pp, but the 2026 season's LAST session is September 19, so...

◆ **BOOK:** 1 week ahead (small studios, appointment-based)



Hidden Cove: Agni Bay

COVE | **MIDDAY** · 10:30-16:30 | **€ ~35**

★★★★☆ 35/60

Trade the world for a table on the water: dip in, dry off, order more. A whole slow afternoon, yours.

Agni is a tiny scoop of pebble beach on Corfu's green northeast coast with exactly one thing on it: three tavernas, side by side, their tables practically in the water. That's the whole village. It's Durrell country — a longtime haunt of the Durrell family — and the bay has kept its...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: order Toula's garlic prawns first thing — it's the dish the bay is famous for, and it sets the tone for the whole lazy afternoon.

◆ **BOOK:** 2-3 days ahead in September

• **BONUS PICKUPS** • **UNCOMMON**



Kavadades Village Wine Festival

★★★★☆

A one-night village panigyri built entirely around the new wine, live bouzouki, and a crowd that's 90% locals.



Kumquat Gelato at Papagiorgis

★★★★☆

A 1920s gelateria off the Liston scooping the island's signature flavour — the little golden citrus in a cone.

Whatever you got to and whatever you saved for next time, you did it together. Tuck this island away and carry it with you.

• • •

"I survived the darkness to defeat you, Lavos!"

— Chrono Trigger • SNES • 1995 — Magus, at the final confrontation with Lavos.

ZONE 02 · 3 NIGHTS · SEP 15-18

PAXOS

Tiny, olive-groved, no airport — the do-nothing-but-each-other jewel, with the most turquoise water of the run just offshore.

◆ 24 CARDS

1 BOSS ENCOUNTER

⊕ 3 NIGHTS · SEP 15-18

◆ **BASE CAMP** Small harbour hotel or villa in Loggos or Lakka (~\$170-240/nt).

You've arrived at the quiet one — the island for doing nothing but each other. Breathe out; you're here now.

⊕ BEST-LIGHT RUNNING ORDER · DAWN → NIGHT

- Dawn · 06:20-07:00** Hidden Cove: Lakka Bay Swim
-
- Morning · 07:00-10:30** DIY Boat Day: The Wild West Coast
-
- Morning · 07:00-10:30** Paddle the Loggos–Lakka Coast
-
- Morning · 07:00-10:30** Kipiadi: The White-Pebble Crescent
-
- Morning · 07:00-10:30** Ypantis: Climb the Double-Dome Bells
-
- Morning · 07:00-10:30** Vanesa's Line: Three-Harbour Amble
-
- Morning · 07:00-10:30** Dawn Spanakopita Run, Gaios
-
- Midday · 10:30-16:30** ★ Charter: Antipaxos Blue
-
- Midday · 10:30-16:30** Old Father Wreck Dive
-
- Midday · 10:30-16:30** Snorkel the Blue Caves
-
- Midday · 10:30-16:30** Kanoni & Harami: Two-Cove Walk from Lakka
-
- Midday · 10:30-16:30** Mongonissi: The One Sandy Day
-
- Golden Hour · 18:00-19:30** Tripitos Arch & Paxos's Oldest Village
-
- Golden Hour · 18:00-19:30** Marmari's Olive-Shaded Cove
-
- Sunset · 19:15-19:50** Erimitis Cliffs Sunset Trail
-
- Sunset · 19:15-19:50** Clifftop Dinner at Erimitis

Sunset • 19:15-
19:50 Skipped Sunset Charter

Blue Hour • 19:50-
20:30 Loggos Waterfront Fish

Evening • 20:00-
23:30 Nionios: The Kitchen-Tour Taverna

Evening • 20:00-
23:30 Dal Pescatore: Straight Off His Boat

Evening • 20:00-
23:30 Gaios on Foot: Mansions & the Folklore Museum

Night • 22:00-late Bouloukos: Dinner That Turns Into a Bar





Anytime Olive Press Museum + Oil Tasting

Anytime Panagia Islet: The Five-Minute Monastery

▲ **LIGHT-WINDOW CLASH** these compete for the same light — you can only be one place per golden hour, so split them across your nights:

- ▶ Golden Hour — Marmari's Olive-Shaded Cove, Tripitos Arch & Paxos's Oldest Village
- ▶ Sunset — Clifftop Dinner at Erimitis, Erimitis Cliffs Sunset Trail, Skipped Sunset Charter

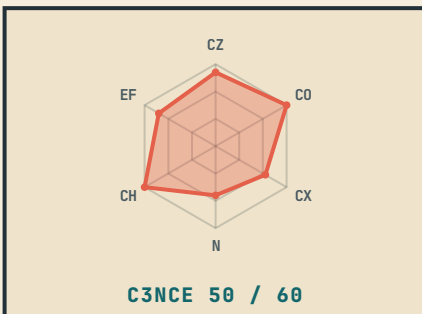
◆ ZONE ROSTER • TICK THEM OFF AS YOU CLEAR THEM

 ★ Charter: Antipaxos Blue	★★★★★		 Loggos Waterfront Fish	★★★★★	
 DIY Boat Day: The Wild West Coast	★★★★★		 Snorkel the Blue Caves	★★★★★	
 Erimitis Cliffs Sunset Trail	★★★★★		 Dal Pescatore: Straight Off His Boat	★★★★★	
 Clifftop Dinner at Erimitis	★★★★★		 Gaios on Foot: Mansions & the Folklore Museum	★★★★★	
 Paddle the Loggos-Lakka Coast	★★★★★		 Kanoni & Harami: Two-Cove Walk from Lakka	★★★★★	
 Tripitos Arch & Paxos's Oldest Village	★★★★★		 Marmari's Olive-Shaded Cove	★★★★★	
 Kipiadi: The White-Pebble Crescent	★★★★★		 Olive Press Museum + Oil Tasting	★★★★★	
 Old Father Wreck Dive	★★★★★		 Mongonissi: The One Sandy Day	★★★★★	
 Nionios: The Kitchen-Tour Taverna	★★★★★		 Hidden Cove: Lakka Bay Swim	★★★★★	
 Skipped Sunset Charter	★★★★★		 Vanesa's Line: Three-Harbour Amble	★★★★★	
 Ypapantis: Climb the Double-Dome Bells	★★★★★		 Panagia Islet: The Five-Minute Monastery	★★★★★	
 Bouloukos: Dinner That Turns Into a Bar	★★★★★		 Dawn Spanakopita Run, Gaios	★★★★★	

✕ **BOSS · LEGENDARY**



LEGENDARY



VOYAGE **CO-OP**

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~90/pp **ENERGY ●●○**

◆ **SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL**

SITE

Panos Boats & Trips (Loggos)

CALL

+30 2662 031333 (landline) /
+30 697 082 1251 (WhatsApp/
mobile)

HOURS

Booking office 09:00-21:00
daily (year-round per site);
cruise boats typically depart
~10:00, last boat back from
Antipaxos ~16:00 in-season

BOOK

3-5 days ahead once dates are
fixed

RES

PREBOOK ONLINE

Every honeymoon deserves one gloriously extravagant day — hold hands, say yes, and let the water do the rest.

Here's the island the sea keeps for itself. Legend says Poseidon struck the big island's southern tip with his trident and snapped off Paxos and Antipaxos as his own quiet retreat — and one look at the water off Voutoumi and Vrika and you'll believe a god chose this spot. Antipaxos is barely a smudge on the map: a few vineyards, no proper roads, and two beaches whose turquoise reads less like the Mediterranean and more like a screensaver someone over-saturated. This is the zone's legendary splurge, the day you stop pretending you're being frugal on a honeymoon. You board at Gaios, thread down the coast, drop anchor over sand so pale the whole boat glows from beneath, and swim in water you'll spend the rest of your lives describing badly to people who weren't there. Then the west cliffs and their sea caves, cool and echoing. The families who own the vines on Voutoumi hill still press their own Antipaxos wine — a bottle poured by the grower is the only souvenir worth the deck space.

▷ **HOW IT GOES**

Lock this in early: Panos Boats & Trips out of Loggos is the documented operator for the Antipaxos-and-Blue-Caves run — call +30 2662 031333 or WhatsApp +30 697 082 1251, or book online three-to-five days ahead (office runs 09:00-21:00). Cruise boats push off around 10:00 and the last boat back from Antipaxos is roughly 16:00, so this eats the middle of a day — build nothing else into it. Reckon on €60-120 per person for a half-day (card estimate ~€90pp), plus a little extra for wine and a beach lunch above Voutoumi. Hit Voutoumi first for the peak-turquoise swim before the day-tripper fleet crowds in, then let the skipper swing to the west-cliff caves on the way home while the light's still high.

◆ **LORE**

Poseidon supposedly struck Corfu's tip with his trident and broke off Paxos & Antipaxos for a quiet retreat.

▷ **NP PRO TIPS**

- ▶ **NP PRO TIP:** Voutoumi's beach taverna sits up the hill — the walk up is where the vine-owning family pours their own Antipaxos wine, so climb for the view AND the bottle.
- ▶ Go only on a flat-calm forecast day; the west-cliff sea caves are worth it only when the swell lets the boat nose in.
- ▶ Bring cash — Antipaxos has no ATMs, no roads, no bailout.

◎ **PHOTO OP**

Voutoumi at high noon is peak turquoise — a drone straight down over the anchored boats turns the water into flat blocks of jade and aquamarine. No

drone? Many skippers double as boat-day photographers, or shoot from up on the taverna hill for the classic high angle of the whole bay.

◇ **IF IT RAINS**

If the sea's up and the open crossing is scrubbed, pivot to the sheltered east coast — the 'Paddle the Loggos–Lakka Coast' kayak coves stay paddlable when the run to Antipaxos won't.

● **SCOUT REPORT**

Cool caps out at a flawless 10 — this is literally the most photogenic water of the entire trip, no argument. Crazy rides high at 9 for the sheer god-chose-this-place audacity, and Coherence hits 10 because a legendary honeymoon splurge on a screensaver-blue sea is about as on-theme as a card gets. Complexity's a modest 7, Nerd 6 for the Poseidon myth, Efficiency a strong 8: one charter, whole day handled.

▷ **EPIC ENCOUNTERS**

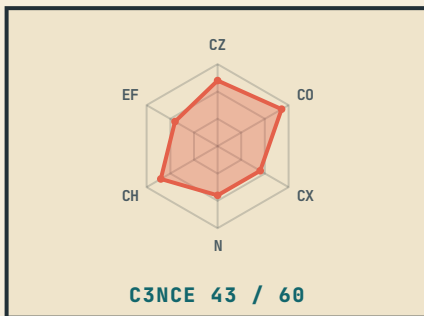
DIY Boat Day: The Wild West Coast



3.5/5 · 43/60



EPIC



VOYAGE

CO-OP

🕒 EARLY AM · 07:00-10:30

€ ~120/pp

ENERGY ●●●

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Panos Boats & Trips (Loggos) or Paxos Marine (Gaios)

CALL

Panos Boats: +30 2662 031333 / +30 697 082 1251 ; Paxos Marine: +30 6976 171 719 / +30 6979 441 157

HOURS

Panos Boats office 09:00-21:00 daily

BOOK

1-2 days ahead for boat availability

RES

RECOMMENDED

Just the two of you at the helm, no captain, no schedule — a little adventure you'll pilot yourselves.

This is the day you become the captain. A little no-license motorboat, a full tank, and the entire wild west coast of Paxos yours to explore on your own terms — no tour skipper narrating, no schedule but the weather. And the west coast is where Paxos keeps its drama: towering white sea cliffs, a freestanding sea stack called Ortholithos, the great Tripitos Arch, and — the headline — the Ypapanti sea cave, which local legend says sheltered the Greek submarine Papanikolis from patrols during WWII. That same local legend swears the cave runs underground all the way up to the Ypapantis church on the clifftop above it, a secret vertical passage from sea to sanctuary. You nose your own boat into that cave mouth, drift under cliffs no road can reach, and anchor over deep blue water with nobody else in sight. But this card has teeth, and they're in the fine print: the west coast has no safe harbours and the afternoon wind builds fast and hard. So it's a morning mission by necessity — out early, home by early afternoon, before the sea turns on you. Freedom with a deadline, which is arguably the most fun kind.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: Home by 2pm is a safety rule, not a suggestion — the west coast has no bailout harbours and the afternoon wind gets serious. Go out at first light and treat the clock as the boss.
- ▶ The Ypapanti sub cave's interior only lights up with mid-morning sun angling in, so hit it before the light climbs too high.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the forecast's too windy to skipper yourselves, hand the west coast to a pro who knows it blind — book the guided 'Skippered Sunset Charter,' which runs the same caves and bays with someone else reading the sea.

● SCOUT REPORT

Crazy 8 and Cool 9 make this the zone's adventure headliner — you, a tiller, a WWII sub-cave legend and a wind-deadline is a proper quest. Complexity 6 and Nerd 6 for the self-navigation and the Papanikolis legend. Efficiency drops to 6, the lowest here alongside the wreck dive, because you're doing all the work and the weather can veto the whole thing. Coherence 8: captaining your own honeymoon adventure is on-brand as it gets.

Erimitis Cliffs Sunset Trail



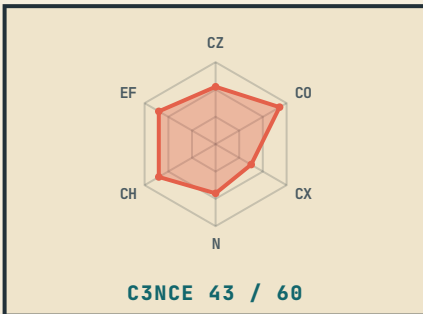
3.5/5 · 43/60



EPIC

Take the walk together, step by step, and arrive right as the sky turns — the best kind of tired.

'Erimitis' means the hermit's place, and the name is a promise. For centuries this was where solitary monks came to be alone at the far western edge of Paxos, and one look at the payoff explains why they never wanted company. The trail — from Lakka, or the shorter Boikatika loop, or the longer Magazia route — climbs to a run of blinding-white limestone cliffs that fall clean into the deepest blue water on the island, with nothing between you and the horizon but open Ionian and the low silhouette of Corfu floating out there like it's optional. This is Avery's card: an earned view, the kind you have to put legs into before the island hands it over. And what it hands over is Paxos's single best sunset. Almost every village on the island faces east toward the Corfu channel, so the west-facing Erimitis cliffs are one of the only places the whole day actually ends in front of you — the light sliding from gold to pink and pooling in the sea while the white rock goes rose-coloured. The hermits had the right idea; they just didn't have to hike back in the dark.



TREK | **P2 · AVERY**

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ **FREE** | **ENERGY ●●●**

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: The sunset is the whole card, so bring a headlamp or phone torch — the return over uneven rock happens in the dark by design.
- ▶ Closed shoes, not sandals; sections of the trail are loose and there are no barriers at the cliff edge.

◇ IF IT RAINS

Don't want the hike back in the dark? Take the same cliffs and the same sunset with a table instead: 'Clifftop Dinner at Erimitis' puts you on the western edge with a cocktail and a drive home — no headlamp required.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool rockets to 9 — Paxos's best sunset off a white cliff is a hard view to beat. Crazy 7 for the exposed, barrier-less, hike-it-in-the-dark commitment, and Coherence 8 because an earned honeymoon sunset is peak romance-with-effort. Complexity 5 and Nerd 6 (the hermit-monk backstory), with Efficiency 8: free, self-guided, and the payoff-to-input ratio is enormous if your legs cooperate.

Clifftop Dinner at Erimitis



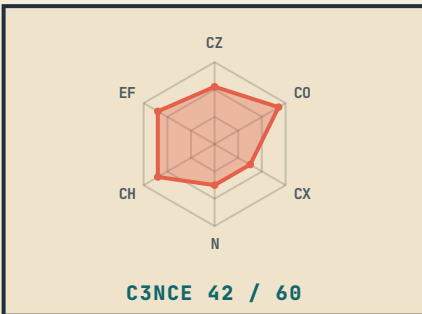
3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC

A table on the edge, a drink in hand, the sun going down slow — dress up a little, just for each other.

This is the Erimitis sunset with the difficulty setting turned off. The same blinding-white western cliffs you could hike to on foot — except now there's a proper table, a well-made cocktail in your hand, and no head-torch trek back through the dark afterward. On an island where almost every village turns its back to the west and faces east toward the Corfu channel, this restaurant, perched on the cliffs near Magazia, is one of the only dining rooms on Paxos that actually looks out at the sunset. That makes it a genuine rarity here, not a marketing line: the whole day ends directly in front of your plate, the sun sliding down into the open Ionian while the white rock below you goes rose and the sea turns copper. It's the trip's obvious 'we're actually married' dinner — creative Mediterranean cooking and cocktails engineered around that one perfect view. Order a Robola white from neighbouring Kefalonia, the region's signature grape that turns up on most Paxos lists, and let the light do the rest. Some views you earn with your legs; this one you earn with a reservation — and honestly, on a honeymoon, that's allowed.



FEAST CO-OP

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ ~70/pp ENERGY ●○○

FEEDS YOU

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
Erimitis Bar Restaurant,
Magazia (west-coast clifftop)

CALL
+30 6977 753499

HOURS
Daily 18:00-23:00, dinner only

RES
REQUIRED

NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: They hold your card and charge €40pp for no-shows or arriving 15+ minutes late — pad your drive time; the roads are narrow and dark.
- ▶ Book a restaurant table (not the first-come bar) and ask for the cliff edge, then aim to be seated with drinks in hand before the sun drops.

◆ IF IT RAINS

Booked out, or want to earn it instead of paying for it? The exact same cliffs and sunset are free on foot at 'Erimitis Cliffs Sunset Trail' — just bring a head-torch for the walk back.

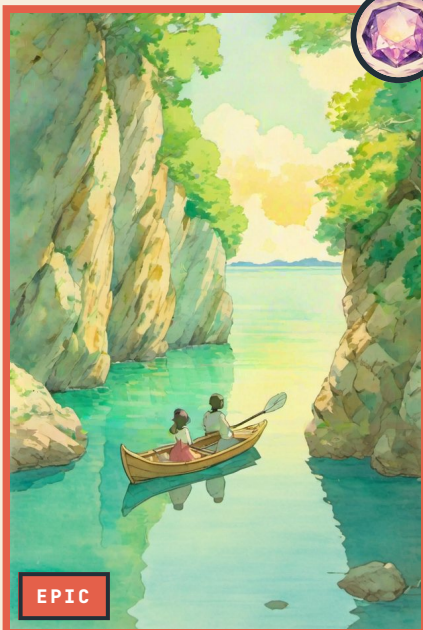
● SCOUT REPORT

Cool 9 — a cocktail on the only west-facing cliff-terrace on the island is a flex few dinners can match. Crazy 7 for splurging on the view outright, Coherence 8 as the designated 'we're married' dinner. Complexity 5 and Nerd 5 (the east-vs-west-facing-island geography is the smart bit), Efficiency 8: one reservation converts the hardest sunset on Paxos into a seated, drive-home evening.

Paddle the Loggos-Lakka Coast



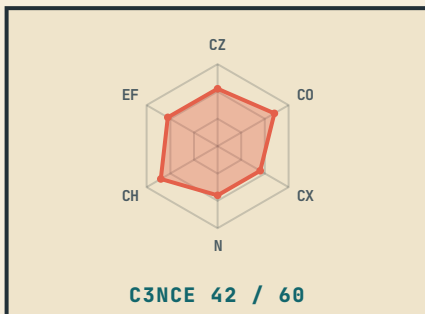
3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC

Dip your paddles into water the tour boats skim past — a quiet morning coast, at your own gentle pace.

The big tour boats have a problem the two of you are about to exploit: they can't fit. The east coast of Paxos between Loggos and Lakka is stitched with small rocky limestone inlets that are simply too shallow for anything with a real keel, so the day-cruise fleet skims past the mouths of them and moves on. In a kayak, you slide right in. This is the coastline at sea level — threading pale limestone clefts into pockets of clear turquoise, drawing up on tiny pebble coves reachable only from the water, moving quietly enough to actually see the rock and the light instead of motoring past it. Paddlers and guides rate it one of the best ways to experience the Paxos coast precisely because you're in it, not observing it from a deck. September is the reward season here: the sea is at its calmest and least crowded, so a morning paddle — before the afternoon wind wakes up — gives you glass water, empty inlets, and reflections off your own paddle blades. It's low, slow, self-powered exploration, and it takes you exactly where the crowds can't follow.



VOYAGE

CO-OP

🕒 EARLY AM · 07:00-10:30

€ ~40/pp

ENERGY ●●●

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Paxos Adventures, Lakka (Vassilatika)

CALL

+30 694 5333 533

HOURS

Daily 08:00-20:00

BOOK

2-3 days ahead — booking is via a contact form, not an instant calendar

RES

PREBOOK ONLINE

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: Paxos Adventures books through a contact form, not an instant calendar, so reserve 2-3 days out — this isn't a same-morning walk-up.
- ▶ Go early: the whole card depends on calm glass water, and the afternoon wind on this coast turns a dreamy paddle into a slog.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the wind's up or you'd rather not paddle, the cheaper unguided kayak-rental shops in Gaios and Loggos let you keep it short and sheltered — or trade paddle for tiller on the 'DIY Boat Day: The Wild West Coast.'

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool 8 and Coherence 8 for self-powered, sea-level exploration into coves the tour boats physically can't enter — that's the honeymoon-adventure sweet spot. Crazy 7 and Complexity 6 for the effort and the wind-timing you have to respect. Nerd 6 rewards the neat mechanical reason it works (inlets too shallow for keeled boats). Efficiency 7 — one cheap rental, a whole hidden coastline.

Tripitos Arch & Paxos's Oldest Village



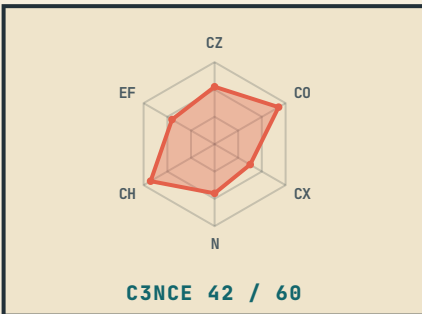
3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC

A clifftop stroll to something genuinely astonishing — go slow, hold on, and take the long look together.

Most people meet the Tripitos Arch from a boat, craning up at it from the water. You're going to stand on top of it. This is the clifftop version: a walk, not a boat ticket, to a colossal natural stone arch — over 20 metres of it — spanning out over the deep blue sea below. The arch is a fossil in the most literal sense: it's what's left after the roof of a sea cave collapsed, leaving the doorway standing. And the walk starts somewhere with even deeper roots — Ozias, reckoned the oldest settlement on Paxos, a place going back to around 600 BC, now a scatter of olive groves and the ruined churches of Agia Marina and Agios Stefanos. You wander through 2,600 years of quiet history, then out to the clifftop where the arch drops away beneath you and the horizon opens up. One serious caution, straight from the card: there are no safety barriers out here, and you must not walk out onto the span itself in wind. Admire it from the solid clifftop set-back. The photo isn't worth the fall.



TREK

CO-OP

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ ~15/pp

ENERGY ●●●

NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: Never walk out onto the arch span — there are zero barriers and gusts off the cliff are exactly how the postcard turns into a tragedy. The clifftop set-back gives you the shot safely.
- ▶ Come at golden hour, not midday; the low light is what turns the pale arch amber, and it's a completely different photograph.

IF IT RAINS

If it's too windy to safely enjoy the exposed clifftop, see the arch from the water instead — it's a marquee stop on both the 'DIY Boat Day: The Wild West Coast' and the 'Skipped Sunset Charter' routes.

SCOUT REPORT

Cool 9 and Coherence 9 for a genuine natural wonder you reach on your own two feet — an earned, romantic clifftop with 2,600 years of history attached. Crazy 7 nods to the no-barriers exposure (respectfully). Nerd 6 for Ozias and the collapsed-sea-cave geology, Complexity 5. Efficiency 6 because it takes a drive, a walk and good timing — but the payoff-to-cost on a free wonder is still excellent.

Kipiadi: The White-Pebble Crescent



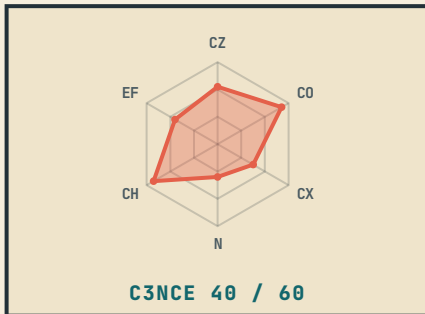
3.5/5 · 40/60



EPIC

No bar, no crowd, just a long pale curve of shore — the kind of empty beach to keep all to yourselves.

Ask a local on Paxos which beach is actually the best and there's a decent chance they don't say any of the famous ones — they say Kipiadi. This is the cove the islanders and the Paxos bloggers quietly pick over every postcard beach on the map, and the tell is what it doesn't have: no sunbeds, no beach bar, no operator, nothing at all, entirely by design. What it has instead is a huge, sweeping curve of white pebbles about 7km north of Gaios, meeting water so clear it barely registers as a barrier, backed by pines and utterly undeveloped. The absence is the point. There's no commerce to keep you, no umbrellas to rent, no soundtrack but the sea moving the pebbles — just a big beautiful crescent that you and whoever else made the effort get to share in near-silence. Getting there is a small filter that keeps it that way: a dirt track and a footpath, or a marked coastal walk, or your own rented boat. On calm days the boulders at the edges offer swim-through snorkelling. It's the anti-resort, and on a honeymoon that's precisely the flex you want.



COVE CO-OP

🕒 EARLY AM · 07:00-10:30

€ FREE ENERGY ●●○

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: 'Zero facilities' means zero — no water, no shade, no bar. Overpack water and a sun umbrella, because there is no bailout once you're down there.
- ▶ Reef shoes aren't optional on a white-pebble beach; the stones are rough on bare feet at the waterline.

◇ IF IT RAINS

If the walk-in feels like too much or the sea's rough for the boat approach, trade effort for sand and service — 'Mongonissi: The One Sandy Day' is the island's one easy sunbed-and-taverna beach at the opposite tip.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool 9 and Coherence 9 tie for the win — the locals' own favourite, a bar-less white crescent, is honeymoon-desert-island perfection. Crazy 7 for the deliberately-hard access (three routes, none of them a car park), and Efficiency dips to 6 because you have to work to get there and haul everything in. Complexity 5, Nerd 4 (no history here, just a beach the island keeps quiet). The whole card scores high precisely for what it refuses to have.



Old Father Wreck Dive

DIVE MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30 € ~85

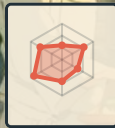
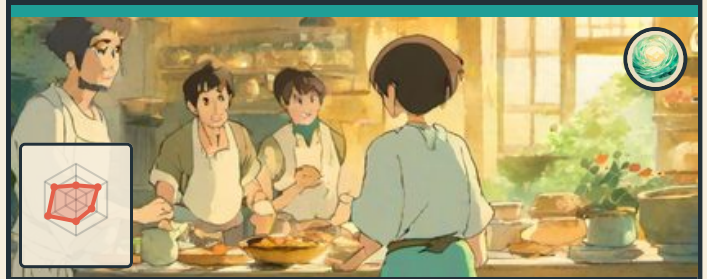
★★★★★ 39/60

One of you drops into the deep quiet while the other keeps the surface warm — a small shared adventure, each in your own way.

The Old Father is a shipwreck with a job history. In 1992 a cargo boat hauling metal tubing got caught in bad weather off Paxos and went down, coming to rest around 30 metres deep — and to reach it now you descend through a natural rock arch, a stone doorway in the seabed, before the wreck resolves...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: Call ahead and ask by name whether the 'Old Father' is running that day — it's weather-and-demand dependent, and you don't want to book blind and get the shallow wreck by surprise.

◆ **BOOK:** 3-5 days ahead — technical wreck-dive slots need gear/group pre-arranged



Nionios: The Kitchen-Tour Taverna

FEAST EVENING · 20:00-23:30 € ~28

★★★★★ 38/60

Let the day's specials be shown to you like old friends — the kind of unfussy, generous table that feels like home.

At Nionios there's no menu, or at least the menu isn't where the decision happens. The owner walks you into the kitchen, lifts the lids, and shows you the day's specials in the pot before you order — a genuine house tradition, not a tourist act, and it's been going on in one...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: The phone's unreliable and it's always packed, so beat the system by arriving early rather than trying to book — first seating is your best odds.

◆ **BOOK:** arrive early or expect a wait — always busy; call ahead same-day if you can



Skippered Sunset Charter

VOYAGE SUNSET · 19:15-19:50 € ~150

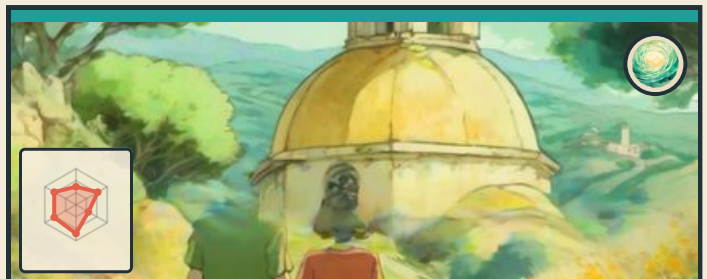
★★★★★ 38/60

Let someone else steer while you two just watch the sky turn — a swim, a toast, nowhere to be.

The luxury here isn't the boat, it's the not-deciding. You get a skipper, a boat, and no schedule other than the sunset — someone who casts off, points the bow at the west coast, and takes you into a bay you'd never find on your own. That last part is literal: local skippers navigate...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: Ask the skipper up front for a sunset-timed itinerary with a swim stop first — Panos in particular lists evening trips without naming 'sunset,' so spell out what you want.

◆ **BOOK:** 3-5 days ahead for an evening skipper slot



Ypapantis: Climb the Double-Dome Bells

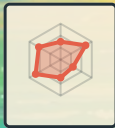
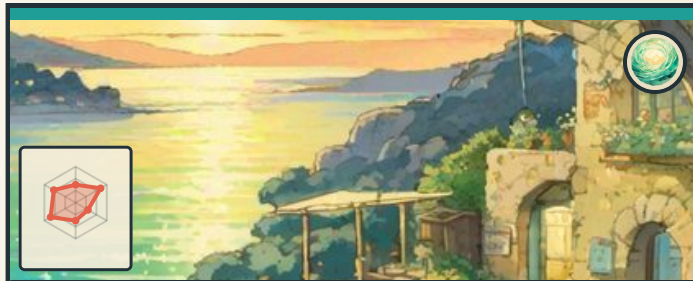
QUEST EARLY AM · 07:00-10:30 € FREE

★★★★★ 38/60

A little climb, just the two of you, to where the whole island opens up — worth every step for the view.

Here's the card no guidebook flags, tucked in the hamlet of Grammateika south of Lakka: a small church you can climb for a 360-degree view of Paxos. The Church of Ypapantis is a genuine oddity — built in 1601 by two brothers, Vasilis and Adam San Ippolito, with an architecturally rare...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: The tower keeps informal rural-church hours, so treat an open door as a lucky bonus, not a given — have a nearby swim or beach as a soft backup for the same morning.



Bouloukos: Dinner That Turns Into a Bar

FEAST

NIGHT · 22:00-late

€ ~35

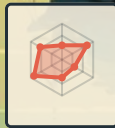
★★★★☆ 37/60

Linger past the last plate as the music starts and the cocktails come — an easy night out, just the two of you.

Paxos is not a party island, and it's proud of it. The whole place deliberately stayed low-key and undeveloped — there is exactly one actual nightclub on the entire island (Diana, over in Gaios) — so a 'night out' here means something gentler, and Bouloukos is its finest expression....

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: This is the rare z1 spot with a confirmed phone — actually book it (ask for Spiros), because it fills once the live-music phase starts.

◆ **BOOK:** call ahead same-day/day-before — popular, especially once the live-music bar phase starts



Loggos Waterfront Fish

FEAST

BLUE HOUR · 19:50-20:30

€ ~40

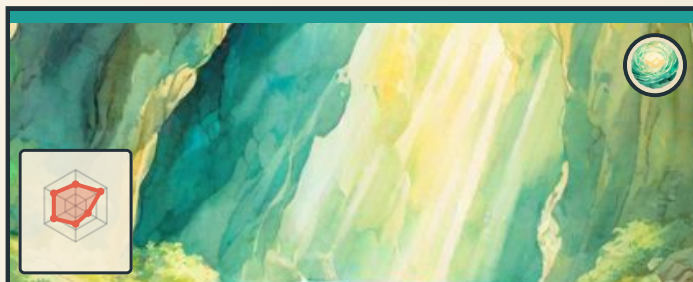
★★★★☆ 37/60

Settle in at the water's edge as the light goes soft — the kind of slow evening you married for.

Loggos is the smallest and arguably the prettiest of Paxos's three harbours — a single curl of quay, a handful of tavernas, and a hulking ghost of a building over the water that stops first-timers mid-step. That's the old soap factory: Loggos made its living boiling the island's...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: Fresh fish on a Greek quay is sold by the kilo — always confirm the price per portion before you nod, or the bill can surprise you.

◆ **BOOK:** same day — walk/call ahead in the afternoon for an evening harbourfront table



Snorkel the Blue Caves

DIVE

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~55

★★★★☆ 37/60

Float in together toward that impossible glow — some wonders are best found face-down and side by side.

The Blue Caves are a magic trick performed by physics. Along the wild west coast near Magazia and Kourteika, the sea has hollowed the white limestone into grottoes — and inside them the water doesn't just look blue, it glows, an electric, backlit, almost radioactive blue that seems to come...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: Midday sun is non-negotiable for the glow — the blue is a lunchtime phenomenon, not a sunset one, so resist the urge to go late.

◆ **BOOK:** 2-3 days ahead for a boat-safari slot



Dal Pescatore: Straight Off His Boat

FEAST

EVENING · 20:00-23:30

€ ~35

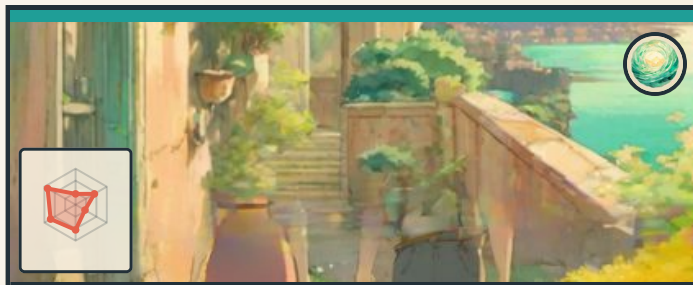
★★★★☆ 36/60

Dinner that came straight off one man's boat — the simplest kind of good, shared slow at the water's edge.

The name means 'from the fisherman,' and at Dal Pescatore that's not a decorative flourish — the owner is the fisherman. He takes his own boat out, and what he lands is what you eat that evening, with no middleman, no wholesaler, no market between the sea and your plate. That's...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: The phone's unconfirmed, so don't rely on calling — stroll the harbour-front in the afternoon and book your table in person for the evening.

◆ **BOOK:** same-day / early evening — popular harbourfront spot



Gaios on Foot: Mansions & the Folklore Museum

QUEST | **EVENING · 20:00-23:30** | **€ ~3**

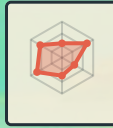
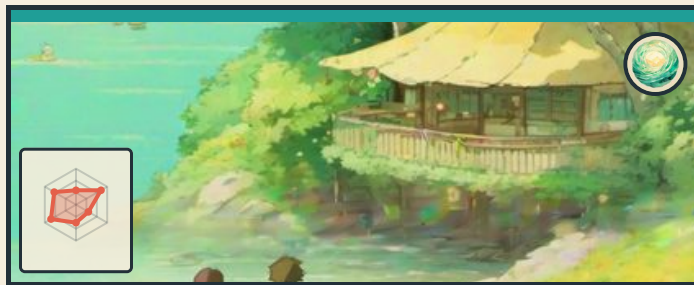
★★★★☆ 36/60

Let everyone else chase the boats; wander the quiet coloured lanes arm in arm and let the town come to you.

Everyone who arrives in Gaios does the same thing: makes straight for the harbour and a boat. The quiet trick is to not — to give the little capital 40 minutes on foot before you go anywhere. Gaios is one of the prettiest harbour towns in the Ionian precisely because of an accident of geography...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: The Folklore Museum's hours are genuinely shaky (no primary source, prone to drift) — ask a local or your host the day's actual opening before you build the evening around it.

◆ **BOOK:** none — go during posted evening hours; €2 admission



Kanoni & Harami: Two-Cove Walk from Lakka

COVE | **MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30** | **€ ~15**

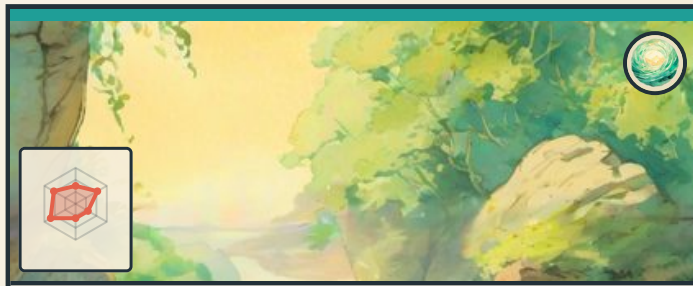
★★★★☆ 36/60

A little walk delivers two very different coves — pick the wild one, the comfy one, or linger at both.

Two coves, one short path, and a decision about what kind of afternoon you want. Walk west out of Lakka along the north-shore coastal path — past the last white houses, maybe 300 metres out — and you reach Kanoni first: the wild sibling, a rocky no-facilities cove with jagged pale rock formations...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: Water shoes are essential — both coves have rock entries, and Kanoni's is a scramble with no ladder or steps.

◆ **BOOK:** no booking — free sunbeds if you eat, first-come



Marmari's Olive-Shaded Cove

COVE | **GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30** | **€ FREE**

★★★★☆ 35/60

A shaded, private-feeling little cove just for the two of you — steal an hour away from everyone else.

Marmari is the cove where the trees come right down to the sea. Just south of Loggos, a short walk off the coast road, it's a little pocket of turquoise where the low cypress and olive canopy leans so far over the water that the branches all but dip into it — which is exactly why locals call...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: The offshore rock arch is the hidden boss here — only attempt the ~300m swim on a genuinely windless morning, and keep watch: the line out crosses a working boat cut-through.



Olive Press Museum + Oil Tasting

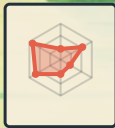
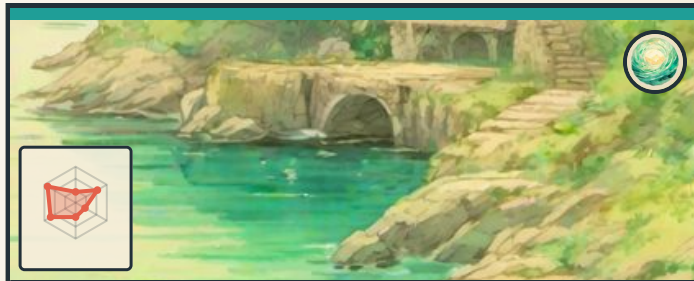
TRAINING | **ANYTIME** | **€ ~15**

★★★★☆ 35/60

A gentle, hands-on hour and a tasting to share — the kind of small discovery you'll retell for years.

Here's the machine that made Paxos Paxos. In the hamlet of Magazia sits a small family-owned museum built around an original olive press whose machinery ran from 1865 to 1960 — nearly a century of turning the island's fruit into liquid gold — and you can walk right up and put a hand on...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: Museum hours here are genuinely unreliable — two guides disagree and there's no phone to call, so ask your host or a Lakka shopkeeper the actual hours that morning before you set out.



Mongonissi: The One Sandy Day

COVE

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~20

★★★★☆ 34/60

Trade pebbles for actual sand, a sunbed each, lunch by the water — an easy, lazy day to just be.

Paxos, for all its turquoise, has a strange shortage: almost no actual sand. The island is nearly all pebble and rock coves, a quirk that traces straight back to the Venetian olive economy that carpeted every flat acre in groves. Which makes Mongonissi, down at the southern tip, genuinely special —...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: The Gaios sea-taxi runs on no fixed timetable — ask at the harbour quay for the next departure and, crucially, the last one back, so you're not stranded at the south tip.

◆ **BOOK**: no reservation needed for sunbeds/casual lunch; the informal sea-taxi from Gaios has no fi...

• BONUS PICKUPS • UNCOMMON



Hidden Cove: Lakka Bay Swim

★★★★☆

Sheltered turquoise bay, calm morning water.



Vanesa's Line: Three-Harbour Amble

★★★★☆

Gaios → Loggos → Lakka on foot/scooter, coffee in each.



Panagia Islet: The Five-Minute Monastery

★★★★☆

A whitewashed monastery on its own islet, one taxi-boat hop from your harbour drink.



Dawn Spanakopita Run, Gaios

★★★★☆

Multiple crusty layers of hand-rolled filo, feta, and herbs, still hot enough to burn your fingers — breakfast solved for a few euros.

However few or many of these you gathered, they were yours together — carry the quiet of this place onward.

• • •

“Zeromus...this is the end for you, not us!”

— Final Fantasy IV · SNES · 1991 — Cecil, defiant, at the final battle against Zeromus.

ZONE 03 • 3 NIGHTS • SEP 18-21

LEFKADA

The dramatic-beach zone — white cliffs into cobalt. Avery's playground: a rental car and a west-coast crawl.

◆ 25 CARDS

1 BOSS ENCOUNTER

⊕ 3 NIGHTS • SEP 18-21

◆ **BASE CAMP** Agios Nikitas village (~\$150-220/nt) as the west-coast base.

Here the island turns bold — white cliffs, cobalt water, a rental car, and a coast that's yours to wander slow.

⊕ BEST-LIGHT RUNNING ORDER • DAWN → NIGHT

Morning • 07:00-10:30 Driver's Route: West-Coast Beach Crawl

Morning • 07:00-10:30 Karsaniki lace + phyllo morning in Karya

Morning • 07:00-10:30 Milos Beach — the walk-in white-sand secret

Morning • 07:00-10:30 Dimosari Gorge Waterfall Walk

Midday • 10:30-16:30 Hidden Cove: Agiofili's Ladder Beach

Midday • 10:30-16:30 Hidden Cove: Porto Katsiki

Midday • 10:30-16:30 Vanesa's Line: Vertzami at the Cellar Door

Midday • 10:30-16:30 Be Your Own Skipper: Vlichos Bay

Midday • 10:30-16:30 Nautilus Dive: Reef & the Christina Wreck

Midday • 10:30-16:30 Nydri sea-cave snorkel + Red Rock swim

Midday • 10:30-16:30 Pefkoulia — The Lazy Beach-Club Day

Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30 Desimi cove — the kayak-in cave beach

Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30 Tandem Flight: Off Exanthia's Cliff to Kathisma

Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30 Vasiliki Bay — Riding the Afternoon 'Eric'

Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30 Eglouvi ridge hike — the best view on the island

Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30 Charter: Skorprios & Meganisi

Golden Hour · Vanesa's Line: Faneromeni's Peacock Terrace

18:00-19:30

Sunset · 19:15- Cape Lefkatas — Sappho's Leap at golden hour

19:50

Sunset · 19:15- Rachi — Dinner in the Clouds

19:50

Sunset · 19:15- Papanikolis Cave + Vathy sunset run

19:50

Blue Hour · 19:50- Vanesa's Line: Kathisma Sunset Bar

20:30

Evening · 20:00- Ta Kanioria — the Englouvi-lentil seafood table

23:30

Evening · 20:00- Sivota Fjord Fish Row

23:30

Evening · 20:00- Agios Nikitas Grill

23:30








































Anytime Santa Maura — The Castle on the Causeway

▲ **LIGHT-WINDOW CLASH** these compete for the same light — you can only be one place per golden hour, so split them across your nights:

► **Golden Hour** — Charter: Skorpios & Meganisi, Desimi cove — the kayak-in cave beach, Eglouvi ridge hike — the best view on the island, Tandem Flight: Off Exanthia's Cliff to Kathisma, Vanesa's Line: Faneromeni's Peacock Terrace, Vasiliki Bay — Riding the Afternoon 'Eric'

► **Sunset** — Cape Lefkatas — Sappho's Leap at golden hour, Papanikolis Cave + Vathy sunset run, Rachi — Dinner in the Clouds

◆ **ZONE ROSTER** · TICK THEM OFF AS YOU CLEAR THEM

 Cape Lefkatas — Sappho's Leap at golden hour	★★★★★		 Be Your Own Skipper: Vlichos Bay	★★★★★	
 Desimi cove — the kayak-in cave beach	★★★★★		 Charter: Skorpios & Meganisi	★★★★★	
 Driver's Route: West-Coast Beach Crawl	★★★★★		 Karsaniki lace + phyllo morning in Karya	★★★★★	
 Ta Kanioria — the Englouvi-lentil seafood table	★★★★★		 Milos Beach — the walk-in white-sand secret	★★★★★	
 Tandem Flight: Off Exanthia's Cliff to Kathisma	★★★★★		 Nautilus Dive: Reef & the Christina Wreck	★★★★★	
 Vasiliki Bay — Riding the Afternoon 'Eric'	★★★★★		 Nydri sea-cave snorkel + Red Rock swim	★★★★★	
 Hidden Cove: Agiofilis Ladder Beach	★★★★★		 Dimosari Gorge Waterfall Walk	★★★★★	
 Eglouvi ridge hike — the best view on the island	★★★★★		 Sivota Fjord Fish Row	★★★★★	
 Rachi — Dinner in the Clouds	★★★★★		 Vanesa's Line: Faneromeni's Peacock Terrace	★★★★★	
 Hidden Cove: Porto Katsiki	★★★★★		 Agios Nikitas Grill	★★★★★	
 Papanikolis Cave + Vathy sunset run	★★★★★		 Vanesa's Line: Kathisma Sunset Bar	★★★★★	
 Vanesa's Line: Vertzami at the Cellar Door	★★★★★		 Santa Maura — The Castle on the Causeway	★★★★★	
			 Pefkoulia — The Lazy Beach-Club Day	★★★★★	

Cape Lefkatas — Sappho's Leap at golden hour

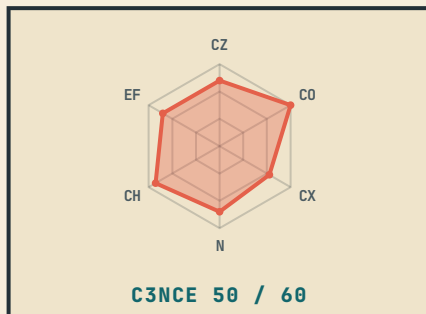


4.0/5 · 50/60

× BOSS • LEGENDARY



LEGENDARY



QUEST

CO-OP

☾ SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ FREE

ENERGY ●●○

The oldest cliff in the story of love, at the softest hour — hold each other close at the edge of it.

This is the legendary card of the zone, and it deserves the billing. The southern tip of Lefkada ends in a sheer white cliff and a lighthouse — built in 1890, standing exactly where the ancient temple of Apollo Lefkatas once did — and this ground has been considered sacred and dangerous for well over two and a half thousand years. Ancient tradition, cited by Menander and Strabo, holds that Sappho herself, the first great poet of love, leapt from these cliffs into the sea over her unreturned love for the ferryman Phaon — which is why locals still call it Kavos Kyras, the Lady's Cape, and Pidima Kyras, the Lady's Leap. But Sappho is only the famous chapter. The Lefkadians held annual rites here to appease the gods of the sea, and the sources describe a genuine practice of throwing people from the cape — later replaced by animals, sometimes cushioned with birds and feathers to break the fall — as a cure for heartbreak or a scapegoat's exile. The sanctuary even served as an asylum, a safe haven for criminals. You two stand at the literal edge of that: a cliff where the ancient world came to jump for love, watching the sun drop straight into the Ionian.

▷ HOW IT GOES

Every drives — it's ~1.5-2hr from Nydri via Vasiliki and Athani, and the narrow cliffside road is genuinely part of the fun. It's a sunset card: aim to arrive ~90 minutes before sundown so you can walk the cliff edge, reach the lighthouse, and claim an unobstructed spot before the golden-hour tour crowd. It's free with no facilities, so carry water and snacks; total cost is just the fuel. Wander the headland, take in the temple site and the drop, and let the sun sink directly into the sea behind the lighthouse. On the way back, stop in Athani village for a taverna nightcap and small-batch thyme honey from the cliffside scrub.

◆ LORE

Ancient tradition (Menander, Strabo) held that the lyric poet Sappho leapt from these exact cliffs into the sea over unrequited love for the ferryman Phaon — the site is still called 'Kavos Kyras' (Lady's Cape) locally, and the ritual of leaping from here (with birds/feathers strapped on to break the fall) was apparently practiced by real ancient Greeks as a cure for heartbreak.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Arrive 90 minutes before sunset to beat the tour buses to the unobstructed cliff-edge spot — golden hour draws a crowd.
- ▶ Nothing on-site — water, snacks, a layer for the wind; the cape is exposed and there's no café.
- ▶ Break the long drive back in Athani for a nightcap and thyme honey rather than white-knuckling the cliff road hungry in the dark.

● PHOTO OP

The frame is a silhouette against the lighthouse with the sun dropping into the Ionian directly behind it — arrive early to own the cliff-edge angle before anyone else does. Shoot into the light and let the cape and figures go to silhouette; the drama is in the outline. A wide of the whole white headland and lighthouse against the burning horizon is the establishing shot.

◇ IF IT RAINS

If the cliff road's fog-bound or the light's blown out, chase the same sunset drama from a table at 'Rachi — Dinner in the Clouds,' or drop to 'Vanessa's Line: Kathisma Sunset Bar' for the sea-level version.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool maxes at 10 — a poet's suicide-cliff at sunset is as cinematic as the deck gets. Coherence 9 and Nerd 8 carry the weight of one of the densest legends in the Ionian, from Sappho and Phaon to Apollo's temple and the ancient leaping rite. Crazy 8 for the vertigo and the myth; Complex 7 and Efficiency 8 for a free, self-driven, high-payoff pilgrimage. A near-perfect legendary vector.

▷ EPIC ENCOUNTERS

Desimi cove — the kayak-in cave beach



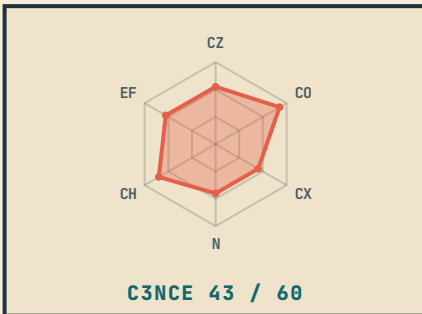
3.5/5 · 43/60



EPIC

Slip in quietly, just the two of you and the little caves — a pocket of coast that feels entirely yours.

Desimi sits inside Vlichos Bay, and the bay is the secret hero of this card. It's one of the deepest natural harbours in the whole Mediterranean, so still and so sheltered that during the Second World War the Italian and German navies tucked vessels in here to hide them from Allied air reconnaissance — and today the superyachts do the modern version of the same thing, ducking in to dodge the meltemi. All that history of concealment has left you two a paddle-in secret: a partly-sandy cove with small sea caves at either end, reachable by a rough track off the road or, far better, by kayak straight across the flat calm from Nydri. There's a quiet cinematic pleasure in nosing a kayak into a limestone cave and drifting in the cool blue light while the bay outside stays mirror-still. This is a low-key adventure with a big lore payoff — no ticket, no operator, no crowd, just the two of you, a rented boat, and a stretch of water that has been the Ionian's favourite hiding place for eighty years and counting.



COVE

CO-OP

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ FREE

ENERGY ●●○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Kavvadas Water Sports, Nydri (kayak rental option)

CALL

+30 2645092084 / mobile +30 6972688547

HOURS

Not published; long-running (since 1980) in-season beach operation at Nydri — walk up to the shack in-season.

BOOK

Same day — no advance booking needed for kayak rental

RES

WALK IN

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Paddle, don't drive — the kayak-in from Nydri across the flat bay is the entire experience; the dirt-track parking is the boring backup.
- ▶ Be inside the smaller cave ~1hr before sunset; that's when the bounce-light off the limestone peaks.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the wind chops up the bay for paddling, put an engine under you with 'Be Your Own Skipper: Vlichos Bay' from the same Nydri harbour, or default to the easy comfort of 'Pefkoulia — The Lazy Beach-Club Day.'

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool at 9 reflects a genuinely cinematic paddle-in cave with almost no one there. Crazy 7 for the WWII-hideout lore and the self-guided adventure. Complex 6 and Nerd 6 are unusually high for a beach because there's real navigation and a dense historical layer under it. Coherence 8 and Efficiency 7 seal it — a cheap, self-directed day that delivers exactly the moody magic it promises.



EPIC

This one's Avery's grin from the driver's seat — windows down, your hand on the wheel, nowhere you have to be.

This is the reason Avery wanted a rental car in the first place — the west coast of Lefkada strung together as a single driving line, top down, salt in the air. Porto Katsiki, Egremni, Kathisma: three of the most photographed white-cliff beaches in Greece, linked by a ribbon of asphalt that hangs over cobalt water the whole way. There's a scar in the middle of it worth knowing about — Egremni's cliff and its famous old 300-step staircase were violently reshaped by the 2015 earthquake, so the descent you read about in older guidebooks isn't the descent you'll find. That's the quiet drama of this coast: it's still moving. You two aren't ticking beaches; you're running a stage. Athani, the last real village before the wild southern tip, is where the road slows and a doorway or two sells wild honey, ladotyri cheese aged in oil, and cured salami straight off the family's own hooks. Windows down, no ferry to catch, the sea on your right the whole morning — this is the day the island stops being a place and becomes a feeling.



▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ North→south in the AM, non-negotiable — reverse it and you'll shoot every cliff into the sun and ruin the photos.
- ▶ Egremni's old staircase is gone since the 2015 quake; check current beach access at the overlook before you commit to a descent.

DRIVE P2 · AVERY

MORNING · 07:00-10:30

€ ~55/pp ENERGY ●●○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
Nidri Car Rental (Rent a Car Lefkada / Aktion Airport)

CALL
+30 26450 92008 / mobile +30 6972936241

HOURS
Not published; family business operating since 1986, in-season daily desk hours — confirm at booking. Pickup points include Aktion Airport, Lefkada Town, Nidri, Vasiliki, Agios Nikitas.

BOOK
2-4 weeks before (Sept is peak season; airport pickup slots fill)

RES
PREBOOK ONLINE

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the meltemi is howling or the top-down dream turns grey, trade the crawl for the no-scramble comfort of 'Pefkoulia — The Lazy Beach-Club Day,' or park the car and let the sky perform at 'Vanessa's Line: Kathisma Sunset Bar.'

● SCOUT REPORT

Crazy sits at 8 because a cliffside stage-drive on a road the earth literally rearranged is not a normal beach day. Cool maxes near the top (9) — this is postcard Greece with the roof down. Coherence 8: it's a clean, legible loop with one job. Efficiency 7 for the cheap car doing all the work; Complex only 6 and Nerd 5 because the joy here is the driving line, not deep trivia.

Ta Kanioria — the Englouvi-lentil seafood table



3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC

Let a family that's been at this for generations feed you two something honest — comfort you just settle into.

Ask around Lefkada for the finest table on the island and a surprising number of locals point not to some cliff-terrace showpiece but to a family taverna on the water at Lygia, ten minutes north of Lefkada Town. Ta Kanioria has fed people for years off the strength of doing the real dishes properly — the ones most kitchens either skip or mangle. Order the bourdeto, the fiery spiced fish stew; the Englouvi lentils carried down from the mountain village up the road; and above all the savoro, fish in a garlic, rosemary and grape sauce. That last one carries a whole vanished world in it: savoro began as a preservation trick, sailors' wives pickling the day's catch in vinegar and grapes so their husbands could carry fish to sea for days in an age before refrigeration. You are eating a solution to a problem that no longer exists, kept alive because it turned out to taste extraordinary. This is the honeymoon's serious food night — not the most photogenic, but the one where you sit at the sea's edge, watch Lefkada Town's skyline across the strait, and eat like the island actually eats.



FEAST **CO-OP**

EVENING · 20:00-23:30

€ ~50/pp **ENERGY ●○○**

▶ FEEDS YOU

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
Ta Kanioria, Lygia

CALL
+30 2645072229

HOURS
Not published; lunch and dinner service. Waterfront family tavern, boat mooring available at their pier.

BOOK
Call same day or 1-2 days ahead in September

RES
RECOMMENDED

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Ask specifically for a seafront-edge table when you call — the sunset-over-the-strait view is half the meal.
- ▶ Order the savoro even if it's unfamiliar; it's the historic dish this coast does better than anywhere.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If Ta Kanioria is full or shut, take the seafood night to the yacht-lined quay of 'Sivota Fjord Fish Row,' or keep it simple and local at 'Agios Nikitas Grill.'

● SCOUT REPORT

Coherence 9 is the top note and it's earned — this is the most integrated, this-is-what-the-island-eats dinner in the deck, from mountain lentils to sailors'-wives savoro. Efficiency 8 for serious food at a fair price. Cool 7 and Crazy 6 for the seafront setting and the savoro backstory. Complex 5 and Nerd 6 sit mid — the depth is in the food history, not the logistics.

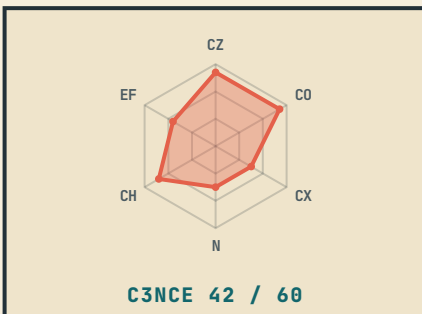
Tandem Flight: Off Exanthia's Cliff to Kathisma



3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC



QUEST

CO-OP

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ ~100/pp

ENERGY ●●●

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Flyfeel Paragliding
(paragliding-lefkada.gr),
launch at ...

CALL

+30 697 41 87 706

HOURS

Tandems fly roughly 11am-5pm
with discounted early-bird
slots ~10:00-10:45am, per the
card; official site doesn't
publish separate September
hours – confirm at booking, as
flights depend on wind/weather.

BOOK

3-7 days before (site
advertises 'book now, pay
later' – reserve the slot,
settle up on the day)

RES

PREBOOK ONLINE

Step off the edge with nothing to do but breathe and hold each other – a few impossible minutes in the air.

This is the zone's adrenaline crescendo, and its geometry is almost too neat to be real: you launch off the exact clifftop that Rachi restaurant dines on – the same 600-metre edge at Exanthia, one for dinner and one for takeoff – run into the void under a tandem canopy with a pilot strapped behind you, and eight to twenty minutes later land down on the sand at Kathisma beach. One cliff, two completely different ways to end an evening. No experience is required and nothing is asked of you but nerve: the pilot flies it, you just breathe, and the entire west coast unspools beneath your feet – the beaches you've been swimming reduced to thin turquoise ribbons, the switchback road a pencil line, Kathisma's crescent growing slowly larger as you spiral down toward it. It is the purest do-something-you'll-never-forget card in the deck, the honeymoon story that starts with 'so we ran off a cliff together.' For two people at the very start of the biggest leap of their lives, there's a certain poetry in taking a smaller, giddier one first – off the edge of Lefkada, over the sea, and gently down onto the sand.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ It's wind-dependent – reserve with a flexible backup day and confirm the morning of; don't hang your last evening on it.
- ▶ 'Book now, pay later' means you can lock a slot 3-7 days out with no risk – do it, since golden-hour slots go first.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the wind won't cooperate, you're already at the perfect consolation prize – book the same clifftop for dinner at 'Rachi – Dinner in the Clouds' and watch the gliders you didn't join, or drop to 'Vanessa's Line: Kathisma Sunset Bar' where you'd have landed.

● SCOUT REPORT

Crazy 9 and Cool 9 are the obvious twin spikes – running off a 600m cliff under a canopy is the single most audacious thing in the zone, and it looks unreal doing it. Coherence 8 for the elegant one-cliff-dinner-and-launch symmetry. Efficiency 6 reflects the premium price and total weather-dependence. Complex 5 and Nerd 5 stay mid because the pilot does all the hard part – you supply the nerve, not the skill.

Vasiliki Bay — Riding the Afternoon 'Eric'



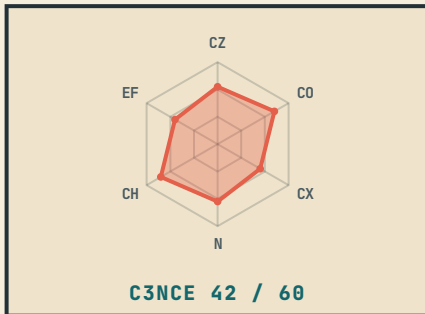
3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC

Glassy and gentle to start, then a little wild by afternoon — a bay that meets you at whatever pace you like.

Vasiliki Bay runs on a schedule the wind keeps, and locals have given that wind a name: Eric. Mornings here are glass-flat, gentle enough that a total beginner can stand on a wide board in shin-deep water and figure out the balance. Then, reliably, around 2:30 in the afternoon, the cross-shore thermal kicks in — Eric arrives — and the bay transforms into one of the windsurfing capitals of Europe, steady and dependable enough that national and international competitions are held right here. That two-speed personality is the whole gift for you two: you can learn in the calm and then, if the nerve holds, feel the real thing fill the sail in the afternoon. This is Avery's card, an active, salt-and-adrenaline afternoon with a proper learning curve, run out of schools right on the water who'll put a rig under you whatever your level — windsurf, wingfoil or SUP. Even if only one of you takes to the board, the bay itself is a show: a fishing-village harbour, a pebble beach, mountains behind, and by golden hour the water dotted with sails still up, catching the last of Eric before he clocks off for the night.



QUEST | **P2 · AVERY**

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ ~50/pp | **ENERGY ●●●**

◆ **SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL**

SITE
Surf School Vasiliki (primary) / Windsurf Vassiliki (alt...)

CALL
Surf School Vasiliki: +30 698 702 3132. Windsurf Vassiliki: +30 26450-31378 / mobile +30 6948-709034

HOURS
Surf School Vasiliki publishes 10:00-19:00, May-October (covers September). Windsurf Vassiliki's September hours not separately published.

BOOK
Few days to 1 week before in September for a group/private lesson slot

RES
RECOMMENDED

▶ **NP PRO TIPS**

- ▶ Book a morning beginner slot AND stay for the afternoon — the calm dawn teaches you, 'Eric' at 2:30 rewards you.
- ▶ Rash vest and reef-safe sunscreen: the wind masks how hard the sun is cooking you out on the water.

◆ **IF IT RAINS**

If Eric doesn't show or a lesson falls through, go under the same south coast on 'Nautilus Dive: Reef & the Christina Wreck,' or take the calm-water swim at 'Hidden Cove: Agiofilis Ladder Beach' just around the point.

● **SCOUT REPORT**

Cool 8 and Nerd 7 are the notable pair — a world-class windsurf bay with a named, competition-grade thermal is genuinely cool and genuinely nerdy (the meteorology of 'Eric' is the hook). Crazy 7 and Complex 6 for the real skill curve. Coherence 8 for a bay that does exactly one thing supremely well. Efficiency 6 reflects the lesson cost and the wait for the wind.

Hidden Cove: Agiofili's Ladder Beach



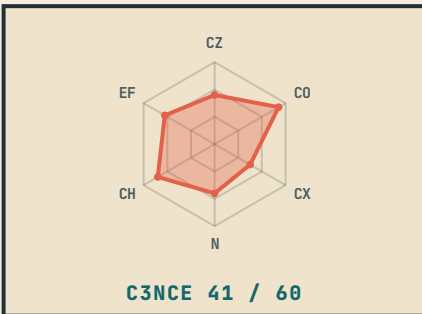
3.5/5 · 41/60



EPIC

Take the rungs down slow, one hand for each other, and the whole turquoise pocket opens up just for you.

Just south of the beach-crawl's big names sits Agiofili, a small white-pebble cove ringed by pale limestone that most day-trippers miss because they've already committed their day to Porto Katsiki and Egremni. Their loss is your gain. The water here does the full Ionian gradient — turquoise shallows fading to deep cobalt — and the approach is half the charm: you can climb down a wooden ladder set into the cliff face to reach the sand, which is exactly the kind of small ceremonial effort that makes a cove feel earned rather than handed over. For years this was a locals-only scramble, accessible only to those who knew the goat-paths, and even now that a road has been pushed almost to the sand, it keeps its hidden, off-the-record feel. There's no shade to speak of and no development, just cliff, pebble and impossibly clear water — a place that rewards you for choosing it over the crowded headliners a few kilometres north. It's the honeymoon move: skip the beach everyone's Instagramming and take the quieter, more beautiful one next door.



▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ The Vasiliki boat taxi is the best arrival — but there's no single bookable operator, so confirm the last return time (~18:30) when you board so you don't strand yourselves.
- ▶ Midday is deliberate here — that's peak turquoise; morning leaves the water flatter.

COVE CO-OP

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~10/pp ENERGY ●●○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
Vasiliki harbour boat taxi (to Agiofili Beach)

BOOK
No prebooking — boats run every hour, 10:00-18:00, last return ~18:30, in season only

RES
WALK IN

◇ IF IT RAINS

If the boat taxi's grounded by swell, the drive-and-ladder route still gets you down; or push north to the headliner white cliffs of 'Hidden Cove: Porto Katsiki.'

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool 9 for a cove that out-pretties its famous neighbours with a fraction of the crowd. Crazy 6 for the ladder-descent and the goat-path heritage. Coherence 8: a clean, single-purpose swim spot. Efficiency 7 for a cheap boat-hop payoff. Complex 5 and Nerd 6 sit mid — there's the locals-only backstory but no real puzzle beyond choosing your way down.

Eglouvi ridge hike — the best view on the island



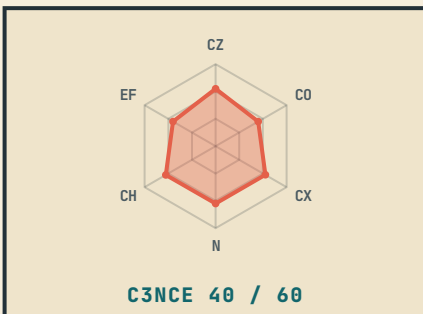
3.5/5 · 40/60



EPIC

A steep morning, then a ridge that hands you the whole island at once — worth every breath, side by side.

Up in the central mountains, Eglouvi is the village Greece keeps mostly to itself — and the reason to climb above it is a view that, on a clear day, reaches all the way to Patras across the water. The Katharia Rachi trail is a steep 500-metre scramble past old stone windmills to a ridge that looks down on Nydri, the Inland Sea, and the whole crumpled spine of the island. The nerd-treasure here is underfoot: the terraced plateau you hike past isn't decorative, it's the actual field where Eglouvi grows the only PDO-protected small brown lentil in Greece — fakes Eglouvis, harvested by hand every August, the way it's been done for centuries. You're walking through a working piece of agricultural heritage that exists nowhere else. This is Avery's kind of card: real elevation, real effort, no operator, no crowd, just the two of you and a track that most visitors never find because they never leave the coast. The payoff at the top isn't a café or a viewpoint railing — it's earned altitude, wind, and the copper-water panorama of an island seen whole.



TREK

P2 · AVERY

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ FREE

ENERGY ●●●

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Time the summit for golden hour — the haze burns off late and that's when Patras and the copper water appear.
- ▶ Carry more water than you think; the ridge has no shade, no spring, no shop.

◇ IF IT RAINS

If cloud socks in the ridge or legs are done, drop to the shaded, low-effort 'Dimosari Gorge Waterfall Walk,' or take your panorama sitting down at 'Vanessa's Line: Faneromeni's Peacock Terrace.'

● SCOUT REPORT

Unusually even for a hike, and the Complex 7 / Nerd 7 pairing is why — the PDO-lentil heritage and the real route-finding give it genuine depth most beaches lack. Crazy 7 for the steep, operator-free effort. Cool sits at a modest 6 (it's a view, not a spectacle) and Efficiency 6 reflects the drive plus climb you pay for it. Coherence 7: it does one honest, strenuous thing well.

Rachi — Dinner in the Clouds



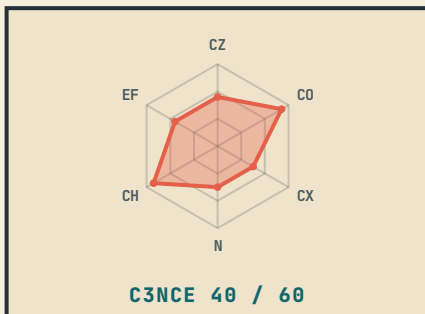
3.5/5 · 40/60



EPIC

A table in the clouds with the sea falling away below — lean in close, this is a once-in-a-trip kind of dusk.

Six hundred metres up, on the edge of Exanthia, there's a terrace that occasionally dips into the clouds while you eat. Rachi is the island's most theatrical dinner: a stone-and-wood dining room perched on a clifftop that falls away to the open Ionian, angled so the sunset fills the entire horizon below your table. The detail that tips it from scenic to slightly surreal is its neighbour — the terrace sits right beside a working paragliding launch, so diners and gliders share the exact same clifftop edge over the sea. You might be handed a menu while, a few metres away, someone runs off the cliff under a canopy. It's the kind of place that turns a meal into an event, which is precisely why you book the front row: a sunset here isn't a backdrop, it's the main course, the food a happy accompaniment to watching the sun drown itself in the sea from a height that makes the whole west coast look like a map. For a honeymoon, it's the deliberate splurge-view night — the one you'll describe to people at home with your hands doing the 'and the terrace was in the clouds' gesture.



FEAST CO-OP

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ ~45/pp ENERGY ●●○

FEEDS YOU

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
Rachi (H Páxn), Exanthia

CALL
+30 26450 99439 (group bookings 10+, staffed 14:00-17:00)

HOURS
Seasonal, open late April-end October, daily 14:00 (or per site, general 14:00-23:00 / noon-midnight per other sources — confirm exact open time when booking) through midnight.

BOOK
2-3 weeks before for a sunset-hour table (very high demand); Fly Me Bar next door is a no-booking fallback while you wait

RES
REQUIRED

NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Reserve online 2-3 weeks out and specifically request a front-terrace table — a back table here is a good dinner with a wall in the way of the whole point.
- ▶ Arrive well before sunset; the front tables get claimed early on clear evenings.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If Rachi's fully booked, the adjacent Fly Me bar delivers the same clifftop sunset with no reservation, or drop to the sea-level version at 'Vanessa's Line: Kathisma Sunset Bar'

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool 9 and Coherence 9 are the twin peaks — a single, flawless, unforgettable sunset-dinner idea executed at altitude. Crazy 6 for the diners-share-the-cliff-with-paragliders oddity. Efficiency 6 reflects the drive plus the need to book ahead. Complex 5 and Nerd 5 stay mid; the magic is the setting, not intricacy or trivia. A high-payoff view card.

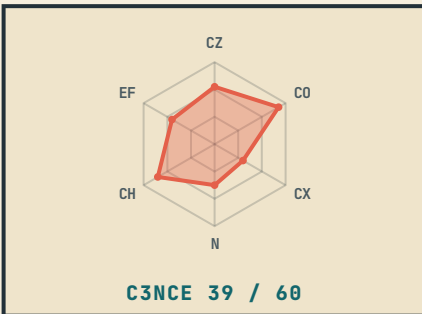
Hidden Cove: Porto Katsiki



3.5/5 · 39/60



EPIC



COVE CO-OP

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~5/pp ENERGY ●●○

Some places live up to every bit of the hype; sink your toes in and let this one hold you two a while.

Some famous beaches disappoint the instant you arrive, deflated by their own postcards. Porto Katsiki is not one of them. Round the last bend at the island's southwest tip and the thing simply detonates in front of you: a sheer white cliff, hundreds of feet of it, dropping into water so saturated it looks color-corrected. The name is the honest part of the legend — 'katsiki' means goat, and before the road was cut, goats were the only creatures nimble enough to reach the sand below. Everyone else admired it from above, the way you might admire a locked garden. Now a stairway does the goats' old job for you. It stays magnificent partly because it refuses to be tamed: there's not much shade, the descent is a real one, and the whole west coast wind can turn the swim into a wrestling match. But on a calm September afternoon, with the summer crowds thinning, you two get the version the guidebooks promise and rarely deliver — the white wall glowing, the blue impossibly deep, and the small private triumph of having climbed down to it.

NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Go 10-11am — that's when light hits the cliff wall; earlier and it's in shadow, later and it's swimming in shade.
- ▶ Pack everything in — food, water, sun cover — there's no meaningful shade on the sand and nothing reliably for sale once you're down at the water.

IF IT RAINS

If Porto Katsiki is a zoo or the swell's up, slip south to the ladder-cove calm of 'Hidden Cove: Agiofilis Ladder Beach,' or take the shorter, softer walk into 'Milos Beach — the walk-in white-sand secret.'

SCOUT REPORT

Cool at 9 is the fair verdict — this is the money shot of the entire zone. Crazy 7 for the goat-track heritage and the sheer scale of the drop. Coherence 8: it does exactly one spectacular thing. Efficiency 6 and Complex 4 keep it honest — it's basically free but the descent and thin shade cost you sweat, and there's no puzzle to it beyond 'climb down, gasp.' Nerd 5 for the etymology being the only real trivia.



Papanikolis Cave + Vathy sunset run

VOYAGE

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ ~45

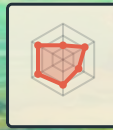
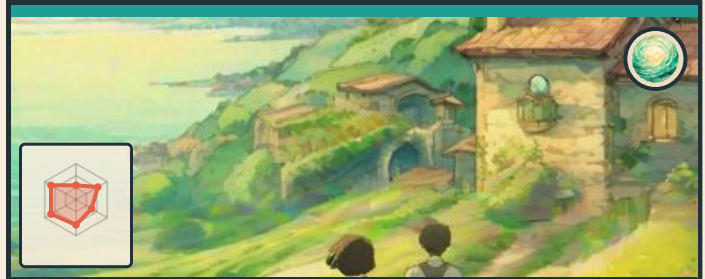
★★★★★ 39/60

Drift into a cave big enough to swallow a boat, then a harbour dinner as the light goes — an easy wonder.

There's a wooden caique out of Nydri that will sail you fully inside a sea cave big enough to swallow a submarine — because one once hid here. The Papanikolis Cave takes its name from the Greek submarine that, according to local tradition, used the cavern to hide and resupply while hunting...

► **PRO TIP** · Ask for the sunset-timed departure by name — the standard daytime run misses the whole point of this card's evening light.

◆ **BOOK:** 1-2 weeks before



Vanessa's Line: Vertzami at the Cellar Door

TRAINING

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~8

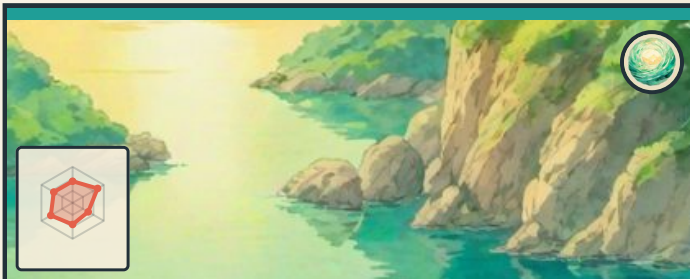
★★★★★ 39/60

Vanessa's slow pour: walk the vines, step into the cool cellar, and taste the island straight from the barrel.

Lefkada has its own red grape, and almost nobody outside the island drinks it: Vertzami, dark and tannic, grown here in the traditional low, cup-shaped 'kypello' vine style that keeps the fruit close to the warm earth. This is Vanessa's line — a real cellar visit, not a gift-shop...

► **PRO TIP** · Your dates fall right after the Sept 15 hours-cut — aim for 10:00-15:00 and avoid Sunday the 20th (closed); call +30 2645095200 to confirm first.

◆ **BOOK:** No booking needed — walk in 10:00-15:00/20:00 depending on exact date; tours run roughly h...



Be Your Own Skipper: Vlichos Bay

VOYAGE

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~80

★★★★★ 38/60

Your own little boat, your own slow pace — poke into the quiet corners of the bay with nobody else aboard.

Greek law contains a small, wonderful loophole: anyone can pilot a motorboat up to about 30 horsepower with no licence, no captain, no test. Which is exactly why Nydri harbour is thick with rental shacks handing first-timers the tiller — and why this card exists. No skipper, no schedule, no...

► **PRO TIP** · You get a safety briefing before they hand over the tiller — actually listen; it covers the anchor and the bay's no-go corners.

◆ **BOOK:** 1-2 weeks before in peak September; same-day/walk-up sometimes possible off-peak



Charter: Skorpis & Meganisi

VOYAGE

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ ~35

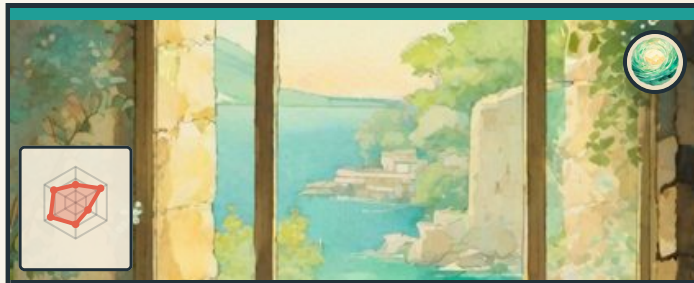
★★★★★ 38/60

Let someone else steer for a day — just the two of you, a rail to lean on, and open water.

There is a particular thrill in cruising past a place you are explicitly not allowed to set foot on, and Skorpis delivers it. This is the private island where Aristotle Onassis married Jacqueline Kennedy in 1968 — a wedding that stopped the world for a day — and it remains sealed, green and...

► **PRO TIP** · Book the sun-side deck seat for the return leg, not the outbound — the gold light is on the way home into Nydri.

◆ **BOOK:** 1-2 weeks before (book via their FareHarbor link)



Karsaniki lace + phyllo morning in Karya

TRAINING

MORNING · 07:00-10:30

€ ~50

★★★★☆ 38/60

A slow, handmade morning for Vanesa — thread, dough, warm kitchens, and the quiet pride of making a thing.

Vanesa's morning, and it hides a genuinely astonishing human story behind a sleepy mountain village. Karya is where, sometime in the 1870s, a woman named Maria Stavraka lost her right hand and, refusing to lose her craft, taught herself to embroider one-handed — inventing a stitch, the...

► **PRO TIP** · Book the farm class 1-2 weeks ahead over WhatsApp — small cap of 10, no walk-in, no separate email.

◆ **BOOK:** 1-2 weeks before (small-group cap of 10, private groups from €500)



Milos Beach — the walk-in white-sand secret

COVE

MORNING · 07:00-10:30

€ ~5

★★★★☆ 38/60

Take the long way in through the olives; the walk is half the gift, and the water at the end is the rest.

This is Vanesa's line for a reason: it asks for twenty minutes of effort and pays it back in a color of water that looks like someone dialed the saturation too high. Milos is the beach just around the headland from your Agios Nikitas base, and getting there is half the pleasure — a signed...

► **PRO TIP** · Walk in via the footpath rather than the taxi at least one way — the cliff-top reveal over the cove is the whole reason to come.

◆ **BOOK:** No prebooking — show up at Agios Nikitas village beach; boats run roughly hourly (half-hou...)



Nautilus Dive: Reef & the Christina Wreck

DIVE

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~90

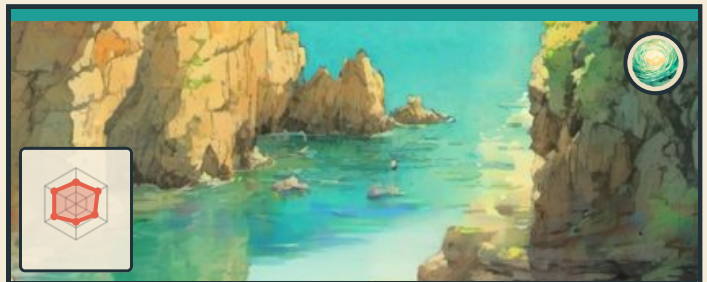
★★★★☆ 38/60

Drop into the blue on the calm side of the island — a slow, wide-eyed hour where the crowds never reach.

Over on the south coast at Vasiliki, away from the Nydri day-boat crowds, Nautilus Diving Club has been running divers down since 2002 into a completely different underwater world from the sea-caves on the other coast. Their two signature sites are a reef and a wreck: the Americano Reef and the...

► **PRO TIP** · WhatsApp is their preferred channel (+30 693 618 1775) — message rather than call, and book at least a week out.

◆ **BOOK:** 1 week+ before (advance booking required if bringing your own group; medical questionnaire...)



Nydri sea-cave snorkel + Red Rock swim

DIVE

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~55

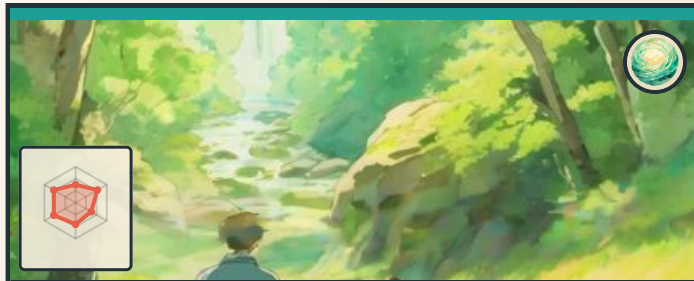
★★★★☆ 38/60

A day of small brave splashes and clear water to float in after — go easy, go giddy, go together.

Avery's card, and it's built for the part of him that wants to jump off things into water. The full-day boat out of Nydri strings together the east coast's best swimming theatre: the Desimi sea caves you can slip into, a cliff-jump into the rust-stained grotto of Red Rock Beach, and...

► **PRO TIP** · Ask the skipper for five minutes to free-dive the Thilia drop-off — the reef edge is where the good stuff is.

◆ **BOOK:** 1-2 weeks before in September (small boat, 15-guest cap)



Dimosari Gorge Waterfall Walk

TREK

EARLY AM · 07:00-10:30

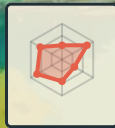
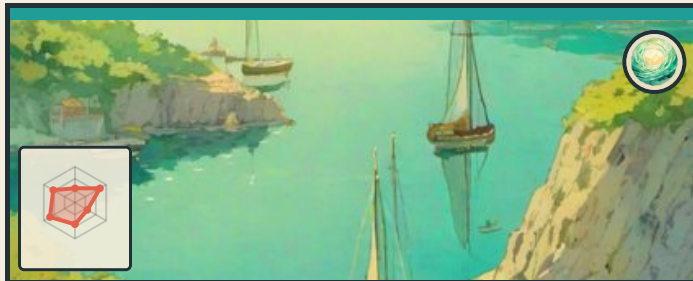
€ ~5

★★★★☆ 37/60

Wander into the cool green together — dappled light, mossy rock, a gentle walk with no hurry in it.

Not every honeymoon day needs to be a spectacle, and Dimosari is the deliberately gentle one — a shaded walk into a green gorge near Nydri, through oak and giant plane trees, to a waterfall at the end. The honest guidance, which the card doesn't hide from, is this: come for the cool, not the...

► **PRO TIP** · Plan a gorge walk, not a swim — by September the falls are often a trickle or dry; the shade is the real payoff.



Sivota Fjord Fish Row

FEAST

EVENING · 20:00-23:30

€ ~35

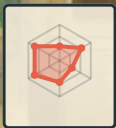
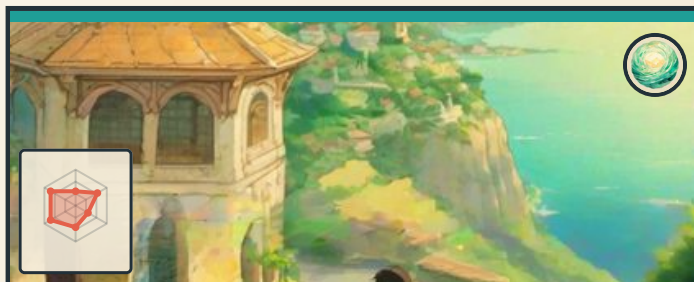
★★★★☆ 37/60

Stroll the quay together till a table calls your name — yachts on the water, the catch on your plate.

Tucked into the southeast coast, Sivota is a horseshoe of still water lined with fish tavernas — a fjord-shaped natural harbour so well protected that sailors used it as one of the safest shelters in the entire Ionian long before a single tourist arrived. The horseshoe blocks wind from almost every...

► **PRO TIP** · Don't pre-decide the taverna — walk the horseshoe once, read the grills and the crowd, then sit. That IS the Sivota move.

◆ **BOOK:** Walk the quay and pick a table by ear, per the card's own framing; call ahead only if you ...



Vanesa's Line: Faneromeni's Peacock Terrace

QUEST

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ FREE

★★★★☆ 37/60

Vanesa's kind of stop: one wide, golden view and a courtyard of unexpected company to make you both smile.

Four kilometres from Lefkada Town, a hilltop monastery quietly holds what locals rate the best panoramic view on the whole island — and then, as if a view weren't enough, it throws in peacocks. Faneromeni's terrace lines up an almost greedy amount of scenery in a single frame: Lefkada...

► **PRO TIP** · Time it for the late-afternoon window (16:00-20:00), not the 14:00-16:00 closure — golden hour is both the best light and inside opening hours.

◆ **BOOK:** No booking — free entry, donations welcome; modest dress required (cover-ups provided at e...

• BONUS PICKUPS • UNCOMMON



Agios Nikitas Grill

★★★★☆

Fresh grilled fish in the walkable village at night.



Vanesa's Line: Kathisma Sunset Bar

★★★★☆

Cliff bar above the beach, cocktail, plot the ferry.



Santa Maura — The Castle on the Causeway

★★★★☆

Seven centuries and six flags of Venetian fortress, right where the floating bridge lands.



Pefkoulia — The Lazy Beach-Club Day

★★★★☆

The no-scramble beach day — sunbeds, a jacuzzi bar, and endless sand.

Pull away from the white cliffs with sand still in your shoes — this bold, beautiful stretch was all yours.

• • •

"I dreamed I was turned into a ghost. Please take me with you."

- **Castlevania III: Dracula's Curse** · NES · 1990 US - Grant Danasty asking to join the party (his self-introduction 'My name is Grant' precedes this in the full line)

ZONE 04 · 2 NIGHTS · SEP 21-23

ITHACA

Homer's island, barely developed. Deep harbours, goat bells — the quiet before the finale.

◆ 22 CARDS

NO BOSS · SANCTUARY ZONE

🕒 2 NIGHTS · SEP 21-23

◆ **BASE CAMP** Vathy or the tiny harbour of Kioni (~\$130-190/nt).

Breathe out, you two — the pace here slows to a hush, and every hour is yours to waste beautifully together.

🕒 BEST-LIGHT RUNNING ORDER · DAWN → NIGHT

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Morning · 07:00-10:30 | Alalkomenae — Schliemann's Odysseus Coins |
| Morning · 07:00-10:30 | Hidden Cove: Gidaki Beach |
| Morning · 07:00-10:30 | Homer's School ruins above Exogi |
| Morning · 07:00-10:30 | Dawn Bougatsa at Spathis |
| Midday · 10:30-16:30 | Filiatro — the boat-only emerald pool |
| Midday · 10:30-16:30 | The Prayer-to-Odysseus Mask |
| Midday · 10:30-16:30 | Dexa — Odysseus' Landing Beach |
| Midday · 10:30-16:30 | Wall, Wreck & Cavern Dive |
| Midday · 10:30-16:30 | Aetos Ithaki — organic olive grove tour + press tasting |
| Midday · 10:30-16:30 | Cooking Greek in Ithaca — garden kitchen, Stavros |
| Golden Hour · 18:00-19:30 | Anogi's stray-marble goats and the leaning campanile |
| Golden Hour · 18:00-19:30 | Vanesa's Line: Frikes Sundowners |
| Sunset · 19:15-19:50 | Kioni Harbour Toast |
| Sunset · 19:15-19:50 | Frikes-to-Vathy kayak-and-snorkel run past Kioni |
| Sunset · 19:15-19:50 | Driver's Route: Island Spine |
| Sunset · 19:15-19:50 | Loutsas — the After-Work Swim |

Blue Hour · 19:50- Lazaretto — the Quarantine Chapel

20:30

Evening · 20:00- O Batis — Octopus off the Boats

23:30

Evening · 20:00- Ageri — the Rare-Tuna Table, Frikes

23:30

Evening · 20:00- Taverna Exogininos — cafe-by-day, bar-by-night in a one-church village

23:30

Evening · 20:00- O Kalioras — grill-smoke on the Perachori ridge

23:30

Anytime License-Free: Be Your Own Skipper

▲ **LIGHT-WINDOW CLASH** these compete for the same light — you can only be one place per golden hour, so split them across your nights:

▶ **Golden Hour** — Anogi's stray-marble goats and the leaning campanile, Vanesa's Line: Frikes Sundowners

▶ **Sunset** — Frikes-to-Vathy kayak-and-snorkel run past Kioni, Kioni Harbour Toast, Loutsa — the After-Work Swim, Driver's Route: Island Spine

◆ **ZONE ROSTER** · TICK THEM OFF AS YOU CLEAR THEM

 Alalkomenae — Schliemann's Odysseus Coins	★★★★★		 Ageri — the Rare-Tuna Table, Frikes	★★★★★	
 Kioni Harbour Toast	★★★★★		 Dexa — Odysseus' Landing Beach	★★★★★	
 Anogi's stray-marble goats and the leaning campanile	★★★★★		 Wall, Wreck & Cavern Dive	★★★★★	
 O Batis — Octopus off the Boats	★★★★★		 Aetos Ithaki — organic olive grove tour + press tasting	★★★★★	
 Frikes-to-Vathy kayak-and-snorkel run past Kioni	★★★★★		 Taverna Exogininos — cafe-by-day, bar-by-night in a one-church village	★★★★★	
 Filiatro — the boat-only emerald pool	★★★★★		 Cooking Greek in Ithaca — garden kitchen, Stavros	★★★★★	
 Hidden Cove: Gidaki Beach	★★★★★		 O Kalioras — grill-smoke on the Perachori ridge	★★★★★	
 Homer's School ruins above Exogi	★★★★★		 Driver's Route: Island Spine	★★★★★	
 Lazaretto — the Quarantine Chapel	★★★★★		 Loutsa — the After-Work Swim	★★★★★	
 License-Free: Be Your Own Skipper	★★★★★		 Vanesa's Line: Frikes Sundowners	★★★★★	
 The Prayer-to-Odysseus Mask	★★★★★		 Dawn Bougatsa at Spathis	★★★★★	

▷ **EPIC ENCOUNTERS**

Alalkomenae — Schliemann's Odysseus Coins



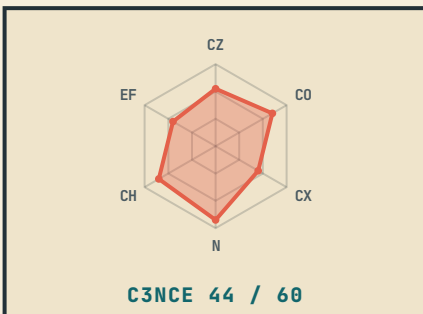
3.5/5 · 44/60



EPIC

Take the short steep climb together to a windswept ruin with two harbours below — the view alone earns it.

Heinrich Schliemann — the man who dug up Troy — came to a steep hill at Ithaca's narrow waist, put a spade in, and out of the Alalkomenae acropolis came bronze coins stamped with Odysseus' head and the word ITHAKON. That's the electric fact this card is built on: not a legend, an object, minted proof that the people here put their hero on their money. The site's been settled since the 6th century BC — ancient writers back it, with Plutarch calling it "the city of the Ithacians" — and it's a leading candidate for Odysseus' actual capital. You climb a short, steep path to Cyclopean wall blocks, those massive mortarless stones the ancients themselves credited to giants, and from the top you see both natural harbours flanking the isthmus at once: the exact strategic logic that would put a king's seat right here. It's the zone's whole Homeric thesis with archaeology under it — the card where "Odysseus was here" stops being a boat-tour tagline and starts being a coin you could, in principle, hold.



▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: it's short but steep with zero shade or water up top — closed shoes and a full bottle, and do it in the cooler morning air.
- ▶ Chain it with Aetos Ithaki — organic olive grove tour + press tasting on the same Aetos slopes for a clean south-island morning.

TREK CO-OP

MORNING · 07:00-10:30

€ FREE ENERGY ●●●

◇ IF IT RAINS

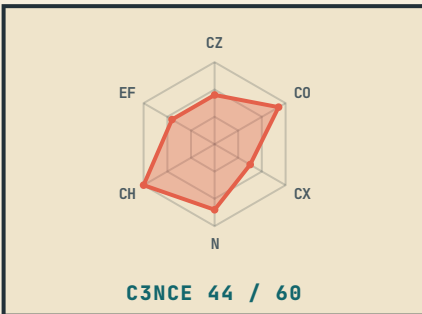
If the steep climb's too much in September heat, get the same Odysseus-was-real payoff sitting down at The Prayer-to-Odysseus Mask in the Stavros museum — a €5 case of hard evidence, no hill required.

● SCOUT REPORT

The Homeric heavyweight — Nerd 9 for Schliemann and the ITHAKON coins, Cool 8 for Cyclopean walls over a two-harbour isthmus. Crazy 7 and Coherence 8 backed by the en=3 climb: this epic is earned on your calves. Complex 6 and Efficiency 6 — free and quick to reach, but the payoff scales entirely with how much of the history you carry up the hill.



EPIC



FEAST CO-OP

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ ~35/pp ENERGY ●○○

▶ FEEDS YOU

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
No specific taverna named in the card ('Kioni. ~€30/pp')

CALL
Mythos Taverna: +30 2674 031122
| En Plo: +30 2674 031520

HOURS
En Plo

BOOK
Walk the harbour on arrival evening and pick a table, or call same-day/day-before — neither has a website or verifiable online booking

RES
RECOMMENDED

Some evenings you'll want to bottle whole — find your table at the water and let this be one.

Kioni is the postcard Ithaca keeps in its wallet — a horseshoe of pastel houses stacked up a green hillside, fishing caiques nodding at the quay, and three ruined Venetian windmills standing guard over the harbour mouth like retired sentinels nobody told the war was over. This is the "we married in a poem" dinner: Homer's island, the prettiest port on it, and a waterfront table where the only agenda is watching the light drain gold behind those windmills. The lore is right to lean on them — they're the frame that makes this harbour unmistakably Kioni and nowhere else, and they turn an ordinary taverna sunset into something that reads like a set from an epic. After two days of ruins and roadless coves, Kioni is the zone's pure beauty-pageant winner, the harbour you'd draw if someone said "draw a Greek harbour." You two sit at the water's edge, a carafe between you, and let an island that's older than the alphabet do the entertaining.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: neither taverna takes online bookings — phone same-day or day-before, or physically walk the quay in the early evening and choose; the harbour's small enough to scan every terrace in a few minutes.
- ▶ Confirm En Plo's dinner hours before you count on it (codex flags AM-only posted times); Mythos is the safer dinner bet.

◇ IF IT RAINS

If Kioni's drive feels like too much on your last Ithaca night, O Batis — Octopus off the Boats keeps the harbour-taverna romance right on the Vathy waterfront.

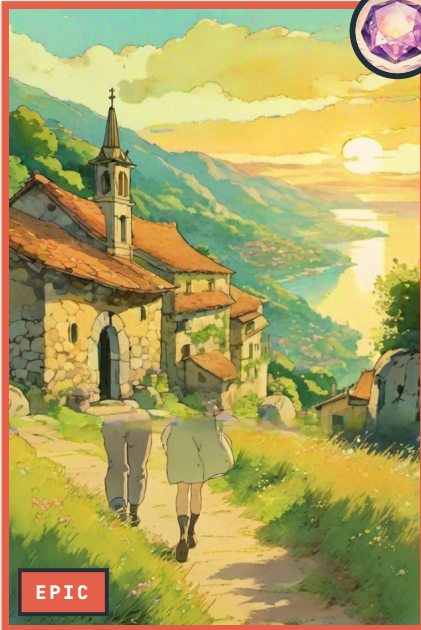
● SCOUT REPORT

Coherence maxes at 10 — a sunset, a poem-perfect port, and a table is about as internally consistent as a honeymoon dinner gets. Cool sits at 9 (Kioni is the island's beauty-pageant winner) while Crazy idles at 6, since nobody's white-knuckling anything here. Nerd's a sneaky 8 for anyone who clocks that those windmills are genuine Venetian ruins, not set dressing.

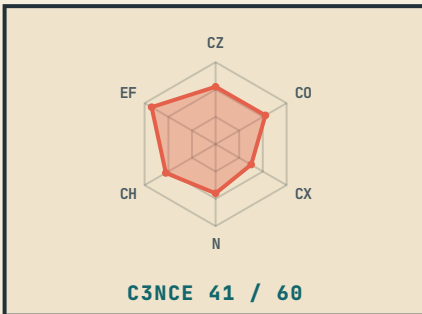
Anogi's stray-marble goats and the leaning campanile



3.5/5 · 41/60



EPIC



DRIVE

P2 · AVERY

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ ~10/pp

ENERGY ●○○

FEEDS YOU

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Kafeneion Sofia, Anogi village square (café stop only, c...

RES

WALK IN

Drift through a hushed old village with your love and let the strangeness of the place slow you both right down.

Anogi is a ghost with the kettle on. A mountain village gone almost silent, its showpiece a Venetian bell tower that the catastrophic 1953 Ionian earthquake shook clean off its church and left standing alone — detached, faintly leaning, for over 70 years now. That quake levelled most of the old villages across Ithaca and Kefalonia, which makes Anogi's ruins some of the most intact left-in-place remnants of pre-quake island architecture you can still walk through. Scattered around the slopes are giant marble boulders locals fold into myth and call "the goats." And in the middle of all this beautiful stillness sits Anogi Café, where Sophia pours iced coffee and cuts whatever cake she baked that morning — the one warm-blooded room in a village the 20th century mostly moved away from. It's the "goat bells" line of the zone blurb made literal, Avery's detour into the island's melancholy interior, where the drama isn't adrenaline but the strange, tender spectacle of a bell tower that's been coming apart, very slowly, since before your parents were born.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: don't build the whole afternoon around the café — codex says there are no posted hours and no way to call ahead, so treat it as a bonus, not a guarantee.
- ▶ Time the campanile for golden hour: the shot is the pale detached tower going amber against the darkening ridge, from the church steps looking west.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If Anogi Café is shut or the village feels too still, drop back onto Driver's Route: Island Spine and keep rolling — the spine's pull-offs deliver the same mountain-Ithaca hush without needing anything to be open.

● SCOUT REPORT

The rare epic that earns it on atmosphere, not adrenaline — Efficiency 9 because a 20-minute detour buys you an earthquake relic, a myth-site and homemade cake. Crazy 7 and Cool 7 for the genuine ghost-village strangeness of a bell tower that's been leaning apart for 70-odd years. Nerd 6 for the 1953-quake history; Complex 5 keeps it a stop, not an expedition.

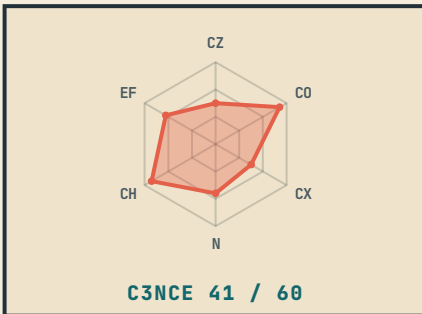
O Batis — Octopus off the Boats



3.5/5 · 41/60



EPIC



FEAST **CO-OP**

EVENING · 20:00-23:30

€ ~42/pp **ENERGY ●●○**

▶ FEEDS YOU

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
O Batis, Vathy waterfront fish taverna

CALL
+30 2674 033010

BOOK
Book morning-of or the day before – very popular, reviewers consistently say booking ahead is needed in season

RES
REQUIRED

Sit at the harbour rail and share one enormous plate — the boats that caught it bobbing right there, loves.

O Batis is a working fish taverna on Vathy's boat harbour where the distance between the sea and your plate is measured in metres. You sit at the harbour rail and watch the same boats that caught your dinner tie up a few steps away — grilled octopus and octopus carpaccio are the signatures, and the portions run so generous that one main easily feeds two. The lore earns the theatre: Vathy is Ithaca's fishing hub, the whole island fleet overwinters in this harbour, so "off the boats" isn't a slogan, it's the supply chain running past your table. This is the deck's argument that you don't have to trek to Kioni for a poem-perfect harbour dinner — Vathy's own waterfront, with the fleet at the rail and a bottle of indigenous Ithacan white, does it just as well, and you're a short walk from your bed after. It's the in-town closer, the dinner you can roll into after a lazy Dexa afternoon without touching the car, and quite possibly the best-value octopus you'll eat on the whole Ionian run.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: book it (codex: +30 2674 033010) — the card's old "walk in early" is superseded; reviewers say a reservation is needed in season, so ring morning-of or the day before.
- ▶ Order ONE octopus main between you — the card is explicit that a single plate feeds two; over-ordering here is a rookie move.

◆ IF IT RAINS

For the same fleet-side harbour dinner without the trek to Kioni, this IS the in-town play — but if O Batis is full, Loutsa — the After-Work Swim has a low-key waterfront taverna minutes away, and Ageri up in Frikes is the north-coast fallback if you're already up there.

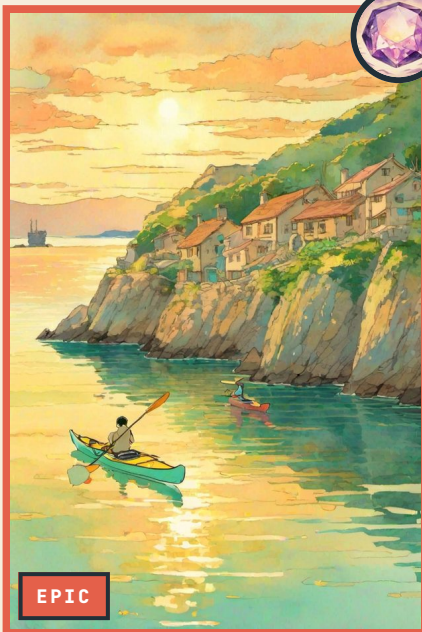
● SCOUT REPORT

Cool 9 and Coherence 9 — the deck's tightest surf-to-table loop, octopus off the boats you're watching dock. Crazy 5 and Complex 5 keep it an honest harbour dinner, not a stunt; Efficiency 7 because it's in-town, cheapish for the quality, and one plate does two. Nerd 6 quietly rewards ordering the indigenous Koritsanos white instead of the default Robola.

Frikes-to-Vathy kayak-and-snorkel run past Kioni



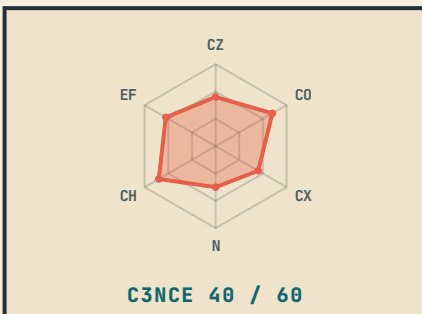
3.5/5 · 40/60



EPIC

Take the long way down the coast by paddle, one quiet bay at a time — no clocks, just you two and the blue.

This is the whole east coast of Ithaca taken one bay at a time, from a kayak seat. The route runs one-way from Frikes down past Kioni and on to Vathy — roughly seven hours, multiple snorkel stops, and a coastline the card's lore calls close to unchanged since antiquity: no big-hotel development on the east flank means the anchorages you're paddling past look almost exactly like the ones described in 5th-century-BC accounts of Ithaca. You slip into Kioni's pretty horseshoe from the water, pull a mask on over sponge-boulder shallows, and end the day in Vathy "where the ouzo already knows your name." It's the most physical card in the zone and the one that stitches the island's harbours together into a single moving line — Homer's sea, at paddle speed, with your own arms doing the work the Odyssey's oarsmen did. For a pair who'd rather earn the coast than be ferried along it, this is the trip that makes Ithaca a thing you did, not a thing you saw.



▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: it needs a minimum of three paddlers (codex) — if it's just the two of you, book early so the guide can pair you into a group, or you may not launch.
- ▶ Same outfit runs the Wall, Wreck & Cavern Dive (Outdoor Ithaca) — one phone number covers both your water-days, worth flagging when you call.

VOYAGE

CO-OP

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ ~65/pp

ENERGY ●●●

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Odyssey Sea Kayak Club (Outdoor Ithaca)

CALL

+30 694 818 2655

BOOK

Several days to 1-2 weeks ahead — the one-way Frikes→Vathy route needs a minimum of 3 paddlers; 20% deposit to reserve, balance in cash/card the evening before or morning of

RES

REQUIRED

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the group minimum doesn't fill or a seven-hour paddle is too much, License-Free: Be Your Own Skipper lets you cover the same east-coast coves under your own motor at your own pace — no guide, no crowd, no 7-hour burn.

● SCOUT REPORT

A properly athletic epic — Cool 8 for paddling an antiquity-frozen coast, Complex 6 and Coherence 8 because the route genuinely threads all three harbours into one line. Crazy 6 and Efficiency 7 (a guided package makes a big day painless). The stat-block's honest tell is the en=3 behind it: this vector is earned with your shoulders.

Filiatro — the boat-only emerald pool



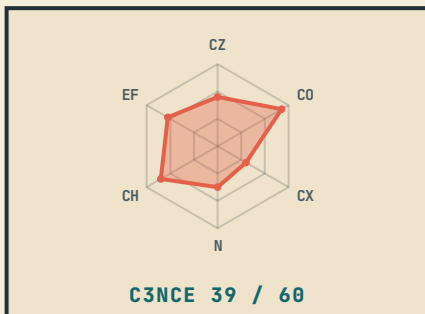
3.5/5 · 39/60



EPIC

Let the boat do the work and drift into a green so unreal you'll forget to reach for the camera.

Filiatro is what happens when limestone decides to show off — pale cliffs curving down to cup a pane of water so green-glass clear it reads as a swimming pool the sea forgot to drain. The catch, and the charm, is access: no road will ever reach it. You come by a roughly 45-minute cliff trail from the Aetos/Sarakiniko side or, gentler, a water-taxi drop from Vathy. The card's lore has the sharpest detail — locals call it one of the island's most "cosmopolitan" beaches precisely because it long resisted a road, which means the isolation that once just made it inconvenient is now the status-pilgrimage that draws the in-crowd. Discovergreece and Terrabook both rank it among Ithaca's best boat-access coves. It's a place that manufactured its own exclusivity out of pure geography: nobody built the velvet rope, the cliffs did. Arrive at noon, when the overhead sun turns that cupped water full emerald against the white rock, and you understand instantly why people bother.



▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ NP PRO TIP: if you want the emerald, you have to go at noon — the colour trick depends on the sun being directly overhead against the white limestone, not a soft-light morning.
- ▶ Take the water-taxi over the cliff trail unless you're both feeling the 45-minute scramble; book the drop 2–3 days out per the codex.

COVE

CO-OP

MIDDAY · 10:30–16:30

€ ~35/pp

ENERGY ●●○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Kioni Boat Hire
(rentithacaboats.com)

CALL

+30 26740 31144 / +30 6972 594
090

BOOK

2-3 days ahead for a water-taxi
drop in Sept

RES

RECOMMENDED

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the boat desks are booked or the trail's too much, Dexa — Odysseus' Landing Beach gives you clear sheltered water, olive shade and a beach bar two kilometres from Vathy — no boat, no scramble.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool 9 — this is Ithaca's flex beach, and it knows it. Crazy 6 for committing to water only reachable by trail or taxi; Efficiency 7 because the water-taxi actually makes the "impossible" cove pretty painless. Complex 4 and Nerd 5 stay modest — the drama here is optical, not intellectual. Coherence 8: green glass, white cliffs, no road, one perfect swim.



Hidden Cove: **Gidaki Beach**

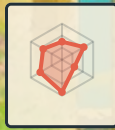
COVE MORNING • 07:00-10:30 € ~12

★★★★★ 39/60

Slip away to a shore that takes a little effort to reach; the reward is having it almost to yourselves.

Gidaki is the beach Ithaca makes you earn — no road reaches it, only a footpath over the headland or a water-taxi skimming round from Vathy. Which is exactly why, in September, you can step onto its pale shingle and find it near-empty, the Ionian doing that impossible clear-to-cobalt gradient with...

► **PRO TIP** • NP PRO TIP: agree a pickup time with your water-taxi skipper before he leaves — there's no road out of Gidaki, only the footpath or the boat, so you don't want to get stuck.



Homer's School ruins above **Exogi**

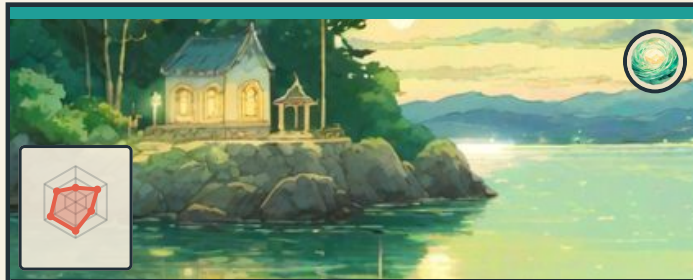
QUEST MORNING • 07:00-10:30 € FREE

★★★★★ 38/60

Wander up to a quiet ruin together where the myth turns out to have an address — no crowds, no fuss.

Up in the north, on a mountainside between Exogi and Platrithias, a crumble of ancient foundation courses waits with almost no signage and definitely no ticket booth — the Agios Athanasios site, the one some archaeologists pin as a candidate for Odysseus' actual seat. This is the card's...

► **PRO TIP** • NP PRO TIP: grab the excavation summary from the Vathy Archaeological Museum first — the site has no signage, so the context is what turns a rock pile into Odysseus' palace.



Lazaretto — the Quarantine Chapel

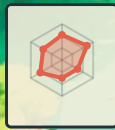
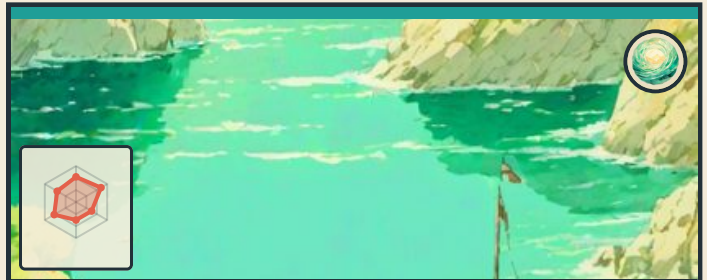
QUEST BLUE HOUR • 19:50-20:30 € ~5

★★★★★ 38/60

Cross the calm harbour to a tiny chapel-island — a fitting little pilgrimage for two just-married hearts.

In the middle of Vathy's harbour, in plain sight of the waterfront cafés, floats a tiny pine-covered islet with a single small chapel — and centuries of "wait." From 1560, under Venetian rule, every ship entering Vathy served a 40-day quarantine anchored off this rock; the word for...

► **PRO TIP** • NP PRO TIP: there's no ferry and no schedule — either paddle a rented SUP/kayak across or tip a Vathy boatman for the short hop; both are normal here.



License-Free: Be Your Own Skipper

VOYAGE ANYTIME € ~80

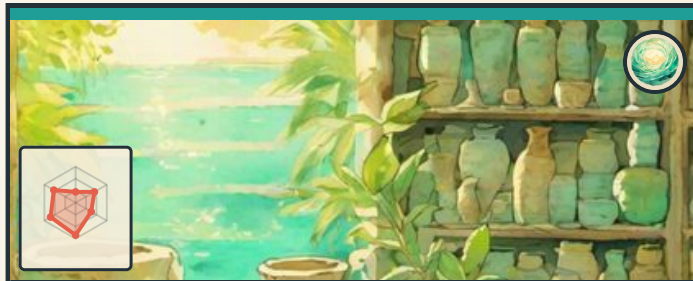
★★★★★ 38/60

Take a small boat out just the two of you and go find a cove with nobody's name on it but yours.

The whole appeal fits in the title: no licence, one small motor, and every road-less cove on the island suddenly yours. Ithaca's best beaches — Platia Ammos and a scatter of unnamed pockets — have no road to them at all, which is precisely why the island grew two boat-hire clusters, one at...

► **PRO TIP** • NP PRO TIP: book 2-3 days out (card + codex both flag thinner September fleets) — don't assume a walk-up boat is waiting.

◆ **BOOK:** 2-3 days ahead in September — the card itself notes fleets are smaller than August, call a...



The Prayer-to-Odysseus Mask

QUEST MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30 € ~4

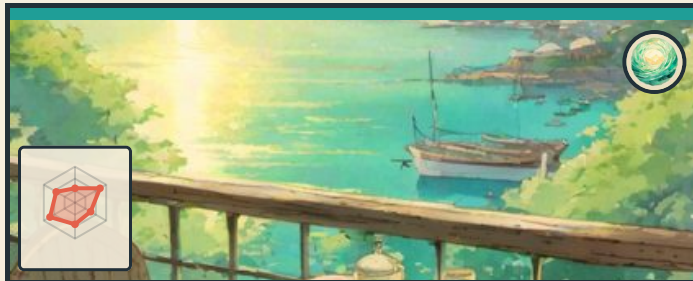
★★★★☆ 38/60

Duck into a tiny hilltop museum together for one small, astonishing object — a quiet twenty minutes well spent.

In a modest museum on Pilikata Hill in the north sits a shard that rewrites how you read this whole island: a Hellenistic mask fragment inscribed EYXHN ΟΔΥΣΣΕΙ — "a prayer to Odysseus." Not a statue of a hero, but evidence of worship: the people here didn't just tell his story, they...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: closed Tuesdays (codex) and it shuts at 15:30 with last entry 20 minutes before — on a 2-night Ithaca stay that closure window is easy to faceplant, so slot it on a non-Tuesday morning.

◆ **BOOK:** n/a — government-run, no advance booking mechanism exists, just show up within hours



Ageri — the Rare-Tuna Table, Frikes

FEAST EVENING · 20:00-23:30 € ~42

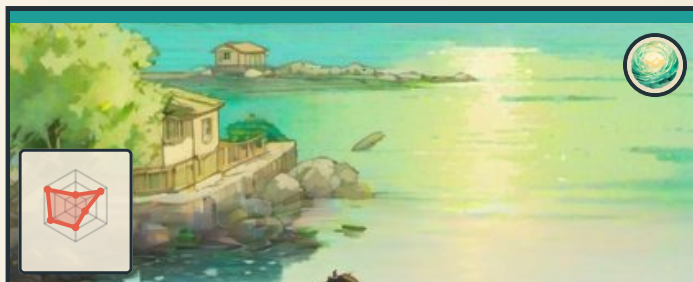
★★★★☆ 37/60

Settle into a quiet harbour table in Frikes as the evening turns to dinner — just the two of you.

Ageri is the dinner the deck's own Frikes sundowner card forgot — the harbour's stealth-best kitchen, hiding behind a "just drinks" reputation. Perched on Frikes harbour with sea-and-mountain-view tables, it's built its name on one dish reviewers keep calling the best...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: book 1-3 days ahead (codex) — small kitchen, big reputation; the water's-edge tables go first.

◆ **BOOK:** 1-3 days ahead in September — small kitchen, highly rated



Dexa — Odysseus' Landing Beach

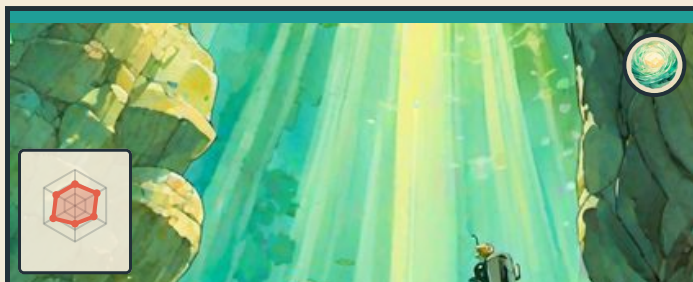
COVE MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30 € FREE

★★★★☆ 37/60

No boat, no plan — just stroll down and float in easy water together whenever the mood takes the two of you.

Dexa is the myth you can walk to. Two kilometres from Vathy — a five-minute drive or a half-hour stroll — lies a sheltered pebble cove with clear shallow water, olive-tree shade, a little green islet across the bay, a beach bar, and a lifeguard in season. And by tradition it's the beach...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: this is your no-logistics swim — when Filiatro's boat desks are booked or the sea's too rough for the Gidaki taxi, Dexa needs nothing but a towel.



Wall, Wreck & Cavern Dive

DIVE MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30 € ~90

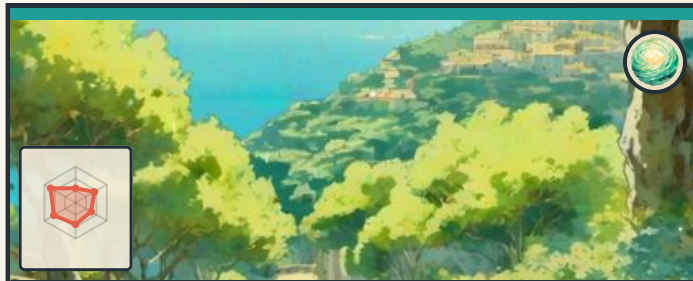
★★★★☆ 37/60

Go under together where few bother to look — wall, wreck and cavern, all yours for an afternoon.

For most of its history Ithaca made you leave to go under it — divers had to charter across to Kefalonia. Then in 2013 Odyssey Diving Club opened at Dentrakia, just outside Vathy, the first dive centre ever established on the island, and suddenly Ithaca had its own boat and its own dropped anchor...

► **PRO TIP** · NP PRO TIP: ask staff which site is running that week before you lock the day (card's own steer) — wall, wreck and cavern each need their own conditions.

◆ **BOOK:** Several days to 1-2 weeks ahead, especially for Discover Scuba/Open Water course slots



Aetos Ithaki — organic olive grove tour + press tasting

TRAINING MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30 € ~18

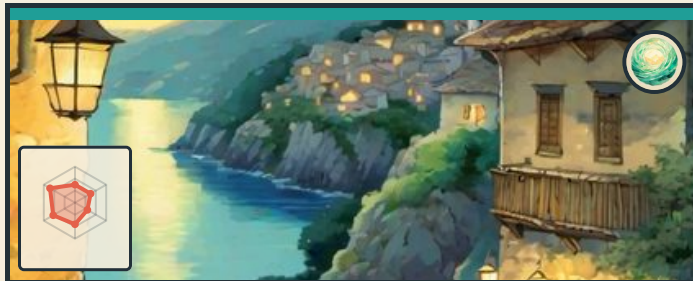
★★★★☆ 36/60

Walk the silver rows together, taste an oil that only exists right here, and slow all the way down, you two.

On the Aetos slopes above the Ionian, near the narrow isthmus by the ferry port, a small organic grove grows an olive most of the world will never taste: the Thiako, a variety native specifically to Ithaca's old Venetian-era groves that barely exists as a commercial oil off the island. Aetos...

► PRO TIP · NP PRO TIP: book by Instagram DM or email 3-7 days out (codex) — there's no phone line, so don't plan to just turn up.

◆ BOOK: 3-7 days ahead via Instagram DM or email — no phone published



Taverna Exogininos — cafe-by-day, bar-by-night in a one-church village

FEAST EVENING · 20:00-23:30 € ~20

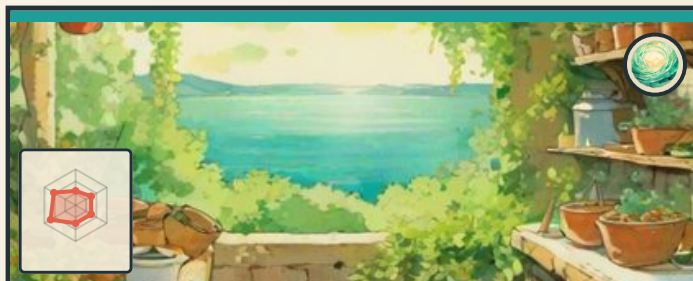
★★★★☆ 35/60

Find the one lit room in a sleepy little village and make a whole evening of it — meatballs, music, just you two.

Exogininos is one taverna doing three jobs in a village that had almost stopped needing any. Up in the north, next to the Agia Marina church, it's a café at noon, a taverna by evening, and a bar with curated music after dark — zucchini meatballs and lamb-with-oregano set against what the card...

► PRO TIP · NP PRO TIP: don't hunt for an online booking — codex confirms there isn't a verified number; have your host or Vathy tourist info ring for you, or just walk in, which is how this village works.

◆ BOOK: Same day — phone-only, no online booking system



Cooking Greek in Ithaca — garden kitchen, Stavros

TRAINING MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30 € ~70

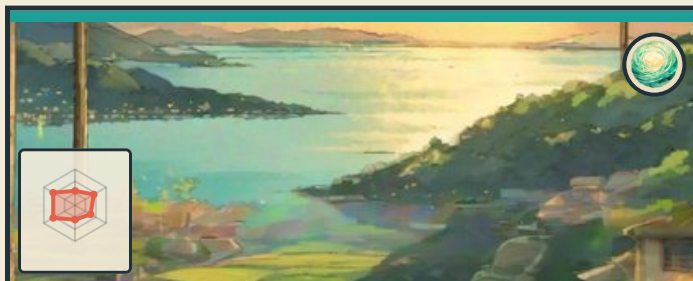
★★★★☆ 34/60

Snip herbs side by side, make a happy mess, feed each other the results — the kind of afternoon you'll keep.

The premise is disarmingly simple — you pick the herbs before you cook them. In a garden kitchen up north, "Cooking Greek in Ithaca" runs hands-on classes built on organic island-grown produce, and the whole point is that the thyme and oregano going into your pan were growing a few steps...

► PRO TIP · NP PRO TIP: book 1-2 weeks out (codex) — garden-kitchen capacity is small and September still fills.

◆ BOOK: 1-2 weeks ahead — garden-based sessions have limited capacity, availability-dependent



O Kalioras — grill-smoke on the Perachori ridge

FEAST EVENING · 20:00-23:30 € ~25

★★★★☆ 33/60

Climb a little for supper and eat with the whole bay laid out beneath you — worth every switchback, you two.

Drive fifteen minutes up out of Vathy and the harbour drops away beneath you until it's just a scatter of lights 300 metres down the dark, and there — on the Perachori ridge — is O Kalioras, where chef Panagiotes works real coals into souvlakia, kontosouvli, biftekia and kebabs while homemade...

► PRO TIP · NP PRO TIP: call ahead (codex: +30 2674 033654) — it's a small ridge grill with no website and no published hours, so a same-day ring is the only way to be sure the coals are lit.

◆ BOOK: Call same day or day-before for a peak dinner slot



**Driver's Route:
Island Spine**



Slow drive over Ithaca's ridge, sea on both sides.



Loutsa — the After-Work Swim



The locals' after-work swim, umbrellas and a taverna, ten minutes from your bed.



Vanesa's Line: Frikes Sundowners



Second tiny harbour, fewer people, better light.



Dawn Bougatsa at Spathis



Warm pastry and a harbour bench before the ferry — breakfast, solved.

However few cards you played here, the stillness of this island is yours now — tuck it in your pocket and go.



“Never shall you have Maria's hand! I would die before that day comes!”

— Final Fantasy VI · SNES · 1994 — Draco's declaration against his rival, mid-opera.

ZONE 05 • 4 NIGHTS • SEP 23-27

KEFALONIA

The boss zone — postcard beaches, an underground cave-lake, pastel villages, its own Robola wine.

◆ 26 CARDS

2 BOSS ENCOUNTERS

🕒 4 NIGHTS • SEP 23-27

◆ **BASE CAMP** Chic Fiskardo or pastel Assos (~\$200-280/nt); Sami/Argostoli for value.

Here's Kefalonia, the big finish — pastel villages, impossible-blue coves, slow mornings. Settle in, you two, and take your sweet time.

🕒 BEST-LIGHT RUNNING ORDER • DAWN → NIGHT

- Dawn • 06:20-07:00** Fteri — The Beach No Road Ever Reached
- Dawn • 06:20-07:00** Mounda — The September Hatchling Run
- Morning • 07:00-10:30** Ainos summit — the dragon-slaying black mountain
- Midday • 10:30-16:30** ★ Expedition: Melissani Cave-Lake
- Midday • 10:30-16:30** Drogarati — The Cave Maria Callas Sang In
- Midday • 10:30-16:30** Drive Your Own Boat To Ithaca
- Midday • 10:30-16:30** Sea-kayak the Assos-Myrtos-Dafnoudi cave line
- Midday • 10:30-16:30** Kako Lagadi — the cove with no sign
- Midday • 10:30-16:30** Antisamos — The Captain Corelli Snorkel Cove
- Midday • 10:30-16:30** Wreck-and-cavern dive out of Fiskardo
- Midday • 10:30-16:30** Xi — The Red-Sand Clay Spa
- Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30** ★ Hidden Cove: Myrtos Beach
- Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30** Assos Village + Fortress
- Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30** Driver's Route: North-Coast Run
- Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30** Vanesa's Line: Robola Wine Tasting
- Golden Hour • 18:00-19:30** Gentilini — The Family Vine-Walk Tasting

Golden Hour · 18:00-19:30	Petani — Myrtos Without The Crowd
Golden Hour · 18:00-19:30	Fiskardo Lighthouse Loop
Sunset · 19:15- 19:50	Catamaran sunset to Dias Island
Sunset · 19:15- 19:50	Kipouria — The Sunset-Into-The-Sea Monastery
Blue Hour · 19:50- 20:30	Fiskardo Harbour Dinner
Evening · 20:00- 23:30	Hands-on Kefalonian meze night
Evening · 20:00- 23:30	Nefeli-Anait — Dinner Under The Assos Fortress
Evening · 20:00- 23:30	Hidden Garden — spit-roast under fairy lights
Anytime	Honey, olive oil & Robola — the producer trail
Anytime	Kounopetra — The Rock The Navy Couldn't Move

▲ **LIGHT-WINDOW CLASH** these compete for the same light — you can only be one place per golden hour, so split them across your nights:

- ▶ Dawn — Fteri — The Beach No Road Ever Reached, Mounda — The September Hatchling Run
- ▶ Golden Hour — Assos Village + Fortress, Fiskardo Lighthouse Loop, Gentilini — The Family Vine-Walk Tasting, Petani — Myrtos Without The Crowd, Vanesa's Line: Robola Wine Tasting, ★ Hidden Cove: Myrtos Beach, Driver's Route: North-Coast Run
- ▶ Sunset — Catamaran sunset to Dias Island, Kipouria — The Sunset-Into-The-Sea Monastery

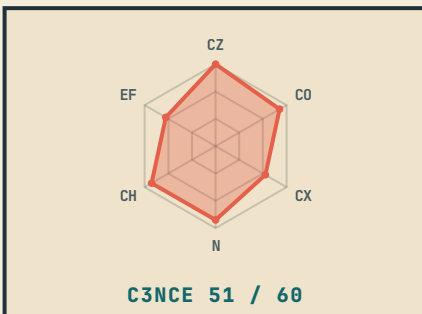
◆ **ZONE ROSTER · TICK THEM OFF AS YOU CLEAR THEM**

★ Expedition: Melissani Cave-Lake	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Honey, olive oil & Robola — the producer trail	★★★★★	🗒
★ Hidden Cove: Myrtos Beach	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Kako Lagadi — the cove with no sign	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Drogarati — The Cave Maria Callas Sang In	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Kipouria — The Sunset-Into-The-Sea Monastery	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Catamaran sunset to Dias Island	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Petani — Myrtos Without The Crowd	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Assos Village + Fortress	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Antisamos — The Captain Corelli Snorkel Cove	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Drive Your Own Boat To Ithaca	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Hands-on Kefalonian meze night	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Fteri — The Beach No Road Ever Reached	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Mounda — The September Hatchling Run	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Sea-kayak the Assos-Myrtos-Dafnoudi cave line	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Wreck-and-cavern dive out of Fiskardo	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Driver's Route: North-Coast Run	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Fiskardo Lighthouse Loop	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Fiskardo Harbour Dinner	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Nefeli-Anait — Dinner Under The Assos Fortress	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Ainos summit — the dragon-slaying black mountain	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Hidden Garden — spit-roast under fairy lights	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Vanesa's Line: Robola Wine Tasting	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Kounopetra — The Rock The Navy Couldn't Move	★★★★★	🗒
🔪 Gentilini — The Family Vine-Walk Tasting	★★★★★	🗒	🔪 Xi — The Red-Sand Clay Spa	★★★★★	🗒

✕ **BOSS · LEGENDARY**



LEGENDARY



QUEST CO-OP

☀ MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~12/pp ENERGY ●○○

◆ **SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL**

SITE

Melissani Cave, Karavomylos (near Sami)

CALL

+30 26740 22997 (Municipality of Sami general line – independently confirmed as a real, active number via kefalonia-tours.gr 'Useful Phone Numbers' listing; still no separate direct number for the cave ticket booth itself surfaced anywhere)

HOURS

Daily 09:00-18:00 (May-Oct season)

BOOK

No formal prebooking channel found – it's a ticket-booth/boat-queue on site. Arrive by ~11am in September to be through the queue and still catch the midday sunbeam window.

RES

Slip below the world for a little while — just the two of you, a boat, and the quiet.

This is the boss-fight set piece of Kefalonia — the one where the whole island shows off. Melissani is a cave whose roof collapsed long ago, leaving a hole to the sky above a hidden underground lake. Discovered in 1951, it was sacred long before that: the ancient Greeks believed this chamber belonged to nymphs and to the god Pan, and named the water for the nymph Melissani herself. The genuinely mind-bending part is hydrological — dye tests proved this lake's water travels clear under the island, surfacing at the sea-mills of Argostoli 15 kilometres away, so you are floating on a river that runs beneath your own footsteps. But the reason it's a hard-window expedition is the light. For a narrow slot around noon, a single shaft of sun drops through the collapsed roof and detonates against the water, turning the whole lake an electric, backlit blue that seems internally lit. Arrive an hour early or an hour late and it's a pleasant cave. Arrive at high noon and it's a cathedral.

▷ **HOW IT GOES**

Melissani is at Karavomylos near Sami. It's walk-in — no prebooking channel exists, just a ticket booth and a boat queue. Tickets run about €7 adult (the card notes ~€10/pp); a combo with nearby Drogarati is roughly €12-13. Season hours are daily 09:00-18:00. The visit is a ~20-minute row in a rowboat with a guide, but the timing is everything: aim to be through the queue and on the water inside the noon-to-1pm sunbeam window (realistically ~11:30-14:00). Get there by roughly 11am to clear the line and still catch it. Pair it with Drogarati Cave 5km away for a tidy one-morning cave double.

◆ **LORE**

A collapsed cave-lake — dye tests proved its water flows UNDER the island from Argostoli's sea-mills, 15 km away.

▷ **NP PRO TIPS**

- ▶ The sunbeam is the entire point — build the morning around being **ON THE WATER** at noon, not merely arriving at noon, so factor the ticket queue and boat wait into your timing.
- ▶ Overcast kills the beam; if the forecast is grey, flip your order and do Drogarati (which is weatherproof underground) first, saving Melissani for a sunny window.
- ▶ Skip the cave's own phone — there's no real booking line; just show up early.

📷 **PHOTO OP**

Shoot from the boat looking back toward the collapsed roof so the sunbeam column and the illuminated water are both in frame. The blue is at its most electric when the sun is dead overhead — under-expose slightly so the lit

WALK IN

water doesn't blow out to white. A wide lens catches the ring of rock, the sky-hole, and the reflection all at once.

◇ IF IT RAINS

If the sky clouds over and the beam's a no-show, walk straight to its sibling 5km away — Drogarati, The Cave Maria Callas Sang In — which is spectacular in any weather since it's fully enclosed.

● SCOUT REPORT

Crazy is a perfect 10 — an underground lake, a noon light-beam, and water that secretly flows under the whole island barely sounds real. Nerd lands a 9 for that dye-test hydrology and the Pan mythology, and Cool and Coherence both hit 9 because it's jaw-dropping AND reliably delivers, provided you honour the hard noon window.

★ Hidden Cove: Myrtos Beach

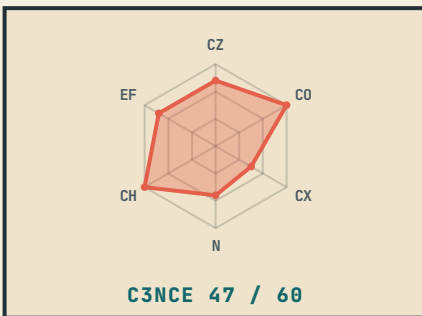


4.0/5 · 47/60

× BOSS · LEGENDARY



LEGENDARY



COVE

CO-OP

🕒 GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ FREE

ENERGY ●●○

Stand here together and just look. Some views you don't photograph so much as promise to remember.

Some beaches earn their fame; Myrtos was simply born a legend. It is the shot on the Kefalonia postcard, the desktop wallpaper, the frame that made a thousand people book a flight without quite knowing why. The trick is in the ground itself: what looks like white sand is actually fine marble pebbles, and it's that pale mineral floor that throws the light back up through the water into that impossible, saturated blue — a blue that doesn't photograph as exaggeration because it isn't one. The tall limestone cliffs that cradle the cove are also its curse, swallowing the sun by late afternoon, so the beach keeps its own strict hours. It played a starring role in Captain Corelli's Mandolin, and standing on the viewpoint road above it you understand why a location scout would weep with gratitude. For a honeymoon, it's the non-negotiable pilgrimage — the beach you'll describe to people for years, always failing to do it justice.

▷ HOW IT GOES

Myrtos sits on the northwest coast, a natural stop on the North-Coast Run between Argostoli and Assos. Entry is free. Hit the clifftop viewpoint first for the aerial-style frame, then drive the steep switchback road down to the shore. Time it deliberately: swim at midday for peak colour and full sun on the water, but shoot the beach from the viewpoint at golden hour — the cove itself falls into cliff-shadow by roughly 5-6pm, so a late arrival gets you a grey, flat beach. The pebbles run hot underfoot and the seabed shelves off steeply and fast, so it's a real swimmer's beach rather than a paddling one. Bring water, shade, and reef shoes, and pack in your own food and drink rather than counting on finding a snack stand. Budget essentially nothing beyond fuel and maybe a coffee.

◆ LORE

The white 'sand' is fine marble pebbles; the beach starred in Captain Corelli's Mandolin.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Split it in two: swim at noon when the sun's overhead and the blue is nuclear, then re-drive to the viewpoint for the golden-hour photo — the beach and the shot want opposite times of day.
- ▶ The drop-off is sudden and there's often a shore-break; it's stunning but not a toddler-paddle beach — respect the water.
- ▶ Reef shoes save your feet on the marble pebbles, which get genuinely painful in full sun.

📷 PHOTO OP

The money shot is from the viewpoint pull-off above, not the sand — shoot down at the crescent at golden hour for that aerial-poster framing. For

colour, get in the water at midday and shoot low across the surface with the pale pebble floor glowing beneath. A polarizer cuts the glare and deepens the blue another stop.

◇ IF IT RAINS

If the beach is jammed or already in shadow, chase the same white-cliff-and-cobalt geology with a fraction of the crowd at Petani — Myrtos Without The Crowd — or go full castaway at Fteri.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool and Coherence both max out at 10 because this is the single most iconic frame of the entire trip and it delivers exactly what it promises — no asterisk. Crazy sits at 8 for that switchback descent and the sheer improbability of the colour, while Efficiency lands a strong 8: it's free, it's on the drive, and it asks almost nothing of you but to show up at the right hour.

▷ EPIC ENCOUNTERS

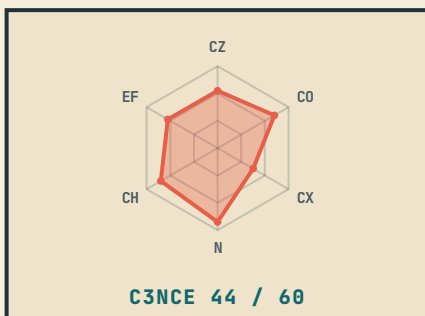
Drogarati — The Cave Maria Callas Sang In



3.5/5 · 44/60



EPIC



QUEST

CO-OP

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~6/pp

ENERGY ●●○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Drogarati Cave, Chaliotata (near Sami)

HOURS

9:00-18:00 in season per multiple current listings; no September-specific override found

BOOK

N/A — pay-on-arrival

RES

WALK IN

Duck out of the sun into a cool stone hush and just look up together. Some rooms leave you whispering.

Some caves are pretty; Drogarati is a concert hall. This is a 150-million-year-old limestone chamber so acoustically flawless that, according to the card, a single sung note rings on for a full twelve seconds. Its grand space — the 'Chamber of Exaltation,' 65 by 45 metres under a 20-metre ceiling — was sealed and secret until an earthquake in 1963 tore open an entrance, and the world promptly discovered it had a natural amphitheatre with perfect reverb. Maria Callas performed inside it. The Bavarian Philharmonic (Bayerische Philharmonie) has too, on a 2014 visit. Standing among the uplit stalactite curtains, in the cave's steady 18°C hush, you're in a room that geology spent a hundred and fifty million years tuning and that humans only walked into within living memory. Pair it with nearby Melissani — the sunbeam cave-lake — and you've got a one-morning double-header of the island's two great underground set pieces. Drogarati is the weatherproof half: while Melissani needs sun, this one is spectacular in any conditions, because the show is entirely indoors.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ It's a steady 18°C down there — carry a light layer even on a hot September day, or you'll cut the visit short shivering.
- ▶ Sequence it with Melissani: do Drogarati either side of Melissani's ~noon sunbeam window so you catch the beam and see both in one morning.

◆ IF IT RAINS

It's already the natural rain-or-shine partner to its sibling — if you've done both caves, or want daylight and altitude instead, swap to Ainos summit, the dragon-slaying black mountain for the fir-forest and the long views.

● SCOUT REPORT

Nerd is a standout 9 — 150-million-year-old rock, a 12-second reverb, Maria Callas and the Bavarian Philharmonic all in one cave is trivia gold. Cool 8 and Coherence 8 for a reliably jaw-dropping, weatherproof chamber. Efficiency a solid 7 (cheap, walk-in, near its sibling); Crazy 7 for the sheer improbability of the acoustics.

Catamaran sunset to Dias Island



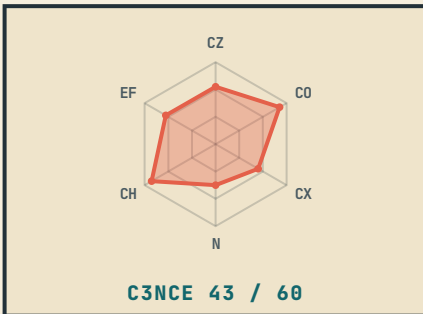
3.5/5 · 43/60



EPIC

Let someone else steer while you two watch the sky burn down over the water. Pure honeymoon, no effort needed.

Some sunsets you watch; this one you sail into. The card puts you on a Bali 4.1 catamaran gliding out of Sami port toward Dias Island — a tiny islet crowned by a single hilltop chapel and otherwise entirely uninhabited. Dias sees almost no foot traffic all year: it's a local name-day pilgrimage spot once annually, and otherwise it's just that lone church on a rock, which is exactly what makes it such a perfect silhouette to point a catamaran at as the whole Ionian goes gold. You get a final swim stop and a spread of Greek cheese, olives, fruit and local wine on deck while the sun drops. It's the zone's designated romance-on-water card — no driving, no scrambling, just the two of you on a wide, stable deck with a glass of Robola and a chapel-topped islet turning to a black cut-out against a copper sky. For a honeymoon, it's almost aggressively on-brand, and there's no shame in that: sometimes you just want the catamaran and the sunset.



VOYAGE **CO-OP**

SUNSET · 19:15-19:50

€ ~95/pp **ENERGY** ●○○

◆ **SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL**

SITE
Kefalonia Excursions, Sami Port

CALL
+30 26710 87452 / +30 697 208 1471

BOOK
Book online; free cancellation up to 48hrs pre-departure — recommend 1 week+ ahead for a September weekend sunset slot

RES
PREBOOK ONLINE

▶ **NP PRO TIPS**

- ▶ Book Kefalonia Excursions specifically, not just any 'sunset catamaran' — it's the one whose route actually reaches Dias Island; the lookalike competitor skips it.
- ▶ Grab a spot at the bow or on the netting early for the unobstructed sunset-behind-the-chapel frame.

◆ **IF IT RAINS**

If a scheduled catamaran doesn't suit, put yourselves at the helm instead — Drive Your Own Boat To Ithaca out of Fiskardo — or take the sunset from dry land at Kipouria, The Sunset-Into-The-Sea Monastery.

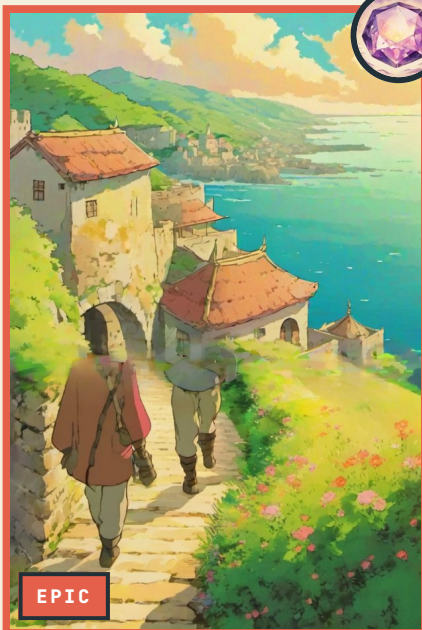
● **SCOUT REPORT**

Cool and Coherence both land 9 — a catamaran sunset toward an uninhabited chapel-islet is exactly what it says on the tin, and it delivers. Crazy 7 for the offshore romance, Efficiency a respectable 7 (booked, timed, snacks included, no faff). Nerd 6, buoyed by Dias's once-a-year-pilgrimage backstory.

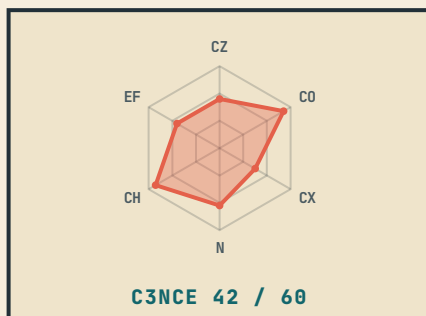
Assos Village + Fortress



3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC



QUEST

CO-OP

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ FREE

ENERGY ●●○

Wander slow, no plan, hand in hand — the kind of pretty little place you'll want to linger in.

If Fiskardo is Kefalonia's yacht-club showpiece, Assos is its watercolour. A cluster of pastel houses spills down a slender isthmus into a horseshoe bay, guarded from the headland above by a Venetian fortress raised in 1593 — later repurposed, less romantically, as a prison. The village carries a quiet, moving footnote: after the catastrophic 1953 earthquake flattened so much of the island, the city of Paris paid to help rebuild Assos, and the villagers named their little central square 'Paris' in thanks. That gratitude is baked into the place; it feels tended, loved, unhurried. There's not a great deal to 'do' here in the checklist sense, and that's precisely the gift — you wander the lanes, you climb the pine-scented fortress path for the view back over the terracotta rooftops and the impossible blue crescent, you eat slowly, you do nothing with tremendous intent. It's the kind of village that makes newlyweds go quiet and start talking, half-seriously, about how one might contrive to live somewhere like this.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Do the fortress climb late-afternoon so you crest the headland right as golden hour lights the village — midday washes the pastels flat.
- ▶ Parking can be tight on the isthmus in peak season; arrive before the afternoon beach crowd or leave the car up top and walk down.

◇ IF IT RAINS

Roll the whole thing into one evening by booking Nefeli-Anait — Dinner Under The Assos Fortress, the harbourfront table that stares straight back at the same 1593 walls, now silhouetted across the bay.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool and Coherence both sit at 9 — it's flat-out one of the prettiest villages in Greece and it never disappoints. Crazy is a modest 6 (this is charm, not adrenaline) and Nerd a 7, buoyed by that genuinely touching Paris-square rebuild story and the 1593-fortress-turned-prison history.

Drive Your Own Boat To Ithaca



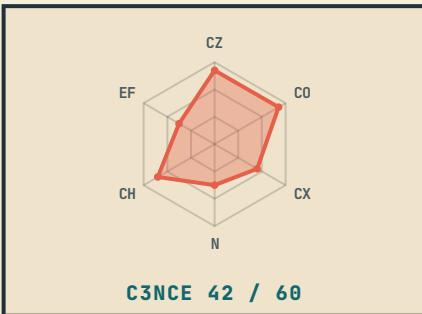
3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC

Just the two of you at the tiller, an open channel, and lunch on another island. Captain-and-crew for a day.

This is the card that quietly outdoes every guided tour: no licence, no skipper, no group — just the two of you piloting a little boat across open water to a different island for lunch. Out of Fiskardo harbour, operators like Regina's Boats and Fiskardo Boat Hire rent ~30hp boats to anyone, no licence needed, after a short safety briefing. Greek law permits it, and the geography makes it extraordinary: the NE coast between Agia Efimia and Fiskardo has the island's highest concentration of road-inaccessible coves, and those same little boats can legally cross the strait to Polis Bay on Ithaca — Homer's island — three nautical miles each way. So 'we drove ourselves to another island' is not a boast, it's a Tuesday. You spend the day cutting the engine in empty coves, snorkelling water no road reaches, and then, if you feel like it, pointing the bow at Ithaca and going. For a honeymooning couple who like a bit of self-directed adventure, it's the freest, most agency-drenched card in the whole zone — a rental boat and a full tank as a passport to your own private archipelago.



VOYAGE CO-OP

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~140/pp ENERGY ●●●

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
Regina's Boats
(fiscardoboatarental.com),
Fiskardo

CALL
Regina's: +30 693 898 4647;
Fiskardo Boat Hire
(fiscardoboathire.com): +30 693
699 3949

HOURS
Fiskardo Boat Hire: 9am-5pm
daily (extends to 5:30pm in
high season)

BOOK
2-3 days ahead in September
(matches the card's own
guidance)

RES
PREBOOK ONLINE

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Confirm your permitted range at the briefing — the crossing to Polis Bay on Ithaca is legal on these boats, but check weather and sea-state for the open-water leg before committing to it.
- ▶ You pay for fuel you burn, not a full tank — a lazy day of cove-hopping costs far less to run than the numbers suggest.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the strait's too choppy for the Ithaca crossing but you still want the water, stay on the sheltered NE coast coves, or go guided-and-social instead on the Catamaran sunset to Dias Island. For arm-powered cove access, the Sea-kayak line covers the same cave water.

● SCOUT REPORT

Crazy is a huge 9 — legally piloting your own boat to Homer's island, no skipper, is the zone's biggest agency flex. Cool 9 to match. Coherence 8 (it reliably delivers a self-directed day on the water), but Efficiency drops to 5: it's a ~€140-plus-fuel, weather-and-confidence-dependent day, and the open crossing isn't a given. High ceiling, real commitment.

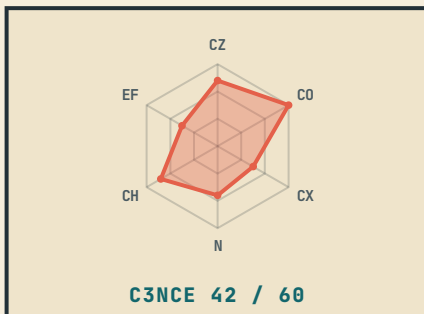
Fteri — The Beach No Road Ever Reached



3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC



COVE

CO-OP

DAWN · 06:20-07:00

€ ~20/pp

ENERGY ●●●

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Fteri Water Taxi, Zola Harbour

CALL

+30 697 480 7153

HOURS

1 Jun - 30 Sep: daily 09:30-17:30, weather-dependent, 1-3 trips/hr, first-come-first-served, up to 9pp/boat

BOOK

Same day or the day before is typically fine; arrive 15+ min before your chosen slot

RES

RECOMMENDED

Wake early, go the long way, and land somewhere almost no one else can. Just you two and the quiet.

If the trip has one true castaway beach, this is it. Fteri is the boat-only cove of the whole run — white cliffs, glass-turquoise water, and, if you time it right, nobody at all. The reason it stayed this pristine is beautifully simple: no road was ever cut down to it. While Myrtos and Petani got car parks and viewpoints and the crowds that follow tarmac, Fteri stayed genuinely undeveloped because you physically cannot drive there. You reach it by a short water-taxi hop or by earning it on foot down an old donkey trail, and the sand has zero facilities — no bar, no umbrellas, no tap — which is exactly the appeal. This is the card for the morning you want to feel like the only two people who've ever found a place. Go at first light and the water is glass-calm, the day-boats haven't arrived, and the cliff-ringed cove is entirely, improbably yours. It's the kind of beach that recalibrates what you thought 'remote' meant on a well-touristed Greek island.

▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ First light is the whole game — glass-calm water and an empty cove before the day-boats land; both the taxi and the trail reward an early start.
- ▶ Zero facilities means zero: carry in more water and shade than you think you need, and pack out all rubbish.

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the water taxi's weathered off and the trail's too much, get your empty-turquoise fix at the unsigned scramble-cove Kako Lagadi, or take the road-accessible drama of Petani — Myrtos Without The Crowd.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool is a perfect 10 and Crazy an 8 — a genuinely road-inaccessible, empty-at-dawn turquoise cove is the platonic hidden beach. Coherence sits at 8 (it delivers, IF the weather cooperates), and Efficiency dips to 5: a weather-dependent boat or a steep hour-each-way trail with zero facilities is the price of that solitude.

Sea-kayak the Assos-Myrtos-Dafnoudi cave line



3.5/5 · 42/60



EPIC

Earn the hidden bay with your own arms, then float in it together. The best secrets, you paddle to.

Most people see this coastline from a tour-bus layby, phone held up over a guardrail. This card puts you in the water at its base. It's a full sea-kayak day tracing the cliffs beneath Myrtos and Assos — the same limestone giants you'll have admired from above, now towering directly over your paddle blades, all scale and shadow and echoing water. The route's secret payoff is Dafnoudi bay: a sea-cave system with zero road access, reachable only by boat or kayak, which is exactly why even in high season it stays a locals'-and-kayakers' secret. You get a dedicated swim-and-snorkel stop inside caves that the coach crowds will never touch. About 8 nautical miles, 6-7 hours, moderate difficulty — this is a proper expedition, not a paddle round a harbour, and it earns its place as one of the zone's most physical, most rewarding days. For an active couple, it's the memory where you didn't just look at Kefalonia's most famous coast, you moved through it under your own power.



▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Book early and stay weather-flexible — these single-day tours cancel or reschedule on sea-state, so give yourself a spare day in the Kefalonia leg as a buffer.
- ▶ Since your hands are on the paddles, arrange the guide's photo add-on or a GoPro for the paddle-past-the-cliffs sequence and the Dafnoudi cave.

DIVE CO-OP

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~125/pp ENERGY ●●●

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
Sea Kayaking Kefalonia (run by Yvonne & Pavlos)

BOOK
Several days to 1-2 weeks ahead in September — single-day tours are weather-dependent and capacity-limited

RES
PREBOOK ONLINE

◇ IF IT RAINS

If the sea's too rough to paddle the exposed cliffs, get to Dafnoudi's coves and the NE coast the sheltered, motorised way — Drive Your Own Boat To Ithaca out of Fiskardo covers the same cave-strewn water without the arm workout.

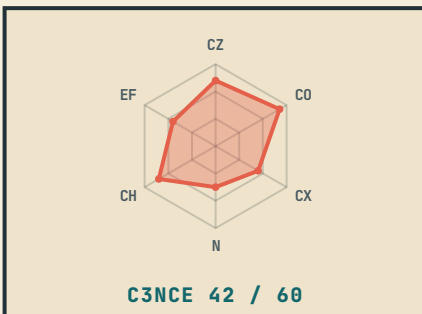
● SCOUT REPORT

Crazy and Cool both hit 8 — paddling under the island's most famous cliffs to a road-inaccessible sea-cave is a legitimate adventure. Coherence 8 because the route reliably delivers that secret Dafnoudi payoff. Efficiency lands a lower 7: it's a €85pp, 6-7 hour, weather-gated commitment — high reward, but you work for it.



Windows down, no rush, a good playlist — let the road itself be the date for an afternoon.

Every good island has one perfect road, and Kefalonia's runs up the northwest spine from Argostoli through Assos to Fiskardo. This is Avery's card — the one where the trip stops being a list of stops and becomes a drive, windows down, olive terraces blurring past, the Ionian flashing turquoise between the pines at every bend. The genius of this route isn't any single destination; it's the sequence, the way the coast keeps reintroducing itself with a new cliff, a new bay, a new switchback that opens onto Myrtos far below like the island is deliberately timing its reveals. You could bang it out in an hour. You should take all day. Roadside stalls near Divarata sell thyme honey and just-pressed olive oil straight off the family grove, the kind of spontaneous stop that ends up being the memory. It's a driving road with a plot: tension, release, a golden-hour climax at the Myrtos viewpoint, and a blue-hour denouement in the prettiest harbour on the island.



▶ NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Reverse-engineer the day from the light: work backward from a golden-hour Myrtos viewpoint and a blue-hour Fiskardo arrival, and slot Assos in between.
- ▶ The Divarata stalls are the real souvenir — thyme honey and fresh olive oil, cash, straight from the producers.

DRIVE P2 · AVERY

🕒 GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

€ ~55/pp ENERGY ●●○

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE

Self-drive rental car

CALL

+30 26710 42047 (airport office) / +30 26710 26060 (Argostoli office)

BOOK

2-4 weeks ahead — September is still high season for Kefalonia rental-car supply

RES

PREBOOK ONLINE

◆ IF IT RAINS

If the weather turns grey and the coast loses its colour, pivot the driving energy inland and up — Ainos summit, the dragon-slaying black mountain — where the fir forest and long views hold up fine under cloud.

● SCOUT REPORT

Crazy 8 and Cool 9 — this is a genuinely thrilling drive on one of the Ionian's best roads. Coherence lands 8 because the sequence just works, and Nerd sits lower at 5: the pleasure here is kinetic and scenic, not archival. Efficiency 6 reflects that a car's a real cost, but you needed one for the whole leg regardless.

Fiskardo Harbour Dinner



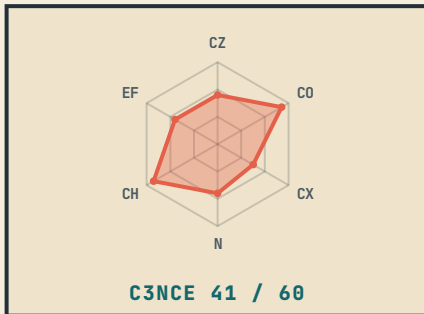
3.5/5 · 41/60



EPIC

The dress-up dinner. Order the good thing, clink your glasses, and let the whole evening go long and slow.

Fiskardo is the improbable survivor. When the 1953 earthquake levelled almost every village on Kefalonia, this one northern harbour came through essentially intact — which is why it alone still wears its original Venetian architecture, a row of pastel merchant houses reflected in water crowded with bobbing yachts. It became the island's chic little port, and the trip's designated fancy meal belongs here. The card points you at Tassia on the quay: the taverna chef Tassia Dendrinou opened in 1972, whose lobster spaghetti became so celebrated it dragged humble fishermen's food onto Greece's national culinary map. Eating dinner as the harbour lights come on, the yachts turning gently at their moorings, is the closest the trip comes to a formal 'we're actually married' evening on the north coast — the counterpart to Corfu's well-side dinner, but with saltwater and mast-lights instead of old stone. One caveat worth honouring: Tassia went through a long closure and reconstruction, and this is a call-ahead-and-confirm dinner, not an assume-it dinner.



FEAST CO-OP

BLUE HOUR · 19:50-20:30

€ ~55/pp ENERGY ●○○

FEEDS YOU

◆ SAVE POINT · BOOKING INTEL

SITE
Tassia, Fiskardo quay

CALL
+30 26740 41205 / +30 26740 41110

BOOK
1-2 weeks ahead in September — historically the single most in-demand table in the village

RES
REQUIRED

NP PRO TIPS

- ▶ Call Tassia first, book second — the 2026 reopening date is real but 'confirmed open in September' isn't guaranteed, so verify before planning your evening around it.
- ▶ Ask specifically for the lobster spaghetti (astakomakaronada) — it's the dish that made the house famous.

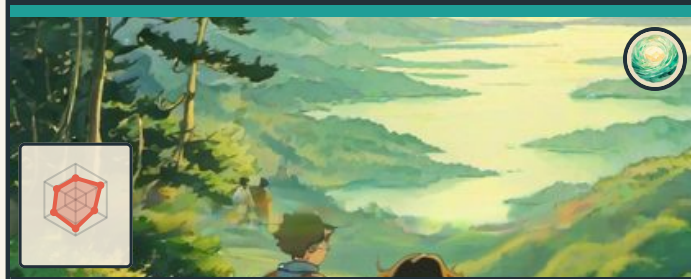
◆ IF IT RAINS

If Tassia is closed, booked, or not yet trading, Fiskardo's quay has other harbourfront tables — or drive the coast to Assos for Nefeli-Anait — Dinner Under The Assos Fortress, an equally scenic waterfront alternative.

● SCOUT REPORT

Cool and Coherence both land 9 — a Venetian harbour that survived the quake, a legendary lobster-pasta house, blue-hour yachts: it's postcard-grade and it hangs together. Crazy sits at 6 (this is elegance, not edge) and Efficiency at 6, docked slightly by the need to reserve well ahead and confirm the reopening.

◆ RARE FINDS



Ainos summit — the dragon-slaying black mountain

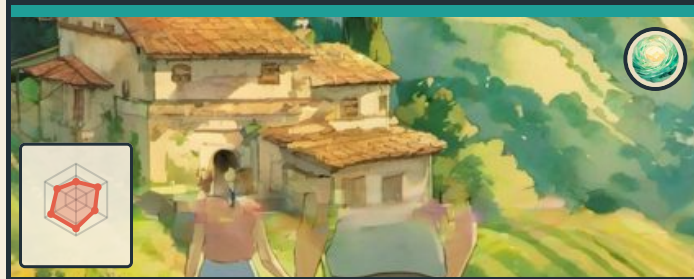
TREK **MORNING · 07:00-10:30** **€ FREE**

★★★★★ 41/60

Start early, climb together, and let the whole island fall away below you. Big-view mornings are the best kind.

Avery gets the mountain. Ainos is the tallest peak in the entire Ionian, wrapped in a forest so darkly green the Venetians called it Monte Nero — the Black Mountain — for the near-black wood of its firs. And these aren't just any firs: Abies cephalonica, the endemic Kefalonian fir, grows here...

► **PRO TIP** · Start early — morning air is cooler and, crucially, clearer, which is the difference between seeing Zakynthos and seeing haze.



Vanesa's Line: Robola Wine Tasting

FEAST **GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30** **€ ~15**

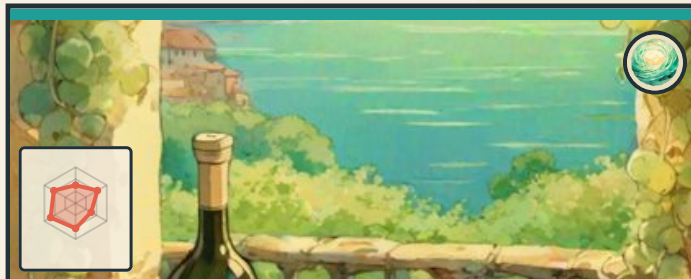
★★★★★ 40/60

An unhurried hillside afternoon, a glass of something local, and each other. This is the good kind of slow.

This one's Vanesa's — a slower, greener detour up into the Omala valley, away from the coast entirely. Robola is Kefalonias own grape, and it's a stubborn little miracle: the vines cling to bare, sun-blasted limestone at altitude, roots prising minerals out of naked rock,...

► **PRO TIP** · Trust the official 9:00-15:00 window over older guides claiming 9-to-8, and call ahead — the earlier close means an afternoon tasting needs timing.

◆ **BOOK:** Reservation recommended per their own site, though they explicitly say walk-ins are welcom...



Gentilini — The Family Vine-Walk Tasting

TRAINING **GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30** **€ ~15**

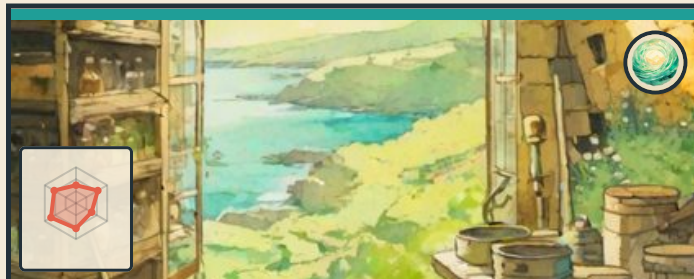
★★★★★ 39/60

A slow garden afternoon, a family who'll walk you through their vines, a shared glass. Tender, unhurried, yours.

If the Omala co-op is Robola at community scale, Gentilini is Robola as a family's life's work. Just outside Minies village, five minutes from the airport and Lassi, it's a boutique estate farmed by a second-generation husband-and-wife team — Marianna Kosmetatos and Petros...

► **PRO TIP** · Pay the extra €5pp for the guided vineyard walk — walking the rows with the winemakers is the entire point of choosing the boutique estate over the co-op.

◆ **BOOK:** 1-3 days ahead — no online booking link found; call/email ahead, especially for the +€5pp ...



Honey, olive oil & Robola — the producer trail

TRAINING **ANYTIME** **€ ~120**

★★★★★ 39/60

Meet the hands behind the jars and taste as you go — a gentle, delicious way to spend a morning together.

Vanesa's producer trail is the antidote to the gift-shop shelf. Instead of buying a jar with a pretty label, you meet the actual beekeeper and the actual olive press — the people and machinery behind the food. The scale is worth knowing: Kefalonias roughly 400 registered honey producers...

► **PRO TIP** · The DIY route (Michalatos direct + a winery you book yourself) is cheaper and more personal than the aggregator package — and Michalatos is walk-in with a confirmation call.

◆ **BOOK:** No reservation needed for a free direct farm visit in season; call ahead only to confirm t...



Kako Lagadi — the cove with no sign

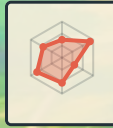
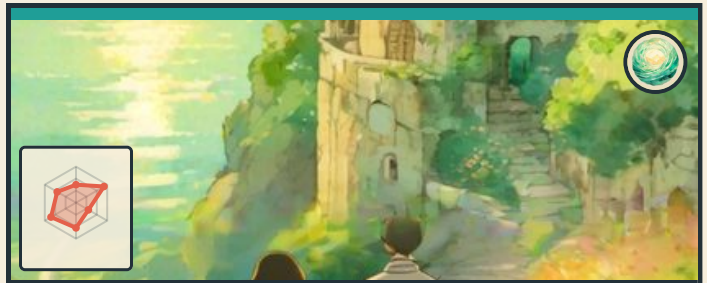
COVE MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30 € FREE

★★★★★ 39/60

A little effort buys a lot of privacy — pick your way down and have the water to yourselves.

Every zone hides a beach that the guidebooks can't quite pin down, and on Kefalonia's northeast coast it's Kako Lagadi — white pebbles, glass-clear water, and no sign at all to tell you it exists. The Ionian beach-bloggers who log everything call it the least-found cove on the whole...

► **PRO TIP** · The 'gap in the guardrail scrub ~2km south of Fiskardo' is the only marker — drop a pin on the way past so you don't overshoot the unmarked pull-off.



Kipouria — The Sunset-Into-The-Sea Monastery

QUEST SUNSET · 19:15-19:50 € FREE

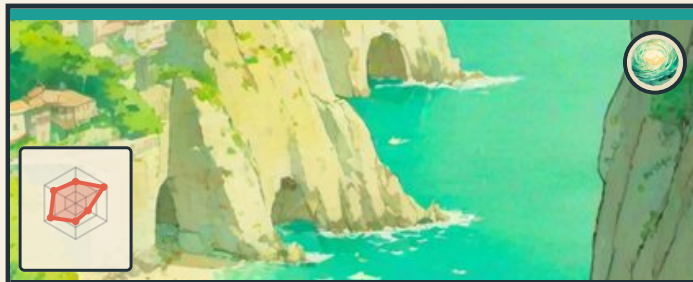
★★★★★ 39/60

Find a quiet edge, lean together, and watch the sun slip right into the water. Some sunsets you just hold hands for.

Kipouria is the one terrace on Kefalonia where the sun drops straight into the water with absolutely nothing in the way — and it's guarded by a single monk. Perched 100 metres above the open Ionian on the Paliki peninsula, the monastery was built in 1759 by Archimandrite Chrysanthos...

► **PRO TIP** · Arrive ~45 minutes before sunset to claim a west-facing terrace spot — this is the rare cliff where the sun meets the sea with nothing in the frame.

◆ BOOK: N/A — no booking channel exists



Petani — Myrtos Without The Crowd

COVE GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30 € ~35

★★★★★ 39/60

Big beauty without the bustle — spread out, order lunch, and let the afternoon stretch. Room to just be.

Petani is Kefalonia's clever workaround. It has the same dazzling geology as Myrtos — the same blinding white limestone cliffs plunging into the same cobalt water — but it sits on the quiet Paliki peninsula on the island's west side, the side the tour buses skip. So you get the postcard...

► **PRO TIP** · Petani's superpower over Myrtos is the sunset — it faces west and the tavernas hold it, so book a sunset-facing table rather than treating it as a lunch stop.

◆ BOOK: Same day to 1-2 days ahead, especially for a sunset-facing table



Antisamos — The Captain Corelli Snorkel Cove

DIVE MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30 € ~20

★★★★★ 38/60

Float in impossibly green water, snorkel the quiet corners, laze on the pebbles. An easy, glowing afternoon for two.

Antisamos is where the movie was, and where the snorkelling is quietly better than it looks. This emerald-water, white-pebble bay near Sami is backed by steep green-forested hills — an unusually lush frame for a Greek beach — and it earned its fame as the location where the production of Captain...

► **PRO TIP** · Bring your own mask and head for the rocky headlands at either end — the middle of the bay is scenic but the marine life is all at the edges.

◆ BOOK: N/A for a casual visit; call ahead only if you want a specific sunbed/table held



Hands-on Kefalonian meze night

TRAINING

EVENING · 20:00-23:30

€ ~160

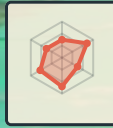
★★★★☆ 38/60

Cook side by side, make a happy mess, then sit down to the meal you built together. That's a memory.

This is the card where you learn to cook the island rather than just eat it — and Kefalonian food turns out to be a genuine hybrid worth understanding with your hands. Four hundred-plus years of Venetian rule, layered with French and mainland-Greek influence, produced dishes that don't quite...

► **PRO TIP** · Book Chef Viva 1-2+ weeks out — private in-kitchen sessions are the first thing to sell out in September, and she's the reliably contactable option.

◆ **BOOK:** 1-2+ weeks ahead — private in-villa/home-kitchen sessions book out in peak season



Mounda — The September Hatchling Run

QUEST

DAWN · 06:20-07:00

€ FREE

★★★★☆ 38/60

Stand quiet at dawn on an empty beach and, if you're lucky, watch new life race for the waves. Together.

This is the card where timing turns a quiet beach into a small miracle. Mounda, on the southeast coast near Skala, is one of Kefalonia's important loggerhead turtle nesting sites — and September lands squarely in hatchling season. Land here in the right week, at the right hour, and thumb-sized...

► **PRO TIP** · Dawn is non-negotiable — it's when hatchlings run and when the conservation team is on-site; a midday visit is just a nice empty beach.



Wreck-and-cavern dive out of Fiskardo

DIVE

MIDDAY · 10:30-16:30

€ ~130

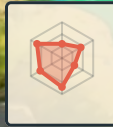
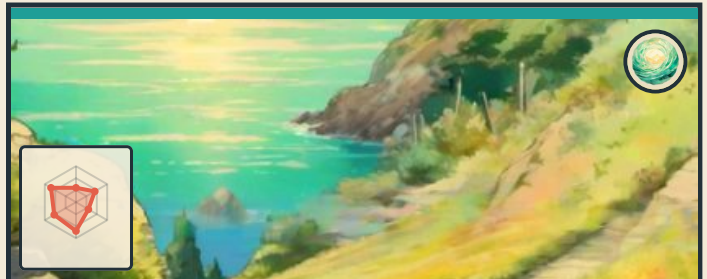
★★★★☆ 38/60

Down where it's quiet and blue, a whole hidden world opens up. Take your time down there together.

Avery's underwater card, out of the prettiest harbour on the island. Fiskardo's status as the one village that survived the 1953 earthquake intact isn't just a topside charm — it has an underwater consequence. Elsewhere on Kefalonia, harbours were rebuilt and reconfigured after the...

► **PRO TIP** · Confirm the exact boat-dive days by phone/email before you land — schedules are weather-and-demand driven and not published online.

◆ **BOOK:** 3-5 days ahead in September; more for a specific date/time



Fiskardo Lighthouse Loop

TREK

GOLDEN HOUR · 18:00-19:30

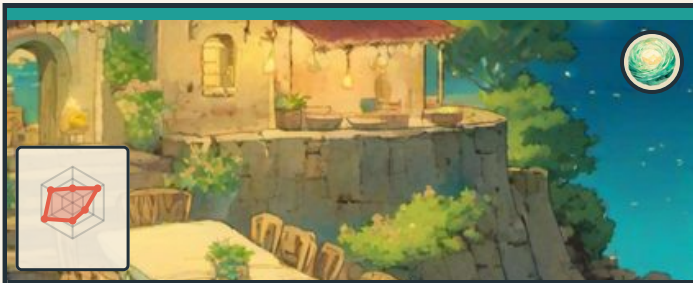
€ FREE

★★★★☆ 37/60

A gentle little pre-dinner stroll, hand in hand along the water. Short, pretty, and entirely unhurried.

This is the gentle, deceptively dense little walk that starts and ends at your own harbour — a half-hour stroll that packs in more history per step than almost anything in the zone. From the trailhead by Nicholas Taverna on the north side of Fiskardo harbour, the well-signed 850-metre loop passes...

► **PRO TIP** · Do it as the golden-hour warm-up to dinner — the loop dumps you back at the harbour right as the light peaks and the tables fill.



Nefeli-Anait — Dinner Under The Assos Fortress

FEAST

🕒 EVENING • 20:00-23:30

€ ~40

★★★★☆ 37/60

A waterfront table, a fortress glowing across the bay, a long, lingering dinner — an evening you'll replay for years.

This is the card that closes the Assos loop with a bow. You'll have wandered the pastel village and climbed the pine-scented path to the 1593 Venetian fortress at golden hour — and now here's the waterfront table that lets you sit back down across the bay and watch that same fortress...

► **PRO TIP** • Book several days to a week ahead — with only ~5-6 tavernas in the whole village, a September evening sells out the harbourfront fast.

◆ **BOOK:** Several days to 1 week ahead in September — Assos has only ~5-6 tavernas total and fills f...

• BONUS PICKUPS • UNCOMMON



Hidden Garden — spit-roast under fairy lights

★★★★☆

No sea view, no marketing — just a walled garden, string lights, and the best lamb on the island.



Kounopetra — The Rock The Navy Couldn't Move

★★★★☆

A sea-rock that rocked itself for centuries until an earthquake told it to stop.



Xi — The Red-Sand Clay Spa

★★★★☆

The island's only rust-red beach, where locals smear the wet clay on and call it a facial.

And that's Kefalonia — pastel evenings, blue water, slow dinners. Whatever you chose here, you chose it together. That's everything.



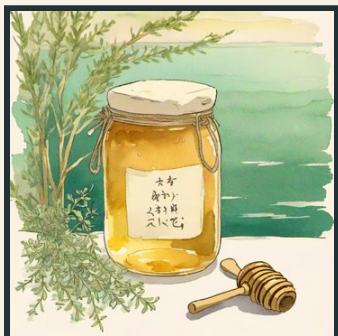
"You think a minor thing like the end of the world was gonna do me in?"

- Final Fantasy VI • SNES • 1994 - Sabin, unbothered, reuniting with the party after the apocalypse.

SPECIAL FEATURE • PLAYER'S POLL

COLLECTIBLE MERCH

Nineteen souvenirs worth the suitcase space — collect the set.



THYME & FIR HONEY

The honeymoon's namesake — a jar of amber-gold hillside honey.



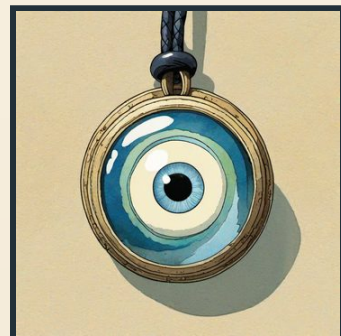
KUMQUAT LIQUEUR

Corfu's citrus oddity, sweet and glowing orange.



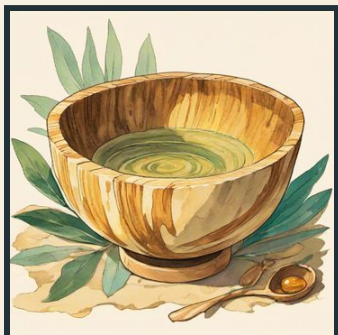
KUMQUAT SPOON-SWEET

Whole candied kumquats — a jar of pure sunshine.



EVIL-EYE CHARM

Blue-glass máti to keep the malocchio off the newlyweds.



OLIVE-WOOD BOWL

Grain like a fingerprint, turned from a single burl.



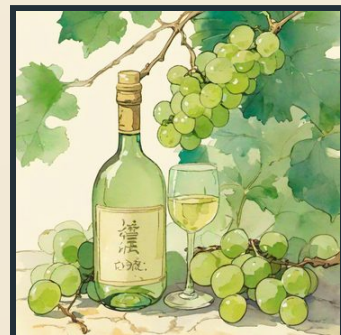
ROBOLA WINE

Kefalonia's crisp, flinty mountain white.



VERTZAMÍ WINE

Lefkada's inky, rustic deep-red grape.



KORITSÁNOS WINE

Small-grower Ionian bottle worth the cellar hunt.



TSITSIBÍRRA

Corfu's ginger beer — a British-era holdover, still fizzing.



PASTÉLI BAR

Sesame-and-honey energy bar, ancient marathon fuel.



MANDOLÁTO NOUGAT

Almond-and-honey nougat, the festival sweet.



SPOON-SWEET

Fruit preserved whole in syrup, served on a little spoon.



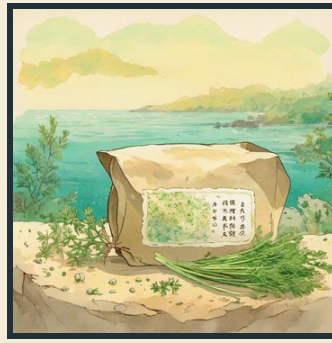
SAGE HONEY

Silky and herbal, pale gold from the high meadows.



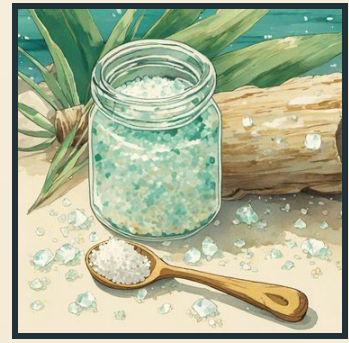
PAXOS THYME HONEY

Wild-thyme honey off the olive-groved jewel isle.



PAXOS RUSK

Twice-baked barley paximádi for the beach bag.



IONIAN SEA SALT

Hand-raked flakes straight off the salt flats.



LEATHER SANDALS

Hand-cut and fitted to your foot while you wait.



SILVER JEWELLERY

Handmade pieces from a Corfu-Town atelier.



GELATO, NIGHTLY

The cult counter — join the evening queue, twice.

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Off-map vendor intel, decoded into cheat codes. Do not share outside the Club.

► SOUVENIR & OFF-MENU CHEAT CODES ◀

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ← → ← → B
A | THE OFF-MENU CATCH
At any harbour taverna, ask what the boats brought in this morning that isn't on the menu — that's the real endgame loot. |
| → → ↓ ↓ B A | PAXOS · UNLOCK
Antipaxos wine, poured by the vine-owning family on Voutoumi hill. |
| ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ L R | CORFU · UNLOCK
Tripa's table-poured house wine (unlabelled) — ask if they'll sell you a bottle to carry out. |
| ← ← → → B | CORFU · UNLOCK
One reoccupied house runs a small honey stall — beekeeper Vasilis sells jarred Old Perithia honey in his garden, cash only. |
| ↓ ↘ → A B | ITHACA · UNLOCK
Ithacan thyme honey; the taverna's own smoked fish. |
| ↑ → ↓ ← A | CORFU · UNLOCK
No souvenir vendor — tip the skipper and ask for the fishing-village jetty stop at Kalami for a cold drink at the beach taverna instead. |
| B A ← ↑ → | LEFKADA · UNLOCK
Athani village: wild honey, ladotyri cheese, salami from the door. |
| ↓ ↓ ↓ B A | PAXOS · UNLOCK
Pair with a Robola white from neighboring Kefalonia — the region's signature grape, on most Paxos wine lists |
| → ↑ ← ↓ A B | CORFU · UNLOCK
Kumquat liqueur & spoon-sweets from a Corfu-Town grocer. |
| L R L R B A | CORFU · UNLOCK
Monastery olive-wood & herbal oils. |

Every code above is real intel harvested from the deck's merch scouting — punch it in at the right vendor and the goods are yours.



ASK THE GAME COUNSELORS

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

The honeymoon-logistics hotline — real timing intel, straight from the codex.

Q How far ahead should we lock in Rachi — Dinner in the Clouds?

A Book 2-3 weeks before for a sunset-hour table (very high demand); Fly Me Bar next door is a no-booking fallback while you wait. September hours: Seasonal, open late April-end October, daily 14:00 (or per site, general 14:00-23:00 / noon-midnight per other sources — confirm exact open time when booking) through midnight. Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ +30 26450 99439

Q When should we book Fiskardo Harbour Dinner?

A Book 1-2 weeks ahead in September — historically the single most in-demand table in the village. Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ +30 26740 41205

Q Frikes-to-Vathy kayak-and-snorkel run past Kioni — how early do we reserve?

A Book several days to 1-2 weeks ahead — the one-way Frikes→Vathy route needs a minimum of 3 paddlers; 20% deposit to reserve, balance in cash/card the evening before or morning of. Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ +30 694 818 2655

Q How far in advance for Hands-on Kefalonian meze night?

A Book 1-2+ weeks ahead — private in-villa/home-kitchen sessions book out in peak season. Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ +30 694 761 4838

Q How far ahead should we lock in O Batis — Octopus off the Boats?

A Book book morning-of or the day before — very popular, reviewers consistently say booking ahead is needed in season. Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ +30 2674 033010

Q When should we book Old Father Wreck Dive?

A Book 3-5 days ahead — technical wreck-dive slots need gear/group pre-arranged. Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ +30 6945 784 034

Q Private RIB Along the Kassiope Coastline at Sunset — how early do we reserve?

A Book 1-2 weeks ahead for a private sunset charter in September (peak-season demand). Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ +30 2661 099992

Q How far in advance for Theotoky Estate — Bond's Robola?

A Book 3-5 days ahead. Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ +30 6945 593016

Q How far ahead should we lock in Throw a Pot on the Wheel?

A Book 1 week ahead (small studios, appointment-based). Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ Corfu Pottery: +30 26610 90704

Q When should we book Wall, Wreck & Cavern Dive?

A Book several days to 1-2 weeks ahead, especially for Discover Scuba/Open Water course slots. Reservation is required.

◆ BOOK DIRECT · ☎ +30 694 818 2655

MEMBERSHIP CARD · NON-TRANSFERABLE

SUPER POWER COUPLE CLUB

MEMBERS: AVERY & VANESA

MEMBER SINCE: SEP 2026 · IONIAN CHARTER · CHAPTER OF ONE
ISSUE #1 OF 1 · LIFETIME PLATINUM (LEGENDARY)



THANKS FOR PLAYING

You've reached the end of the guide. Every card from here on is yours to play — slowly, out of order, or all at once. Here's to the two of you, and the whole bright Ionian waiting just offshore.



PLAYER'S POLL · NEXT ISSUE

Snap your loot as you clear each zone. A QR portal is coming that touches up your photos, cuts a highlight reel, and prints the whole trip as a book — the sequel to this very issue. Same couple, new save file.

RINTENDO FLOWER — SPECIAL EXCLUSIVE HONEYMOON EDITION · ISSUE #1 OF 1

A one-of-one keepsake · deterministic build · art in the locked Ghibli-Ionian style · C3NCE-graded loot · not affiliated with any real magazine, lovingly parodied · made for Avery & Vanesa · Sep 11-27 2026 · the Greek Ionian · with love from the Club