

Corfu

Ionian Islands · Greece

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Corfu is the green island in the northwest of Greece, close to the coast of Albania. It has olive groves, cypress trees, quiet villages and long stretches of sandy and pebble beaches. The main town is a UNESCO-listed old town with Venetian, French and British layers, so the island feels more Italian than many Greek islands.

It suits a week of beaches mixed with culture. Corfu Town is good for walking and eating. The northwest coast has dramatic cliffs and coves, and the northeast has pebble bays facing Albania. The south is flatter, with long beaches and a nature reserve. Families, couples and history fans all find something to do. The writer *Gerald Durrell* made the island famous with his book *My Family and Other Animals*.

When to visit

Late spring and early autumn are the best times for sightseeing and swimming. May and June are green and warm, and the sea is already good for a swim by June. July and August are hot and busy, and prices are highest. October is still mild but gets wetter. Winter is quiet, rainy and many beach businesses are closed.

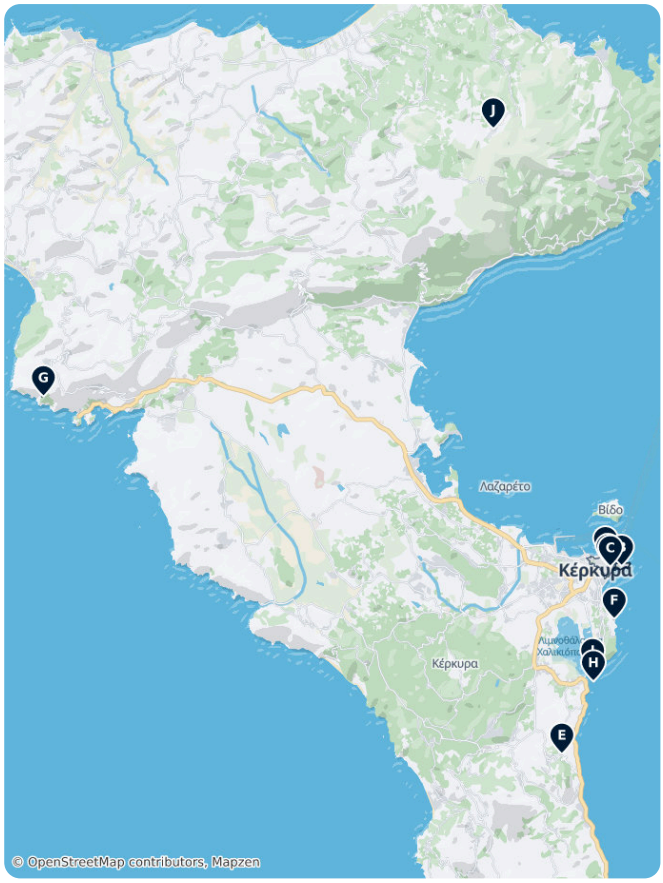
Plan a trip around Easter if you want to see the island's biggest festival.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Fair Fair for hiking	12° / 15° Feels like 8°	8° / 4°	14 rainy days · Dry air
February	Good Good for hiking	12° / 15° Feels like 8°	8° / 4°	12 rainy days · Dry air
March	Good Good for hiking	14° / 17° Feels like 10°	10° / 6°	Dry air
April	Great Great for hiking	16° / 20°	12° / 9°	Dry air
May	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 23°	16° / 13°	21 sunny days
June	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 28°	20° / 17°	25 sunny days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high)
July	Great Great for the beach	27° / 30°	23° / 20°	29 sunny days · Muggy, humid air · UV 9 (Very high)
August	Great Great for the beach	27° / 30°	23° / 21°	28 sunny days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds
September	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 28°	20° / 17°	Humid air
October	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 24°	17° / 13°	
November	Fair Fair for sightseeing	17° / 21°	13° / 9°	15 rainy days · Dry air
December	Fair Fair for hiking	13° / 16° Feels like 9°	10° / 6°	15 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: May, June, July, August, September, October

Climate data: NASA POWER + Copernicus ERA5-Land and ERA5 · 1996–2025

Top sights



- A Corfu Old Town is the UNESCO-listed heart of the island. Narrow lanes, tall Venetian houses and arcades fill the area between the two fortresses.
- B Old Fortress sits on a rocky headland above the sea. The Venetians rebuilt and expanded it from the 15th century, and the views over the town and the coast of Albania are the reward for the climb.
- C Spianada Square Esplanade is the large green square at the edge of the old town. The arcade of D Liston runs along one side and is the classic place for a coffee and some people-watching.
- E Achilleion Palace is a palace in Gastouri, south of the town. *Empress Elisabeth of Austria* built it in 1890 as a retreat. It has a garden with sea views and a statue of Achilles.
- F Palaiopolis - Mon Repos Museum is a museum in a neoclassical villa and park south of the old town. Prince Philip was born in the villa in 1921. The museum shows finds from the ancient city of Corfu.
- G Angelokastro Castle is a Byzantine castle on a steep cliff above the northwest coast. It is a Byzantine castle with wide views.
- H Mouse Island is the small islet with a chapel off the Kanoni peninsula, next to the monastery of I Vlacherena. It is a well-known view near Kanoni.
- J Old Perithia is an almost abandoned stone village on the slopes of Mount Pantokrator. It is quiet, and a few tavernas operate in the main square.

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What to experience

- **Easter in Corfu Town**: on Holy Saturday morning, people throw large clay pots filled with water from windows and balconies. Processions with brass bands and the relics of Saint Spyridon are part of Easter week. Saint Spyridon also has processions on Palm Sunday, on 11 August and on the first Sunday of November.
- **Cricket**: the British brought cricket to Corfu, and it is still played on the island. It is rare in Greece.
- **Sea kayaking and boat trips** around Paleokastritsa: you can visit sea caves and small coves from the water. The area is also good for snorkelling.
- **Swimming at beaches in the west**: Myrtiotissa Beach is a quiet cove below steep cliffs, and Agios Gordios Beach is a long beach with a hill at one end. Many west-coast beaches have good evening light for sunsets.
- **Walk or drive to the lagoon**: Korission Lagoon in the south is a protected wetland with sand dunes next to a long beach.
- **Sunset at Porto Timoni**: a walk of about 20 to 30 minutes from the village of Afionas leads to a viewpoint above two small bays on either side of a narrow strip of land. The path is rough, so wear good shoes.

Day trips

Day trips from Corfu go by sea. Check the seasonal timetables before you plan, because many routes run mainly from spring to autumn.

- **Albania (Saranda and Butrint)**: a ferry or fast boat from Corfu Town takes roughly 30 to 60 minutes. Saranda is a lively seaside town. Butrint is a UNESCO World Heritage site with ruins of an ancient city, about 30 minutes by road from Saranda. Take your passport; check entry rules before you travel.
- **Paxos and Antipaxos**: small, green islands south of Corfu. In season, boats go from Corfu Town and take about 1 to 2 hours each way. Paxos has a pretty harbour town, Gaios. Antipaxos is known for its clear water and beaches.



Where to explore

Corfu is part of the Ionian Islands, and the nearest neighbour is Paxos. It is a quiet island for a short stay or a day out by boat.

Further south, the other Ionian islands are Lefkada, Kefalonia and Zakynthos. They are not close to Corfu, so plan them as separate trips.

Getting there

- **By air**: Corfu Airport (CFU, "Ioannis Kapodistrias") is about 3 km from Corfu Town. A bus or taxi takes about 10 to 15 minutes to the centre. Most flights are seasonal and run mainly from April to October, so winter options are limited. Athens has regular flights through the year.
- **By ferry from mainland Greece**: ferries run from Igoumenitsa to Corfu. Igoumenitsa is on the main road network, so this is the usual way to arrive by car from Greece or from other mainland countries.
- **By ferry from Italy**: ferries link Corfu with Italian Adriatic ports. Check the seasonal schedule before you plan.
- **By sea from Albania**: ferries and fast boats run between Saranda and Corfu Town.
- **By bus**: long-distance coaches to Athens and other mainland cities use the ferry.

Official Greek tourism page for Corfu

Getting around

- **Public buses**: local buses cover Corfu Town and the nearby villages. Intercity buses serve the main resorts and villages, but the timetable is limited in the evening and on Sundays. Many villages are poorly connected.
- **Taxis**: useful for airport and ferry transfers and for longer trips across the island. Agree on the price before you start long trips.
- **Car, scooter or quad bike**: the best way to reach beaches and mountain villages. See the driving section for tips.
- **Boat**: small boats and sea taxis run along parts of the coast, for example from the Paleokastritsa area to nearby coves.
- **On foot**: Corfu Town is compact and walkable. Outside the town, distances between sights are large and roads are narrow.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

Corfu Town is compact and easy on foot. Elsewhere, villages and beaches are spread out and roads are narrow, so you will need transport.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

The island is hilly and roads are narrow and busy in summer, so cycling suits experienced riders only.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?** Yes, if you stay outside Corfu Town. A car or scooter gives access to beaches, villages and viewpoints that buses do not reach. In Corfu Town itself, you do not need one.
- **Roads**: many roads in the hills and villages are narrow and winding, with limited barriers. Drive slowly and expect to give way to buses and oncoming cars.
- **Parking**: parking in the old town is limited. Use the car parks at the edge of the centre, for example near the Old Fortress and the harbour, and walk the last part.
- **Car hire**: book early for July and August, and check what the insurance covers for tyres and underbody damage on rough roads.

Food & drink

Corfiot food shows Venetian influence. Look for *pastitsada* (spiced meat with pasta), *sofrito* (veal in garlic and white wine sauce) and *bourdeto* (fish stew with pepper). Kumquat, grown on the island, appears in liqueurs and sweets. Locals also drink *tsitsibira*, a ginger beer from the island's British period.

Good places to eat cluster in a few areas. In Corfu Town, try the lanes of the old town around the Spianada. The restaurants in the old streets behind the Liston are busier and more touristy. Village tavernas on the northeast coast and in the hills usually serve simpler home-style food at lower prices. Fish tavernas line the bays of the west coast and the small harbours in the northeast.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Dolmades · Ντολμάδες
Vine leaves stuffed with rice and herbs, sometimes with minced meat, served warm or cold.

Greek Salad · Χωριάτικη σαλάτα
Tomato, cucumber, onion, olives, and a block of feta cheese, dressed with olive oil.

DINNER

Moussaka · Μουσακάς
A baked layered dish of eggplant, potato, and minced meat topped with béchamel sauce.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Souvlaki · Σουβλάκι
Grilled skewered meat, often served in a pita wrap with tomato, onion, and tzatziki.

Gyros · Γύρος
Spit-roasted meat sliced and wrapped in pita with fries, tomato, onion, and tzatziki.

Spanakopita · Σπανακόπιτα
A savory pastry filled with spinach and feta cheese, wrapped in flaky phyllo dough.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Baklava · Μπακλαβάς
Layers of phyllo pastry filled with chopped nuts and soaked in honey syrup.

DRINKS

Greek Coffee · Ελληνικός καφές
Thick, unfiltered coffee traditionally served in a small cup, often with a glass of water.

Ouzo · Ούζο
An anise-flavored aperitif, usually served with ice and small plates (mezedes).

Retsina · Ρετσίνα
A distinctive resin-flavored white wine, a Greek tradition dating back centuries.

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Safety & health

Corfu is safe for visitors. Petty theft is rare but possible in crowded places, so keep an eye on your bag in the old town and on beaches. Party resorts such as Kavos have a young crowd and more noise at night.

Summers are hot and dry. Use sun protection, drink water and avoid long walks at midday. Wildfires are possible in dry summers, so follow local advice and fire warnings if you hike or camp. Sea urchins live on rocky shores, so water shoes help.

Most visitors drink bottled water instead of tap water. Pharmacies in Corfu Town can help with minor problems. Call 112 for emergencies.

History

Corfu has been fortified for a very long time. The ancient city of Corfu stood south of today's old town, and some remains and finds are in the museum at Palaiopolis - Mon Repos Museum. In the Middle Ages, Byzantine rulers built castles such as Angelokastro Castle and Castle of Gardiki to defend the island.

Venice ruled Corfu from 1386 to 1797. The Venetians built the fortresses around Corfu Old Town, and the Ottomans never conquered the island, despite several long sieges. French and Russian-Ottoman forces then controlled it for short periods, and from 1815 to 1864 Britain ran the Ionian Islands as a protectorate. The British added new buildings, roads and the cricket tradition. Corfu then joined Greece in 1864.

In 1890 Empress Elisabeth of Austria built Achilleion Palace. Later the German emperor Wilhelm II owned it. During World War II, bombing destroyed parts of the old town. Many buildings were rebuilt.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Greece at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



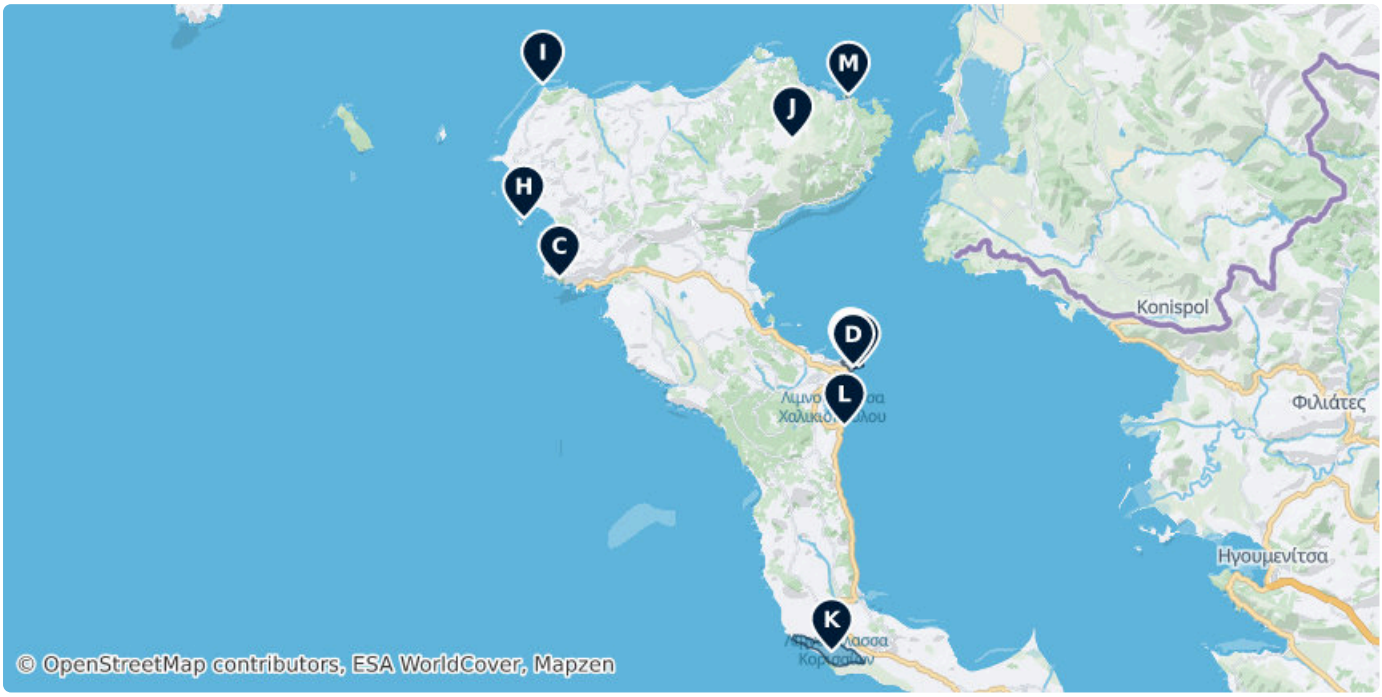
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Greek

TAP WATER
Use caution

Corfu's Absolute Essentials

Explore the diverse heritage of Corfu through its Venetian fortifications, Byzantine castles, and UNESCO-listed Old Town. This collection features the Spianada, Greece's largest square, and the 16th-century St. Spyridon Church. Beyond the city center, the list highlights the island's natural geography, including the limestone cliffs of Cape Drastis, the double-sided beach of Porto Timoni, and the protected Korission Lagoon. Historical sites like the 14th-century abandoned village of Old Perithia and the clifftop Angelokastro provide insight into the island's strategic maritime history.





A Corfu Old Town

A UNESCO World Heritage site, this picturesque old town has history reaching back to 8th century BC.

3 Ζήνωνος, Κέρκυρα 49131, Greece (39.62617, 19.92250)

+30 26613 62700



B Old Fortress

The Old Fortress of Corfu is a Venetian fortress in the city of Corfu.

Κέρκυρα 49131, Greece (39.62342, 19.92924)

Nov 01-Mar 31 Mo–Su	08:30–15:30
Apr 01-Oct 31 Mo–Su	08:00–20:00
Dec 25-Dec 26 Mo–Su	Closed

odysseus.culture.gr/h/3/gh352.jsp



C Angelokastro Castle

Angelokastro is a Byzantine castle on the island of Corfu,Greece. It is located at the top of the highest peak of the island's shoreline in...

Palaiokastrites 24, 49083, Greece (39.67815, 19.68693)

kastra.eu/castlegr.php



D Spianada Square Esplanade

The Spianada is a large square in the city of Corfu, Greece. It is the largest square in Greece and is located in front of the Old Fortress...

V. Dousmani, Corfu 49100, Greece (39.62324, 19.92454)



E Banknote Museum

The Banknote Museum of Alpha Bank is a museum located in Corfu, Greece.

4 Πλατεία Ηρώων Κυπριακού Πολέμου, Κέρκυρα 49131, Greece (39.62469, 19.92249)

Mo–Tu	Closed
Th	09:00–15:00
Fr	09:00–14:00, 17:30–20:30
Sa–Su	08:30–15:00

alphapolitismos.gr/en/05-Banknote-Mu... , +30 2661041552



F The Palace of Saint Michael & George

The Palace of St. Michael and St. George is a palace in Corfu City on the island of Corfu, Greece.

Eleftherias, Corfu 49100, Greece (39.62552, 19.92469)



G Liston Promenade

Majestic arcades in the centre of the city where only the aristocrats had access. Now it hosts the most expensive cafeterias.

8 Ελευθερίας, Κέρκυρα 49131, Greece (39.62369, 19.92355)



H Porto Timoni

A unique double-sided bay featuring two separate beaches divided by a narrow, lush strip of land. It is accessible via a steep hiking trail from Afionas village or by boat.

Greece (39.71528, 19.65819)



I Cape Drastis

The northernmost point of the island, characterized by dramatic white limestone cliffs and sea caves. The area is best viewed from the clifftop lookout or from the water via boat tours.

Greece (39.79871, 19.67340)



J Old Perithia

A deserted village located between Kassiopi and Acharavi. Buildings from 14th century are abandoned yet still there for you to explore.

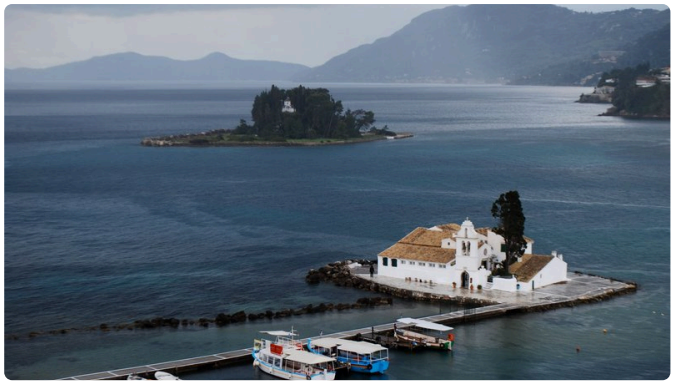
49100 (39.76455, 19.87547)



K Korrision Laggoon

Korission Lagoon is a coastal lagoon located in the southern part of the Greek island of Corfu, in the Ionian Sea.

(39.44523, 19.90726)



L Mouse Island

Pontikonisi is a Greek islet near the island of Corfu. Its prominent feature is a Byzantine chapel of Pantokrator, dating from the 11th or...

49150, Greece (39.58608, 19.91742)



M Kassiopi Fortress

A Byzantine-era fortification situated on a hillside overlooking the harbor. It served as one of three castles defending the island before the Venetian period and retains its perimeter walls and gatehouse ruins.

Κασσιόπη 49081, Greece (39.79193, 19.92082)



N St. Spyridon Church

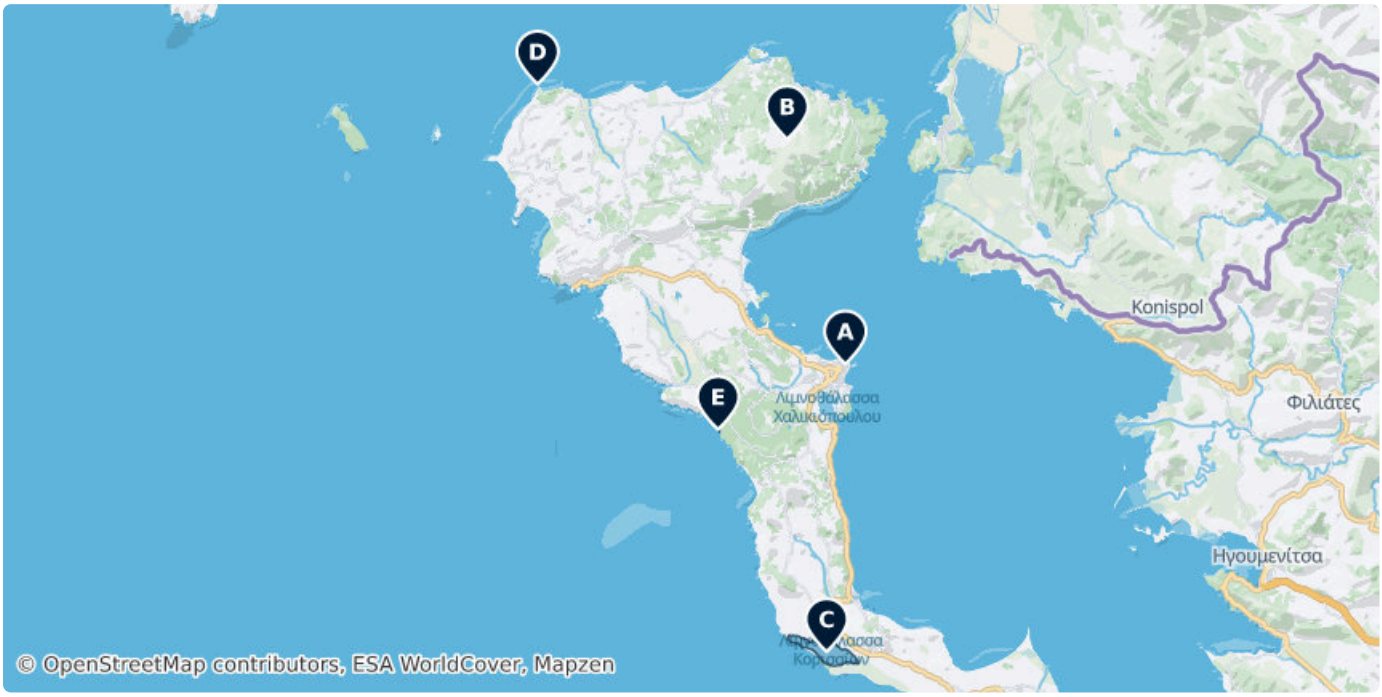
Saint Spyridon Church is a Greek Orthodox church located in Corfu, Greece. It was built in the 1580s.

49 Αγίου Σπυρίδωνος, Κέρκυρα 49131, Greece (39.62517, 19.92254)

+30 26610 39779

Editor's Choice Destinations

This selection highlights Corfu's varied landscape and history, from the 14th-century abandoned stone houses of Old Perithia to the Banknote Museum's collection of Greek currency. The list includes the Korission Lagoon, a protected coastal ecosystem in the south, and the sculpted white limestone cliffs of Cape Drastis in the north. Pelekas Beach completes the collection, offering an expansive sandy shore known for its clear waters.





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alphapolitismos.gr/en/05-Banknote-Mu... , +30 2661041552



B Old Perithia

A deserted village located between Kassiopi and Acharavi. Buildings from 14th century are abandoned yet still there for you to explore.

49100 (39.76455, 19.87547)



C Korrision Laggoon

Korission Lagoon is a coastal lagoon located in the southern part of the Greek island of Corfu, in the Ionian Sea.

(39.44523, 19.90726)



D Cape Drastis

The northernmost point of the island featuring vertical white limestone cliffs and unique rock formations. The area includes small sea caves and is accessible via a steep walking path or by boat from nearby Sidari.

Greece (39.79871, 19.67340)

E Pelekas Beach

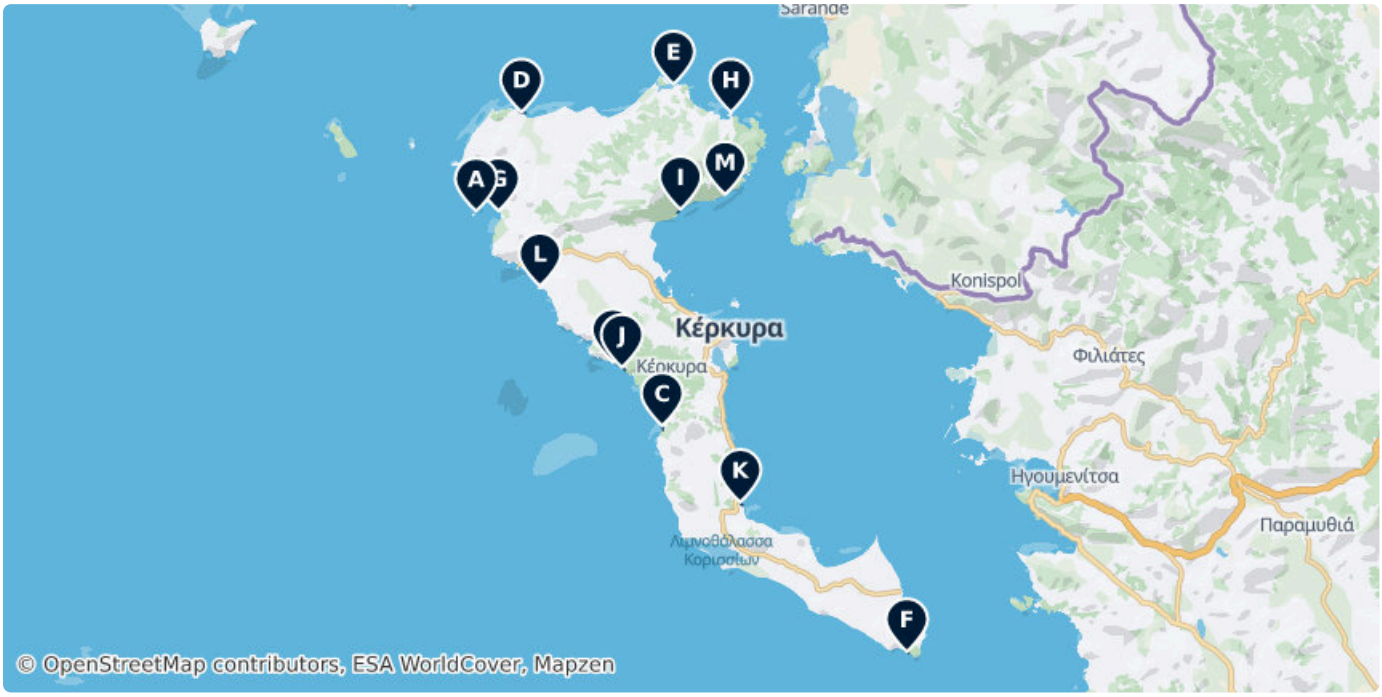
Resort popular with backpackers has a long sandy beach. The water is clear and the waves may be a little more rough.

Kokkiniou-Kouramadon, Parelia 49100, Greece
(39.58391, 19.81950)

pelekas.com

Corfu's Best Beaches

Corfu's coastline features the double-sided bay of Porto Timoni, reachable by boat or hike, and the Canal d'Amour's sandstone formations in Sidari. The west coast offers sandy stretches like Glyfada and the nudist-friendly Myrtiotissa, while the northeast is characterized by pebble beaches such as Barbati and Kaminaki. Southern options include the secluded Arkoudilas, known for its clay cliffs and quiet atmosphere.





A Porto Timoni

Double-sided bay near Afionas village. Two beaches separated by a narrow strip of land, accessible via a steep downhill trail or water taxi.

Greece (39.71528, 19.65819)



B Myrtiotissa beach

A small beach shielded with Ai Giorgis mountain. One of a few nudist friendly beaches in Corfu, with relaxed atmosphere.

Ethnikis Palaiokastritsas-Peleka, Parelia 49100, Greece (39.59577, 19.79887)

geocities.ws/mirtiotissabeach/index.htm



C Agios Gordios beach

Agios Gordios known locally as Ai Gordis is a local community and a holiday resort village on the west coast of the Greek island of Corfu.

Kerkyras-Kouramadon, Parelia 49100, Greece (39.54527, 19.84972)

agios-gordios.net

D Sidari Beach

Located on the northern coast, featuring shallow waters and the nearby Canal d'Amour, characterized by unique sandstone rock formations and sea caves.

Σιδάρι 49081, Greece (39.79364, 19.70478)



E Agios Spiridon Beach

Sandy beach situated between Kassiopi and Acharavi, adjacent to the Antinioti Lagoon nature reserve. Known for shallow, calm waters.

(Unnamed Road), 49081, Greece (39.81567, 19.86130)

F Arkoudilas Beach

Secluded sandy beach at the southern tip of Corfu, surrounded by high clay cliffs. Accessible via a dirt road from Kavos.

Greece (39.36589, 20.10140)

G ILIOS Strandliegen

Horseshoe-shaped bay on the northwest coast. Features a wide sandy shore and deep waters, often used for windsurfing and sailing.

(39.71544, 19.68126)

H Bataria

Small pebble beach in Kassiopi. Features clear turquoise water and views of the Albanian coastline across the Ionian Sea.

(Unnamed Road), Κασσιόπη 49081, Greece (39.79369, 19.92030)

I Barbati Beach

Long shingle beach at the foot of Mount Pantokrator. Known for its white pebbles and transparent water, offering views toward Corfu Town.

(Unnamed Road), Μπαρμπάτι 49083, Greece (39.71670, 19.86849)



J Glyfada Beach

Wide sandy beach on the west coast, bordered by pine-covered cliffs. Known for its sunset views and shallow seabed.

Plakoto, 491 00 Glyfada, Greece (39.59150, 19.80820)

K Moraitika Beach

Shallow sandy beach on the southeast coast, where the Messonghi River meets the sea.

Greece (39.48451, 19.92995)

L Liniodoros

Secluded gravel beach on the west coast, primarily accessible by boat. Features deep, cold waters and no facilities.

(Unnamed Road), 49083, Greece (39.65598, 19.72398)

liapades-bliss.com/walking-guide/liniodoros.html

M Kaminaki Beach

Small, quiet pebble beach located in a steep-sided bay between Nissaki and Agni. Accessible via a narrow, winding road.

(Unnamed Road), Κατάβολος 49083, Greece (39.72847, 19.91434)

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