



NAUTICAL



EUROPE YACHTS CHARTER

Sail the dream

The sea is nearly all about Greece. An aquatic heaven, teeming with life. Seawaters wash the continental part from the East, the South and the West, creating a wealth of ever-changing images, completing the greater picture, showing the harmony and sheer beauty of it all.

Visiting a place is not just about seeing it; it is mostly about experiencing the way of life on it. Geographical information, even the most detailed data, cannot but fail to describe the place's true character. This brochure aims only at becoming an incentive for future tourists, as the true challenge is about discovery and experience.

When one thinks of Greek seas, water sports are most likely to spring to mind. Greece is the ideal place for enjoying them as there are modern facilities, experienced teachers and well-organised schools for a wide variety of activities such as water-skiing, windsurfing, kite surfing, scuba diving, sport fishing or ringo and banana riding.

Cruising off the Greek coastline is a fine way to get to know the country better, where seawater is an element

in abundance. So, sail the deep blue sea and explore the 3,000 islands of the Greek archipelago and the coastline that extends for more than 20,000 km. Live your dream!

Follow this travelogue and sail the Greek seas, discover mythological figures, legendary heroes and ordinary men. View the coastline and part of the inland from a different perspective. Acquaint yourself with the unique character and amazing topography of the various groups of islands. Feel the vigour of nature!

Our sea voyage will start from the Ionian Sea and the western Greek shoreline, continue all along the Peloponesian coast, Attica and the Argo-Saronic Gulf; we will sail through the Cycladic islands, then on to the Sporades Islands and the Northern Aegean Islands, then travel south to the Dodecanese Group and finally reach Crete.

Bon voyage or – as they say – Godspeed!

Sail the Ionian Sea



Kefalonia

The starting point of our maritime travelogue is the Ionian Sea and the famous group of islands situated off the Greek west coastline, where new thrills await you and no doubt unforgettable memories. Long golden beaches catch the eye. Crystal-clear waters, safe harbours and winding beaches captivate the senses as you sail on. After all, the mild weather conditions in the Ionian Sea are the best travelling companion all year round.

As you approach **Corfu** Island (Kerkyra), you will set eyes on some of the best-known beaches attracting many visitors every year. The multitude of sandy shores, the amazing Pontikonisi islet, and the surrounding isles of Ereikoussa, Mathraki and Othonoi will make you catch your breath. You will find the biggest marina in the area at Gouvia.

Next on your route are the shores of two lovely islands: **Paxi** and **Antipaxi**. Situated south of Corfu, they are renowned for their green landscape and secluded sea-caves which can be approached only from the sea.

Heading southeast, you will reach **Lefkada**, an island accessible by car as well. The east shoreline is green with smooth, flat beaches, whereas on the west coast the scenery is varied with some lovely beaches along the way. Sailing around the nearby islands of Scorpios and Meganisi is a must. There is a very well equipped marina in Lefkada town.

Another option for you is to dock at the marinas in Aktio and Vounaki, on the west coast of Central Greece, which you can use as your base for nearby sea explorations.

Your next stop is **Kefalonia** Island – the biggest one in the Ionian Sea. As you sail around it, you will find unspoiled beaches and others with many facilities by the shore. The capital town, Argostoli, and Lixouri are two beautiful towns. The biggest marina on the island is located at Fiskardo, a place famous for its beauty and delicious seafood.

Ithaca, the birthplace of Odysseus, is the next island you will visit, located east of Kefalonia. Monuments all over the island are proof of Ithaca's long history. Small secluded beaches make Ithaca the ideal place for relaxation amidst lovely natural surroundings.

The last island to the south is "Il Fior di Levante" – the Flower of the East – the island of **Zante** (Zakynthos), the habitat of Caretta caretta, the sea turtle. High mountains, deep blue waters, sea-caves and picturesque little harbours make up the picture here. Locals will make you feel at home with their singing and warm hospitality.

Corfu - Old Fortress



Maritime Routes

Must-see, do & taste

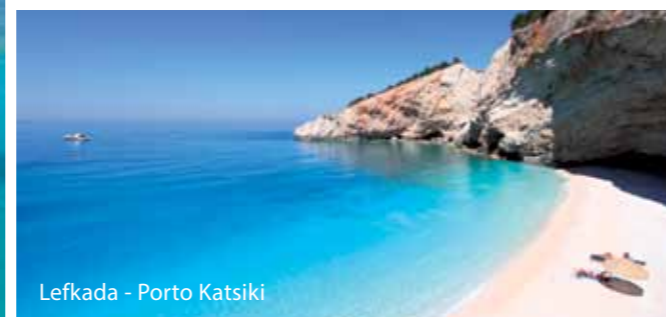
- The crystal clear waters of Ereikoussa Island
- The gigantic rocks in the sea off Mathraki Island
- Ginger-beer and Kumquat liqueur distilled only in Corfu Island
- The healing spring waters at Paxi Island, known since the ancient times
- The charming Antipaxi Island
- Kounopetra, a moving rock, in the sea off Kefalonia Island
- Picturesque Kastos Island
- The Nymphs and Loizos Caves, on Ithaca Island
- Windsurfing by Vassiliki beach, Lefkada Island
- The indigo waters at the sea-caves of Zakynthos Island



Paxi - Lakka harbour



Antipaxi



Lefkada - Porto Katsiki



Zakynthos



Ithaca port

Sail around Peloponnese and Kythera Island



Nafplio

Europe Yachts

Continue your journey along the coasts of Peloponnese. Your first stop is the district of **Achaia** and the port of Patras: this is the third biggest city in Greece, a metropolis in the western part of the country. Large ships of all kinds dock at the harbour as this port connects Greece with Italy and Western Europe. Secure a berth at the marina and have fun as you explore the area close to Patraikos Gulf.

Sailing further south, you will reach **Ileia**. Go past Glyfa, Kourouta, Palouki, Skafidia; you will be amazed at the views of Kyparissia Gulf. The next land on your journey is that of **Messinia**. You will see small coves alternating with cosmopolitan beaches and secluded bays. You can drop anchor and relax at the well-equipped marina in Kalamata. The scenery becomes impressive and rugged as the rocky shores of **Laconia** appear next.

The lovely **Elafonisos** Island is off the Laconian coast. The Gulf of Sarakiniko brings to mind images and memories of Saracen pirates (*Sarakini* meaning Saracens). **Kythera** Island is situated a bit further south. This is the place where Aphrodite, the goddess of beauty, was born. It is endowed with idyllic beaches and breathtaking landscapes. St. Nicholas cove, the picturesque little

harbour of Avlemonas and Kapsali beach are some of the places that will stay with you forever.

Follow the Peloponesian shoreline heading north and you will reach the coast of **Arcadia**. Make a stop and relax at Paralio Astros, at the pebble beaches at Tyros, or at the well known beaches of Leonidio: the beauty of nature is truly rewarding.

Further north you will sail towards the coast of **Argolida**. Visit Nafplio, the first capital in the history of modern Greece. The imposing rock at Palamidi will catch your attention as it offers a panoramic view of the city and of Bourtzi castle by the sea. Drop anchor at the natural harbour of Epidaurus, which is very close to the ancient theatre where performances of ancient Greek plays are held.

Your last 'ports of call' on this route are in **Korinthia**. There are cosmopolitan beaches and secluded shores to suit any taste. The long beach at Loutraki, Kiato, Xylokastro and Vrachati are but a few of the places where you will live memorable moments. A last trip that is absolutely worth taking is through the 6,436 m. long Canal of Corinth, between Peloponnese and Central Greece.



Charilaos Trikoupis Bridge



Canal of Corinth



Patras



Monemvasia



Gythio

Maritime Routes

Must-see, do & taste

Peloponnese:

- Ancient Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games
- The picturesque coves of Messinia
- The beach at Vathy, Gythio, Laconia
- Palamidi castle at Nafplio and the 999 steps that lead to it
- Fresh fish dishes at Elafonisos
- The lively beaches on the Corinthian gulf, with a variety of services on offer
- Plaka, the small quiet harbour in Arcadia
- Kalogria sandy beach at Achaia

Kythera Island:

- Firi Ammos, the red-coloured sandy beach
- The ancient shipwreck at Avlemonas
- The picturesque Antikythera island



Kythera - Kapsali

Sail around Attica and the Argo-Saronic Gulf



Poros-Galatas

You set sail for **Attica** and once you are there, it is time to step on solid ground. Piraeus is the country's chief port. Pick any one of the marinas at Zeas, Alimos, Floisvos, Glyfada, Vouliagmeni or Lavrio. From Attica you can start off towards many a destination: head west through the Isthmus of Corinth, south to the Dodecanese or north towards the Sporades Islands and the Islands of the Northern Aegean.

Once you are in Attica, make sure you visit Athens, the capital of Greece: it is a modern metropolis, a historic city with monuments, museums and great sights that you get to see either on foot or sailing around them. The views are truly memorable: the sunset seen from the temple of Poseidon in Sounio and the bright city lights that reflect on seawaters at night. Keep these lovely images in mind as you set sail once again.

Next destination is the islands of the Argo-Saronic Gulf: **Aegina, Poros, Spetses, Hydra** and **Angistri**. These islands are widely known not only for their great history but also for their modern, cosmopolitan style. The short distance from Athens and a mild climate throughout the year make this group of islands ideal for a brief holiday. Enjoy the beauty of nature by solitary coves, and have a swim at secluded beaches.

The character, passion and dynamism of the islanders have played a very significant role in the Greek nation's history. Their hospitality, positive way of thinking and the smile on their face show their kind nature.

Stroll past traditional stone-built houses, walk in the narrow streets and alleys, and enjoy the picture! Although close to Athens, these islands have kept their enchanting insular character. As a matter of fact, the old ways of island life, which seem to be present everywhere, and the modern fast everyday pace make a quaint mixture of daily routine.

Maritime Routes

Must-see, do & taste

Attica:

- A walk along the foot of the Acropolis Rock, through the narrow streets of Plaka, towards the centre of Athens
- Seafood delicacies at Mikrolimano, Piraeus
- A performance at Herodion Theatre - the Odeon of Herodes Atticus - in Athens

Argo-Saronic Gulf:

- The top quality pistachio nuts, on Aegina Island
- The lemon tree forest on Poros Island
- The marina at Methana peninsula
- A stroll around the islands, following the picturesque narrow streets
- Fishing at Bisti bay, Hydra Island
- The spectacular Armata feast in September on Spetses Island
- Fish cooked 'a la Spetsiota', a local Spetses dish



Sounio

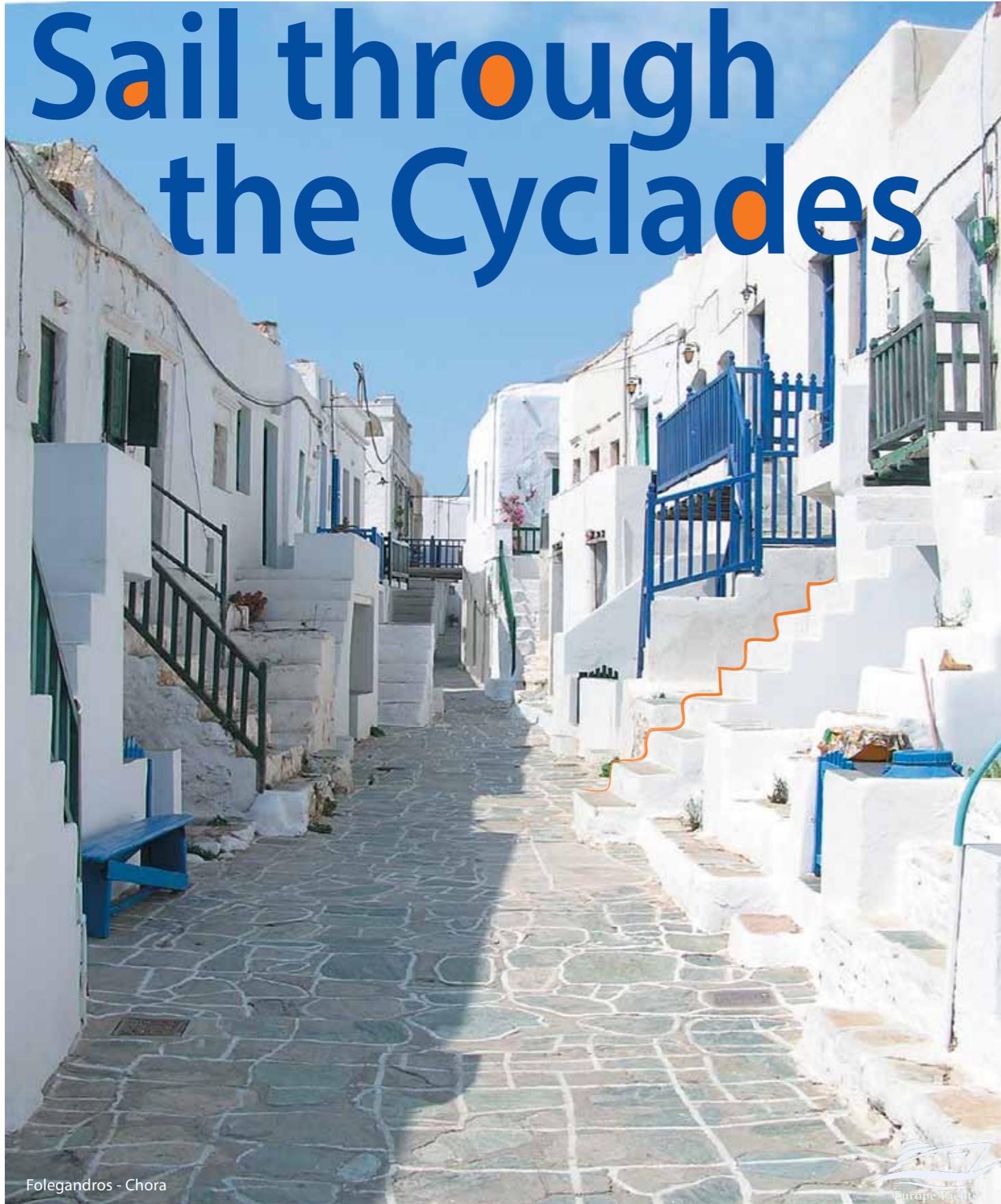


Spetses



Hydra

Sail through the Cyclades



Folegandros - Chora

Europe Yachts

The dominant blue and white colours of the Aegean will be your companion on your journey through the marvellous Cyclades Islands. According to Greek mythology, Poseidon the god of the sea created this group of 56 islands and islets.

Cyclades charm and pose a challenge to all sea-lovers. Blue waters awaken the senses and the sharp colour contrast and brilliance on the islands will make you catch your breath. An amazing voyage is before you as the strong local winds swell the sails out.

The islands speak the language of dreams... listen to it!

Your first stop is beautiful **Andros** Island; mourning doves and martins will welcome you against a backdrop of precipitous coastline. The religious tradition and the unique landscape of **Tinos** Island will definitely make an impression on you. Heading further south you reach cosmopolitan **Mykonos** Island, famous for the nightlife and its windmills which are a part of Mykonos' history.

The Cyclades Islands form a circle [kyklos – cycle] around the deserted island of **Delos**, one of the most important archaeological sites of Greece, where natural beauty meets the most important religious centre of Greek antiquity.

Sailing with a tailwind, you approach Naxos Island. The image before you is that of sandy beaches surrounded and set off by the white and blue light of the Aegean. Steer the boat southeast and you will reach the small coves of lovely **Amorgos** Island. Continuing south at full speed you will arrive at **Anafi** Island. It has a peculiar conic shape, due to the height of Mount Kalamos. Tranquillity and sheer beauty are the dominant features of this place.

Next on your journey, towards the west, lies **Santorini** Island; you will see the shadow of the volcano growing longer on the white houses perched on the steep rocks. Watch as the shadow fades away into the colours of the astounding Santorini sunset. Sail north and moor the boat at **Ios** Island; the golden beaches and gorgeous coves will captivate you and make you feel at home.

Seagulls and dolphins will accompany the boat as you head for **Sifnos**, **Serifos** and then south to **Milos** Island. Rocky scenery, striking beaches and natural havens await you. Kimolos, Folegandros, Sikinos, and then northwestbound to Kythnos, Kea and Gyros Islands: you will view stunning coasts, enclosed bays and all this imagery will become your cherished memories!

Next, you drop anchor southeast at **Syros** Island - the 'Nymph of the Aegean' and the administrative centre of the Cyclades. You will be attracted by the captains' houses and mansions in the capital of the island. Sail on to the south and get to **Paros** island to watch the amazing sunset at Naousa, the most picturesque port of the island. West of Paros lies **Antiparos**, a small lovely island.

Sail south-east: you will reach the Minor Cyclades Group of Islands which includes the islands of Irakleia, Schoinousa, Donousa and Koufonisia.



Syros

Maritime Routes

Must-see, do & taste

- The white rocks rising from the sea, Milos Island
- The sheltered harbour at Faros, Sifnos Island
- Windsurfing and waterskiing at Pounta beach on Paros
- The intense nightlife on Mykonos
- Foinikas, the safest dock of Syros Island
- The volcano on Santorini
- 'Tis grias to pidima' beach (the old lady's jump) at Andros Island
- Panagia Hozoviotissa monastery visible only from the sea, Amorgos Island
- The traditional dovecotes on Tinos Island
- A trip to Antiparos Island
- The golden beaches and the crystal-clear blue waters of Ios Island
- The small harbours and the 'unseen' beaches approachable only by boat on Kimolos Island
- Chrysospilia (the golden cave) on Folegandros Island



Milos



Andros - Tis grias to pidima



Mykonos



Naxos - Portara

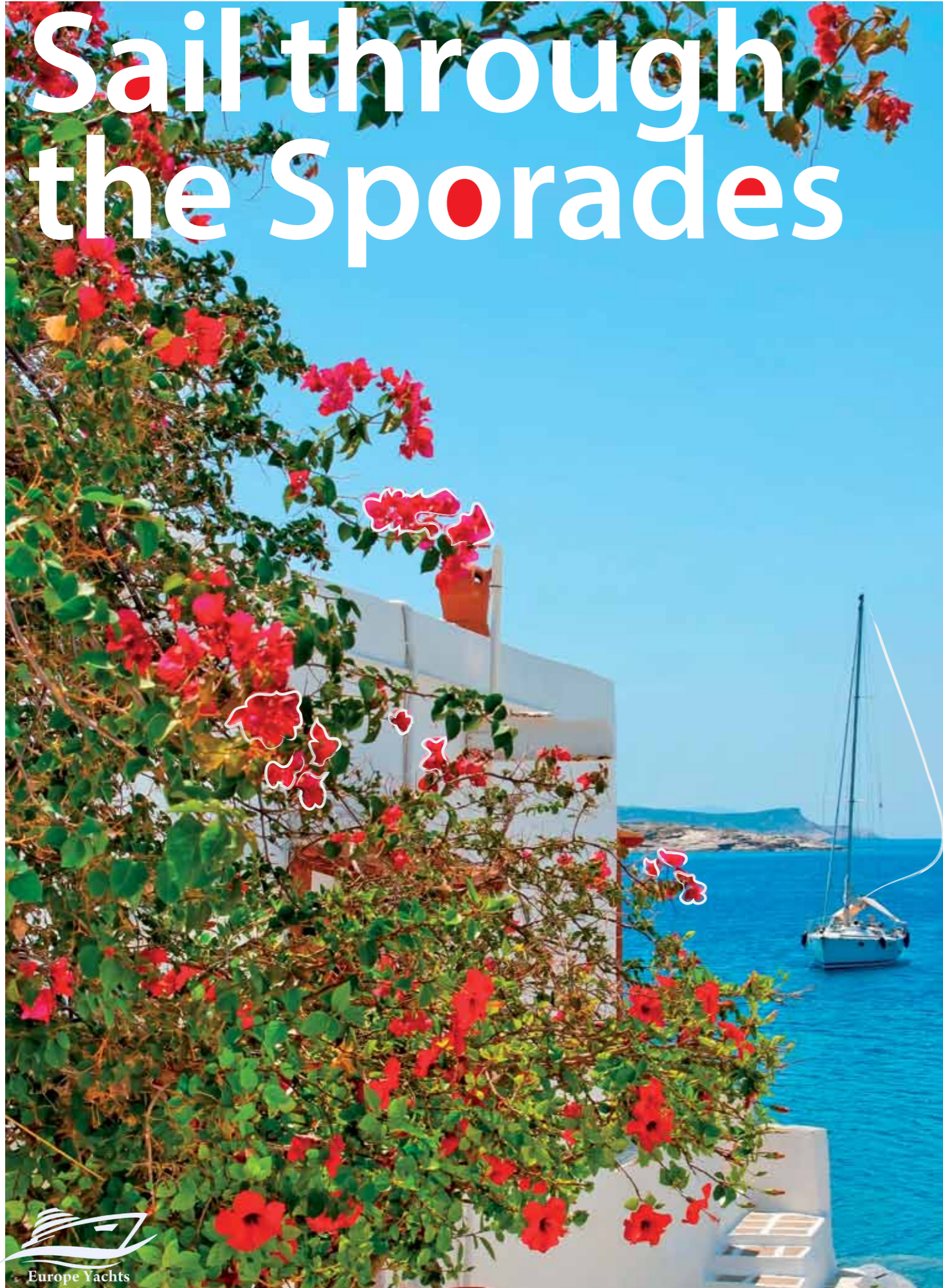


Paros - Naousa



Ios

Sail through the Sporades



Alonnisos - Votsi Bay



Skiathos

Sail north, along the east coastline of Evvia (or Euboea) and you will reach the Sporades Islands. The change of scenery from the rocky, wild image of the Cyclades to the green Sporades is remarkable. Four islands are populated in this group, namely **Skyros, Skiathos, Skopelos** and **Alonnisos**. The views are bewitching and the peaceful surroundings will make you feel rejuvenated...

Dense pine forests go all the way down to the sandy beaches, adding a unique emerald tone to the waters. Look out for the Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*) as the Sporades waters are its habitat. Excluding the area of Skiathos and Skopelos Islands, the rest is included in the National Marine Park of N. Sporades as it hosts a large population of the above species, particularly in the sea caves around Alonnisos Island where they reproduce. If you sail in the area look out for the seals and their endless games.

Try the renowned local pies and if you're into fresh fish and seafood, taste the delicious fish dishes served in any traditional taverna.

The weather in Sporades is calm throughout the year. Summers are sunny and hot, yet local *meltemia* (northerly winds) blow in July and August, moderating heat and swelling the sails. Deep blue sea, small sheltered inlets, and countless beaches – some of them only accessible from the sea: the Sporades Islands provide the setting for a truly memorable holiday!

Sailing north, it is worth visiting the coast of northern Greece. You will find that the biggest marinas are in Aretsou, Thessaloniki, in Porto Sani and in Porto Carras at Halkidiki peninsula. From there you can explore Halkidiki's gorgeous beaches and enjoy a swim in the deep, indigo waters at a distance from the crowded beaches of the big resorts. You will be impressed by the lush greenery that ends on the beach and the breathtaking view of Mount Athos.



Skiathos - Chora



Skopelos

Maritime Routes

Must-see, do & taste

Skiathos Island:

- The protected aquatic reserve in lake Strofilia
- The colossal white rocks at Lalaria
- Lovely Koukounaries beach

Skopelos Island:

- The ruins of ancient Roman baths at Loutraki
- Swim in the crystal-clear blue waters
- The renowned homemade pies and sweets

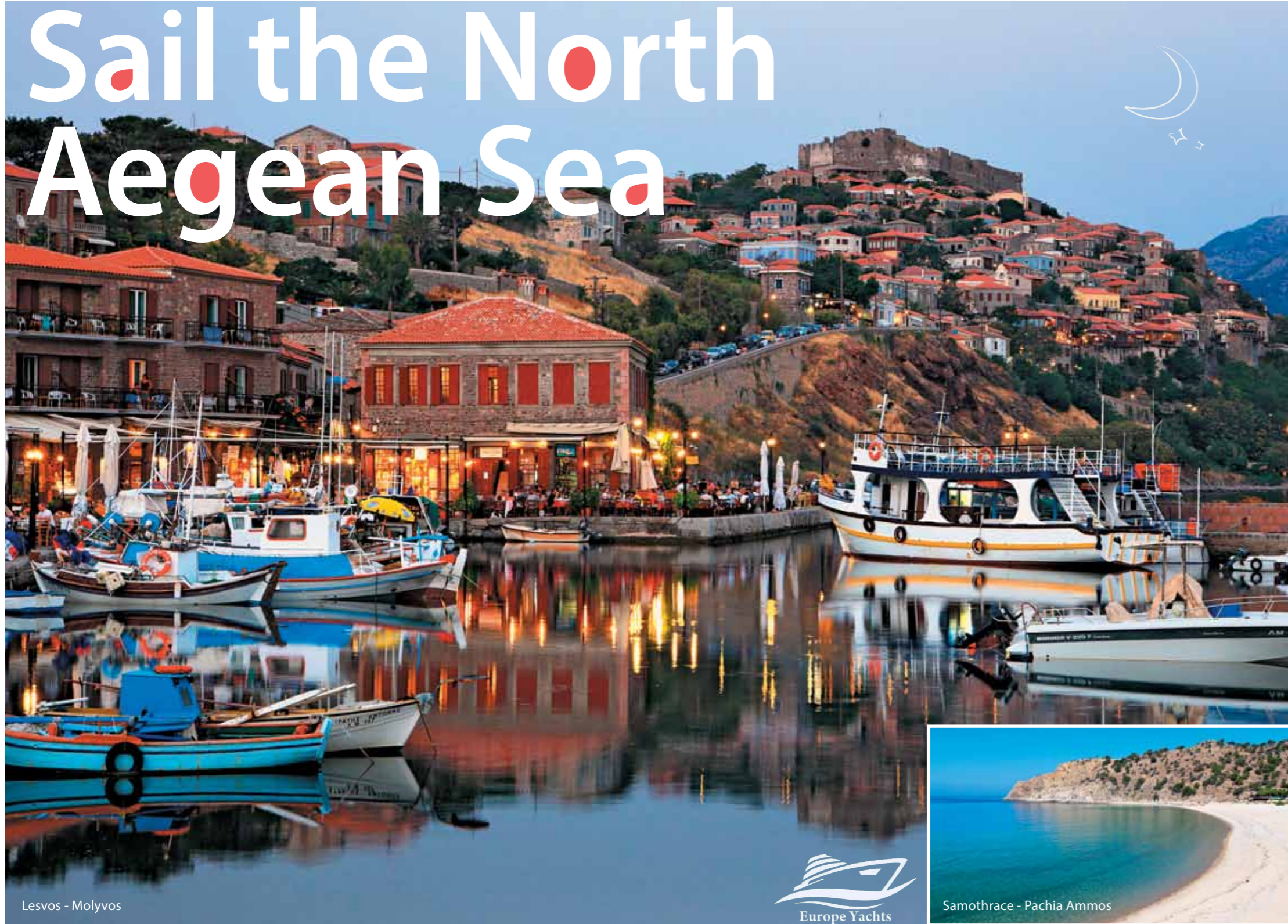
Skyros Island:

- Hand-made pottery and wood-carved artefacts
- Achilli bay, Achilles' point of departure for Troy

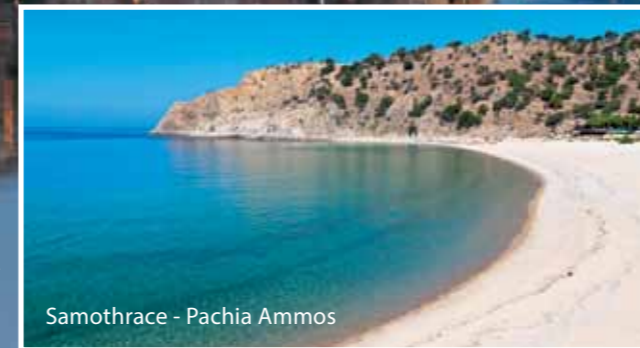
Alonnisos Island:

- Swim in the unique secluded beaches
- The tasty local specialities of stuffed squids and fried figs with honey
- The Alonnisos National Marine Park where you may hear or even spot *Monachus monachus*, the Mediterranean monk seal

Sail the North Aegean Sea



Lesvos - Molyvos



Samothrace - Pachia Ammos

Dolphins will most probably be your companions as you cruise the north Aegean Sea. The Northeastern Aegean Islands dot the blue sea, like colourful gems painted on a canvas, offering fascinating views to visitors.

The islands are divided into two categories to make your tour easier. The first one includes the bigger islands namely **Thassos, Samothrace, Limnos, Lesvos, Chios, Samos** and **Ikaria** and the second one includes smaller ones such as **Agios Efstratios, Psara, Fourni** and **Oinousses**. There is a different 'atmosphere' on each island, apart from natural beauty. Legends, traditions, history that goes back to antiquity, combined with the lovely nature, turn these islands into very attractive destinations. Many famous Greeks come from these islands like Pythagoras, Epikouros, Sappho, Theofilos and Elytis, to name but a few. Indigo seawaters, long stretches of beach, small sheltered harbours and more remote rocky bays accessible only from the sea are some of the reasons why the Aegean Sea will always be a dream destination.

Thassos and **Samothrace** are the two northernmost islands of the Aegean.

Limnos, the island of god Hephaestus, is volcanic as well as green. Black rocks, mountains and lacy white sandy shores create a dream destination.

Lesvos a.k.a. Mytilini is Greece's third largest island. Traditional villages, fabulous beaches, impressive monasteries, the extraordinary Petrified Forest, and top quality products such as ouzo, olive oil and cheese make Lesvos a must-see island.

Chios is yet another gifted island. Once you step foot on it, the colours and scents will seduce you. Mastic is the most famous local product with amazing properties, awarded a protected designation of origin. Hospitality and the delicious local cuisine should be added to the list of pros.

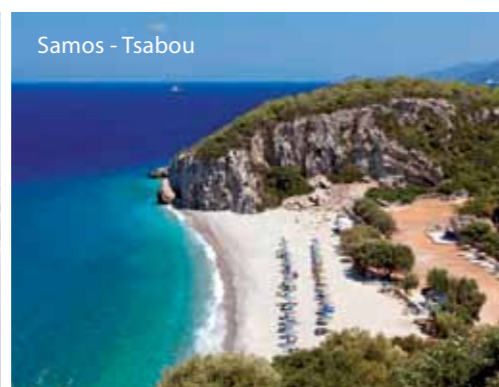
Dense forests, flowing waters, traditional villages and golden beaches are all to be found on **Samos** Island, creating a fascinating picture.

Ikaria Island was named after Ikaros – the first man who "spread his wings and flew" according to the ancient myth. The place is well known for its natural therapeutic springs. Enjoy swimming and your favourite water sport in the crystal clear blue waters.

Smaller islands such as Agios Efstratios, Psara, Fourni and Oinousses carry a heavy maritime tradition and they are well-known destinations. Secluded beaches, remote bays and natural harbours, sea caves, cold waters and 'cinematic' landscapes will take visitors on a fascinating journey. You should definitely try the fresh fish and seafood served in the small tavernas.



Limnos



Samos - Tsabou



Thassos

Maritime Routes

Must-see, do & taste

- Pachia Ammos beach on Samothrace Island
- The maritime museum at Oinousses Island
- Watersports on Evgati beach, Limnos Island
- The sea caves in Agios Efstratios Island – a seal habitat
- Delicious Kalloni sardines on Lesvos Island

- Buying fresh fish straight off the fishing boats at Fourni Island (east of Ikaria Island)
- Unique mastic products from Chios Island
- The picturesque tavernas on Psara Island
- Enjoying some fine Samos wine
- The amazing beaches on Ikaria Island

Sail around the Dodecanese



Symi



Nisyros



Kastellorizo



Rhodes



Karpathos

Maritime Routes

Must-see, do & taste

- The cave of the Apocalypse and the monastery of St. John the Theologian on Patmos Island
- The butterflies on Lindos, Rhodes Island
- Eristos beach on Tilos Island
- The aquatic reserve in Psalidi, Kos Island
- Ro islet, opposite Kastellorizo Island
- Scuba diving in the beautiful underwater area of Kalymnos Island
- Traditional dishes from Kasos Island
- Panormos cove in Astypalaia Island
- Swimming in Kyra Panagia, Achata, and Ampela on Karpathos Island
- Katsouni caves on Nisyros Island
- The maritime museum on Symi Island
- The two caves at Kelia and Amiglai on Chalki Island
- Partheni, the small fishing village on Leros Island
- Katsavia cove on Leipsoi (or Lipsi) Island

The Dodecanese group of islands is the south-eastern part of Greece. The sea, sun and strong winds are the powerful natural elements that create the right atmosphere for those unforgettable times we all dream of.

Start off at **Lipsi**, an island with white sandy beaches and then sail to **Leros**, the favourite island of Artemis the goddess of hunting, where the deep waters of the sheltered natural harbours await you. Heading south, you will arrive at **Kalymnos**, the island of sponge-harvesters.

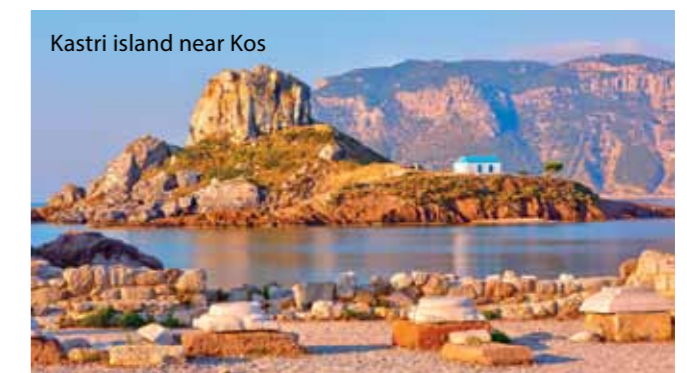
Further down, you reach **Kos**, the island of Hippocrates, father of medicine, and you drop anchor at the marina. Mountains Dikaio and Sympatro create a versatile landscape. More colours are added on the 'Dodecanesian canvas' as you approach the black rocks of **Nisyros** Island; you will be impressed by the contrast of the vividly coloured doors and windows against the white houses.

Your journey continues south-east to the lacey beaches, the inlets and the crystal clear waters of **Tilos**, **Symi** and **Chalki** Islands. The breathtaking view brings to mind images of mermaids whispering songs and tales to the sailors' ears.

Head east and you will reach **Rhodes**. Dock in Mandraki marina. You will feel that time has stopped on the island of the knights. The present and the past are in perfect harmony here. Your next destination is **Kastellorizo**, a quiet little place. From there you sail to the island of **Karpathos**: you will be fascinated by the mountains, valleys, flatlands, coves and long stretches of beach.

Your tour will continue south-west towards the rocky island of **Kasos**. You will then steer the boat north east until you reach **Astypalaia** Island. The lovely view of the Venetian Castle and the white villages show that true beauty is timeless. Set your course north towards the island of **Patmos**. Dock at the port, in a lee bay. You will be impressed by the gorgeous pebble beaches shining under the bright sun.

The Dodecanese group of islands is like a painting where the colours are exceptionally brilliant. Follow this maritime route which will -no doubt- touch your heart and soul.



Kastri island near Kos



Kos