

# Odyssey Sailing

SKIATHOS, THE SPORADES AND BEYOND





## About us

At **Odyssey Sailing** we aim to offer you memorable sailing holidays in Greece. Our promise to bring you top-quality, professional sailing yachts, combined with our friendly personal service approach, will ensure you experience the sailing holiday of your dreams.

**Odyssey Sailing** is an official yacht charter management and yacht brokerage company based in in Volos, a large mainland city in the north west Aegean, at the foot of the beautiful Pelion mountains, and within easy reach of the popular Sporades islands. It was from Volos that Jason set off in his ship 'The Argo' in search of the Golden Fleece. Located midway between Greece's two major cities of Athens and Thessaloniki, Volos is an important travel destination.

**Odyssey Sailing** is licensed and bonded with the Greek National Tourist Organisation and a registered member of the Hellenic Yacht Brokers Association. We work directly with yacht owners and marina managers all over the Greek archipelago and can offer a large selection of yachts at the best prices, as well as continuous hands-on support throughout your holiday.

# The art of





## Why Greece?

A sailing holiday in Greece makes more sense than anywhere else. With over 3,000 islands, many of them semi-isolated or not connected to the ferry routes, only by having your own sea-going vessel will you be able to make the most of Greece. The Aegean and the Ionian seas are perfect for sailing, swimming and sunbathing, and the islands offer everything you've ever wanted in a holiday.

# feeling good

## Why Sailing?

If you are not already a sailing enthusiast you may be wondering what a sailing holiday can offer. Compared to a traditional land based package, it doesn't take long to work out that a sailing holiday can be more cost efficient. On your sailing yacht all catering needs are provided. You avoid tedious public transport routes and over-crowded hotels. Envious land-lubbers strolling along the quay look on while you sip cocktails from the deck and have a first hand view of the sunset. Everyone, from the very young to the not-so-very young can find something enjoyable about sailing. And more than this, sailing is addictive!







## *Bareboat charters*

We can offer a wide range of yachts for bareboat charter from all of our base locations. Choose from our ever-growing list of strong, elegant, well-built, dynamic and luxurious yachts including Jeanneau, Beneteau, Bavaria, Dufour, Ocean Yachts, Atlantic, Dromor and others. Because we work with individual yacht owners rather than manage a large fleet, you can be sure that each yacht receives exclusive individual care and is thoroughly maintained and inspected every year.

Bareboat yachts are handed over fully-equipped, fully-insured and with full fuel and water tanks at an agreed base location and you will be expected to return the boat in the same state to the agreed location. There will need to be at least one person qualified with an international sailing licence and one experienced crew member.

# Giving leisure a



## *Bareboat yachts*

A sailing yacht contains everything you need for a holiday and more. In the galley you will find an electric fridge and ice-box, a gas cooker and stove, a dining table and seating arrangements for the crew, storage space for foodstuffs and all the cooking and eating utensils you need. In each cabin there is storage space for clothes and personal belongings. Depending on what kind of yacht you choose, you will either have a double berth cabin or twin bunks and there may be an en-suite or shared bathroom. Fresh linen and towels are provided for each person for the duration of the charter.

On deck there is sunbathing space according to the size of the yacht as well as a deck shower to rinse yourself after your plunge into the blue. Most yachts have a swimming ladder and transom for ease of getting in and climbing out again. A tender and outboard are provided so you can make those individual forays to isolated bays.

## new meaning

Each yacht comes fully equipped with up to date safety and navigational equipment and we try to ensure that all yachts over 32 feet come with additional extras such as GPS, outboard, bimini top, hot water, electric windlass and CD player.





A man with dark hair and a goatee, wearing sunglasses and no shirt, is standing at the helm of a yacht. He is holding a wooden steering wheel. The yacht has a blue canvas top. In the background, there is a blue body of water and a green, hilly coastline under a clear sky.

## *Skippered yacht charters*

If you don't have any previous sailing experience you will need a skipper or other experienced crew members. There are several options available to those who have never sailed before.

**Private yacht with hired skipper** - these are similar to bareboat charters but we will provide you with a skipper who knows the area well and who will also be your companion and tour guide. The skipper's fee is additional to the bareboat yacht fee and the client also pays for fuel and additional costs.

**Captain guided sailing yachts** - these boats are privately owned. The owner himself will be your captain and guide. After discussing with him the areas you would most like to visit, he will plan an itinerary that takes in the best of the islands. In some cases the captain's wife comes along as hostess and cook. Half or full board services can also be provided. Running costs are usually included in the price. Sometimes it is possible to arrange a yacht share and just book a cabin aboard the yacht.

# Sailing holidays



## *Crewed yachts and scheduled cruises.*

**Sailing cruises** - book a berth or a cabin on a skippered sailing yacht and intimately experience the best of the Greek islands. This is one of the most cost efficient ways to meet new people and discover the joys of sailing. There are a variety of itineraries for our cabin cruises in Greece. The routes are flexible and can be adapted to suit the group or the weather. Your skipper will also be your tour-guide to the islands. You can join in with the sailing as well as all other activities aboard the yacht. Maximum eight guests plus one skipper per yacht. 7 & 14 day programmes. Departures weekly between April and October.

**Fully crewed motor sailors & motor yachts** - cabin or berth charter on weekly scheduled cruises on these fully crewed mega-yachts. Yachts can accommodate between 10 and 50 guests with a full-time crew. Rates include half-board. Itineraries in the Ionian, the Cyclades, from Athens and from Crete. Many yachts are also available for private charter.

**Luxury motor yachts & mega yachts for private charter** - yachts of all sizes are available to cater for individual preferences and requirements. Please enquire with us directly.

# for everyone





## *Flotilla Sailing Holidays*

If you don't feel experienced enough to charter a bareboat yacht, yet you know enough not to need a skipper, or if you prefer the company of others, then a flotilla sailing holiday is probably for you. We have regular weekly programmes departing from Lefkas in the Ionian (near Preveza airport) and from Alimos Marina (Kalamaki) Athens, for the Saronic Gulf and Peloponese.

Not only can you get away from it all and have a boat to yourselves, but you will have the security of knowing that help is always close to hand, and when you tie up or drop anchor every evening, you have the company of other families, sailors and groups of people. Your average daily sail of 15 - 20 miles gives you enough time to swim, snorkel, visit remote bays, or spend more time at your destination. We always keep in mind that the weather runs the itinerary and sometimes your leaders might have to change the route to ensure safety.

# A passion





## *Sailing courses*

If you are not qualified to charter a yacht yourself, why not enjoy the benefits of a sailing holiday and sailing course at the same time? In association with fully qualified, experienced and authorised instructors, we can offer RYA (Royal Yachting Association) and ASA (American Sailing Association), certificates upon successful completion of the course you choose, at various locations in the Greek isles.

Courses include RYA Start Yachting (for absolute beginners), Competent Crew, Day Skipper & Coastal Skipper (non-tidal) and qualified sailors can even work towards their Yachtmaster and Oceanmaster certificates.

# for sails



## The Sporades islands, Volos and Evia

The Sporades islands lie in the north Aegean, near the south Pelion peninsula. The main islands in the group consist of Skiathos, Skopelos, Alonissos and Skyros, and they are still relatively undiscovered and unspoilt compared to other island areas. The area also includes a marine sanctuary and sea park. Volos is a mainland city which stands at the foot of the Pelion mountain range. The waters of the gulf are sheltered and there are a number of spectacular stopping places and anchorages here. Evia (Euboea) is the second largest island after Crete in Greece. It runs parallel to the eastern mainland coast and since classical and Venetian times has been an important port between Athens and Constantinople.

**Flights to:** Skiathos, Thessaloniki, Athens or Nea Ancheallos (Volos).

**Sailing level:** Easy - Moderate



# A sailor's



# The Ionian Islands

From the islands of Corfu in the north or Lefkas in the south, the route brings you into a landscape on the west coast of Greece where you will find a luscious, green landscape with calm waters and a total coastline of thousands of miles. Due to the mixture of civilisations that have passed through at various times, these islands are quite different from those of the Aegean. They are popular for their traditional architecture, the picturesque harbours, the bright green scenery and the crystal clear sea amongst other things. With the freedom of a yacht you can easily get to places which are completely inaccessible by road. Starting points are Corfu and Lefkas.

**Flights to:** Corfu and Preveza airports.

**Sailing Level:** Easy Moderately confident



paradise



## Athens & the Saronic Gulf

From Athens Alimos Marina (Kalamaki) you can start your holiday by sailing into the Saronic and Argolic Gulf and down the coast of the Peloponnese. This route will help you to discover important archaeological highlights such as the ancient theatre of Epidauros, the historical city Mycenae with Agamemnon's tomb, the old capital Nafplion with its beautiful castle, and picturesque islands like Aegina, Hydra, Spetses and Poros.

**Flights** from all over the world to Athens El Venizelos airport.

**Sailing level: Easy to Confident**

The only





## The Dodecanese Islands

Besides the famous island of Rhodes there is much more to discover in the rocky Dodecanese. These islands are usually a little calmer than the Cyclades and the winds are ideal for real sailing. Here you will meet a totally different Greece with Venetian influences and you can also explore the Turkish coast.

**Flights** to Rhodes, Kos and Samos.

**Sailing Level:** Easy Moderately confident



# place to be

## The Cyclades Islands

The Cyclades are rather rocky islands, famous the world over for their picturesque island villages, white cubic houses, windmills and volcanic features. Each island has something unique to offer and they can get very crowded in the summer. The most popular islands are Mykonos and Santorini. As it often gets very windy, especially in high summer, you should plan your route carefully and allow for plenty of time to get back to your starting base. Recommended for crewed sailing holidays.

Starting points are Athens, Lavrion, Syros and Paros.

**Flights** to Athens, Mykonos, Santorini, Paros, Syros, etc.

**Sailing level:** Advanced and well-experienced sailors.





## Previous clients' comments

"The captain and the boat were wonderful"  
*Skip Quast, USA. (Skippered charter)*

"Marcos is a fantastic captain and skipper - we would definitely consider another charter with him."  
*Alexander Mitchell, Australia. (Captain guided charter)*

"Weather was spectacular - Sailing superb. The captain great! We will sail together again."  
*A. Harvey Block, USA. (Captain guided charter)*

"We had a good journey on the boat, 9 people - very comfortable. I would recommend this boat for adventure holidays."  
*Philippe Kennes, Belgium. (Bareboat charter)*

"Hello everyone- I just want to say thank you for the fabulous vacation, we had a wonderful time. Thomas was a great skipper and funny tour guide. The sailing was fun and was a thrilling way to see the Greek islands!"  
*Noelle Olpin, USA (Cabin cruise)*

"The experience was excellent - our expectations were exceeded. The boat was in great shape and our hosts were extremely gracious!"  
*Kay Brewer & George Sebren, USA. (Captain guided charter)*



"The family had a very relaxing and enjoyable trip. Stewart (skipper) and George (owner) are first class!"

*Mark J Stanke, USA / UK. (Skippered charter).*

"Ashley and I enjoyed ourselves very much on our trip. We like our skipper and those also on our crew. Paying the skippers kitty made it very affordable, we hardly spent any other money during our stay in Greece. Our skipper was more than just our skipper on the boat, he also showed us around the islands like an experienced tourguide."  
*Ryan Rosche, USA. (Cabin cruise)*

"We had an excellent time. The yacht was a pleasure to sail on and had been looked after well. Both the owner of the yacht and the company were helpful in making our holiday more relaxed. ...the fact that we were able to stay over night on the yacht after arriving late into Athens made life a lot easier. Additionally, the shopping trip arranged for us prior to departing for stores and food was also appreciated. As always it is the small things that stand out."  
*Ben Passmore, Australia. (Bareboat charter)*

"All excellent - we will definitely come again!"

*Graham Dench, Shropshire, UK. (Bareboat charter)*



## Other voices...

"The isles of Greece, the isles of Greece!  
Where burning Sappho loved and sung,  
Where grew the arts of war and peace,-  
Where Delos rose, and Phoebus sprung!  
Eternal summer gilds them yet..."

-Lord Byron, *Don Juan*



"O'er the glad waters of the dark blue sea,  
Our thoughts as boundless, and our souls as free,  
Far as the breeze can bear, the billows foam,  
Survey our empire, and behold our home!"

-Lord Byron, *The Corsair*



"As for yourself, let me prevail upon you to take  
the best ship you can get..."

-Homer, *The Odyssey*







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