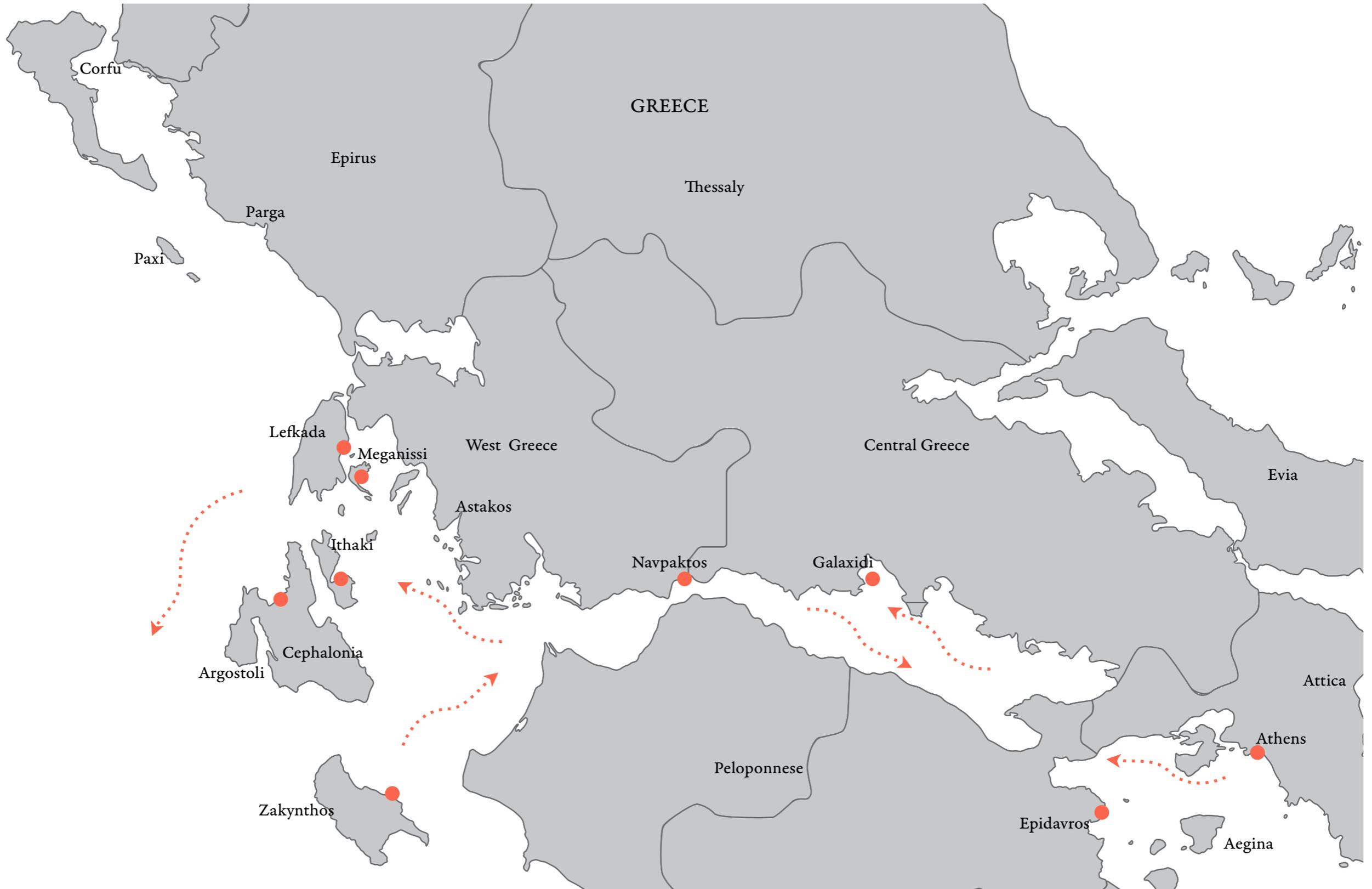




# Ionian Islands, Athens-Athens

*7 day charter itinerary*



## Ports and distances

Day	Ports	Distance in nm
1	Athens-Galaxidi	77
2	Galaxidi-Ithaki	99
3	Ithaki-Meganissi-Lefkada	33
4	Lefkada-Cephalonia	43
5	Cephalonia-Zakynthos	66
6	Zakynthos-Navpaktos	64
7	Navpaktos-Epidavros	94
8	Epidavros-Athens	30

Протяженность маршрута - 506 морских миль

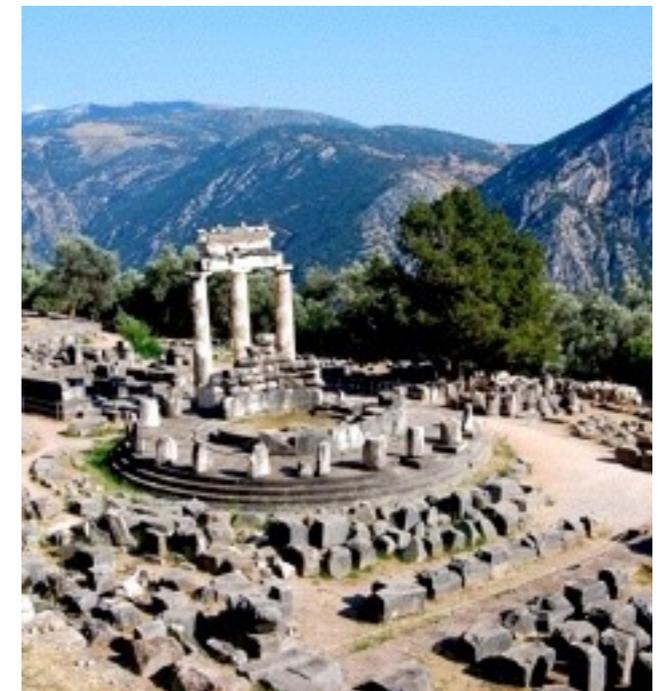
## Athens

The Capital of Greece. Within the sprawling city of Athens it is easy to imagine the golden age of Greece when Pericles had the Parthenon (the most eminent monument of the ancient Greek architecture) built. Athens is built around the Acropolis and the pinnacled crag of Mt. Lycabettus, which the goddess Athena was said to have dropped from the heavens as a bulwark to defend the city. The suburbs have covered the barren plain in all directions and the city is packed with lively taverns and bustling shops.



## Galaxidi

Galaxidi is built on a small peninsula, therefore it is surrounded almost everywhere by sea. It has two sheltered natural harbors, Agora and Chirolaka, which are separated by Kavos. It has been described as a traditional and preserved village and it distinguishes for the architecture of the captain-houses. It combines the ancient history of the monuments, museums, churches, alleys and all those that reflect the unique culture and wealth, gathered in the naval town of the 19th century the Galaxidi sailing ships. At the end of square N. Mama, there is a natural rock cave, the formerly "Karkaros», today's "Cave".



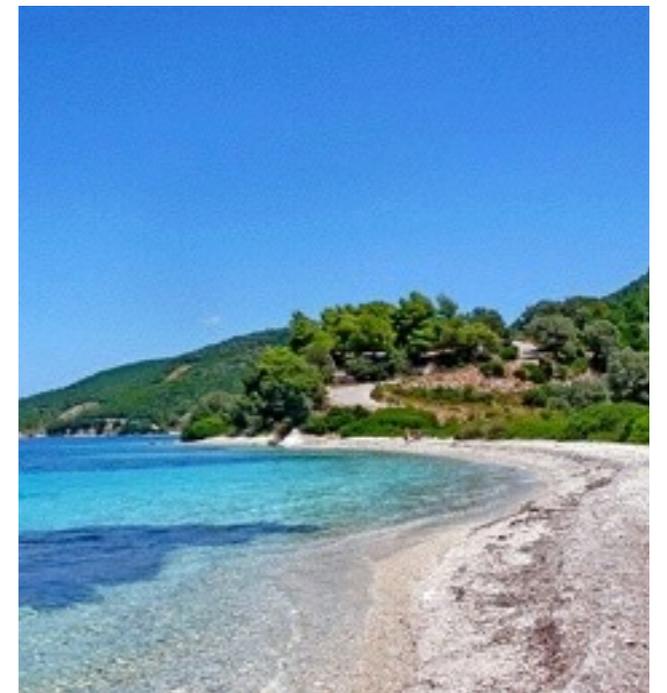
## Ithaki

Throughout the ages, Ithaki has been known as the home of Odysseus. For years Homer's hero wandered before he finally returned to his island kingdom. The west coast of the island is steep and almost barren in contrast to the green, gentle shoreline on the east. The capital and largest settlement is Ithaki or Vathi: its red-roofed delightful houses set amidst enchanting scenery at the end of the deep closed bay of Molos. Three kilometers to the northwest lies the so-called Cave of the Nymphs. Also worth visiting, is the medieval Monastery of the Archangels at Perahori. North of the capital and 600 meters above sea level, the Kathara Monastery (Moni Katharon). Kioni and Frikes, typically Ionian villages, on the northeast coast are unspoiled, wonderful places for a short excursion or an extended sojourn.



## Meganissi

Meganisi is a picturesque island of the Ionian sea, 4 nautical miles southeast of Lefkada. It is the largest island of a complex (Skorpios, Thilia, Kythros and more), composing the administrative district of the Municipality of Meganisi (Taphion), called Tilevoides. With an area of 19,85 square kilometers, Meganisi belongs to the province of Lefkada and has three scenic villages with unique beauties: Vathi, Katomeri and Spartochoi, which consist the main settlements of the island with a total population of 2,000 inhabitants. The traditional architecture, the hospitable residents, the quite life, the magnificent sceneries, the picturesque bays with the fish taverns, the restaurants and entertainment shops, the splendid view, the green landscapes and the crystal waters, create an ideal place for the summer holidays. Aghios Ioannis, Spillia, Faros, Limonari, Elia are the most well known beaches of the island, which along with Papanikolis and Giovani Caves are worthwhile a visit.



## Lefkada

It is the fourth largest island of the Ionians and has impressive landscapes, long golden sandy beaches with color as if the blue of the sea was mixed with bleaching water, traditional villages, a charming capital, some animated beach resorts with many restaurants and bars, Byzantine churches, archaeological sites, perfect wind conditions for windsurfing and kite surfing. Agios Nikitas, Porto Katsiki, Kathisma, Vassiliki are must – see beaches as they are some of the most beautiful beaches of the world.



## Cephalonia

Cephalonia is the largest of the Ionian islands. The capital of the island is the town of Argostoli. It is a lively place, especially in the summer months, with much of the action taking place around its main square (panoramic view, will take you to external site). Argostoli is a modern town that offers many entertainment and shopping opportunities, while still maintaining its charm. Argostoli, as well as all the other towns and villages of the island, was completely rebuilt after the earthquake that struck in 1953. The only area that was spared from the earthquake was Fiskardo. For this reason Fiskardo retains the old architecture, making it the most beautiful village on the island. The second largest town of Kefalonia is Lixouri, on the Pali peninsula. The Mellisani Cave is an underground seawater lake featured in most guidebooks because of the amazing color of the sea.



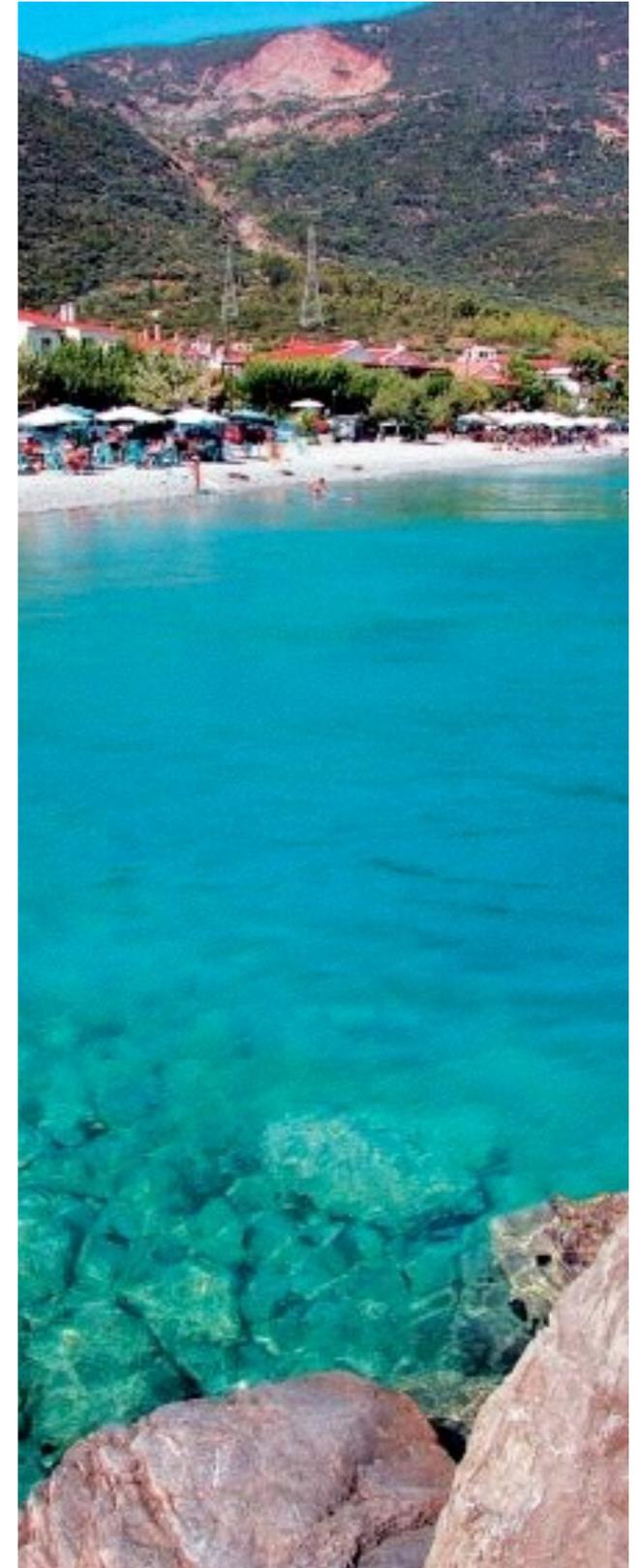
## Zakynthos

Zakynthos, the third in size of the islands of the Ionian Sea, the green island of poetry, of song and love, the native land of Dionysios Solomos, the writer of the Greek National Anthem. Rich in beauty and tradition, both historical and cultural, Zante is the "ideal" of any traveller with an exploring mind. Discovered in 1897, the blue caves can be found on the northern tip of Zante, not far from Cape Skinari. Famous for their stunning shade of blue seas and rock formations. Smugglers Cove, also known as Navagio, has to be the most famous beach on the island, if not in Greece. At the famous bay of Laganas you can enjoy one of the longest and most sandy beaches in the Mediterranean. Greece is the only European country where the logger headed turtles (Caretta-Caretta) nest and Zante is the most important nesting area in the Mediterranean. The national marine park of Zante objective is to preserve the natural environment.



## Navpaktos

From the towering of Venetian Castle on the hill above the city you can see all of Nafpaktos. Its expansive beaches, pastel buildings set beside Venetian Walls, and veil of pine, palm, orange, and elm, make it one of the most beautiful cities of the Gulf of Corinth. Green enough, plenty of waters, big old platans, clear sea, spotless yards with beautiful gardens, a marvelous fort and small port together which is the smallest and the most beautiful in all over Mediterranean and its powerful castle that is “testifier” of its adventurous history.



## Epidavros

Well protected on its own, the gulf of Epidavros, with the scent from the valley's orange blossoms meeting the sea breeze in its picturesque and friendly port, with pine trees descending its slopes to offer their shade to its beautiful beaches. Ancient Epidavros, traditional yet modern, both tranquil and cosmopolitan, is always ready to welcome travelers whatever the season. It was here that Asklepios' most splendid sanctuary was situated. Here yet another important nucleus of ancient Greek civilisation was created. There we can find remains from the Acropolis with Roman walls, ruins of a palace and houses, columns from the Doric temple and nearby, Mycenaean tombs, while under the sea, not very deep, lies a section of the ancient city. Its jewel however is to be found on the West Side of the peninsula. The ancient theatre. The "little" one, as it has been dubbed, to distinguish it from the "big" one in the Sanctuary of Asklepios. Built in the 4th century BC, it was dedicated to Dionysos, but for centuries remained buried under six meters of earth. In 1971, archaeologists began their digs. And today, elegant with its stone seats, it does not only reaffirms the achievements of ancient civilisation it also plays host to marvellous concerts.



# Return to Athens

