

Corfu

TRAVEL GUIDE

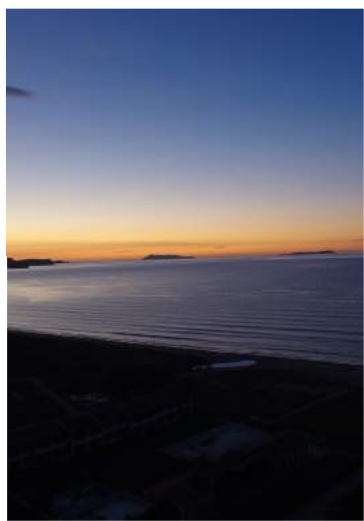


Oliver's Travels
— YOUR GREAT ESCAPE —

One of the largest and greenest of the Ionian Islands, Corfu's appeal extends far beyond its trademark blue-hued seas and sandy coastline. With its UNESCO World Heritage status and unbeatable strolling opportunities, there is no better place to start exploring than the main town and its historic old quarter, where ancient churches, scattered ruins and a handful of museums mean Corfu's layers of history can be found just about everywhere.

CORFU 101


CURRENCY	EURO	TIME ZONE	GMT -2 HOURS
ELECTRICAL	TWO PIN	HIGHEST TEMP.	16° C
LANGUAGE	GREEK	LOWEST TEMP.	39°C
EMERGENCY	112	PEAK SEASON	APRIL- MAY





TRANSPORT TALK



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BY WHEELS

Dozens of car rental companies operate in Corfu and most will deliver your wheels to the airport or straight to your hotel. If you don't arrange car hire before you go, the likes of [Hertz](#) and [Avis](#) have desks at the airport.

BY BIKE

The island is crisscrossed with bike-friendly networks of road and dirt tracks. Bike rental is readily available and hiring two wheels will put secluded beaches and hidden corners of the countryside at your fingertips.

BY TAXI

Licensed regulated Taxi services are available all over Corfu. Take note - rural taxis are more expensive for one-way trips!



BY WATER

Ferries and hydrofoils bob back and forth between Corfu and its neighbouring Ionian Islands on a pretty regular basis. They also put the rest of the Greek isles in island-hopping distance

BY AIR

Flights to the island from UK shores take around three and a half hours and land at Corfu International Airport, which is just a couple of kilometres south of the city centre.

BY BUS OR TRAIN

Local buses cover most areas within a half-hour drive of Corfu's old town, while a second, long-distance network connects the town centre to destinations all over the island.

HIDDEN GEMS AND ACTIVITIES

Sidari

For the best beach in Corfu head to Sidari. Erosion has shaped the cliffs along the village's coastline into striking, otherworldly shapes, tiny coves, and a channel that has the power to help its swimmers become lucky in love, or so the legend goes.

Mount Pantokrator

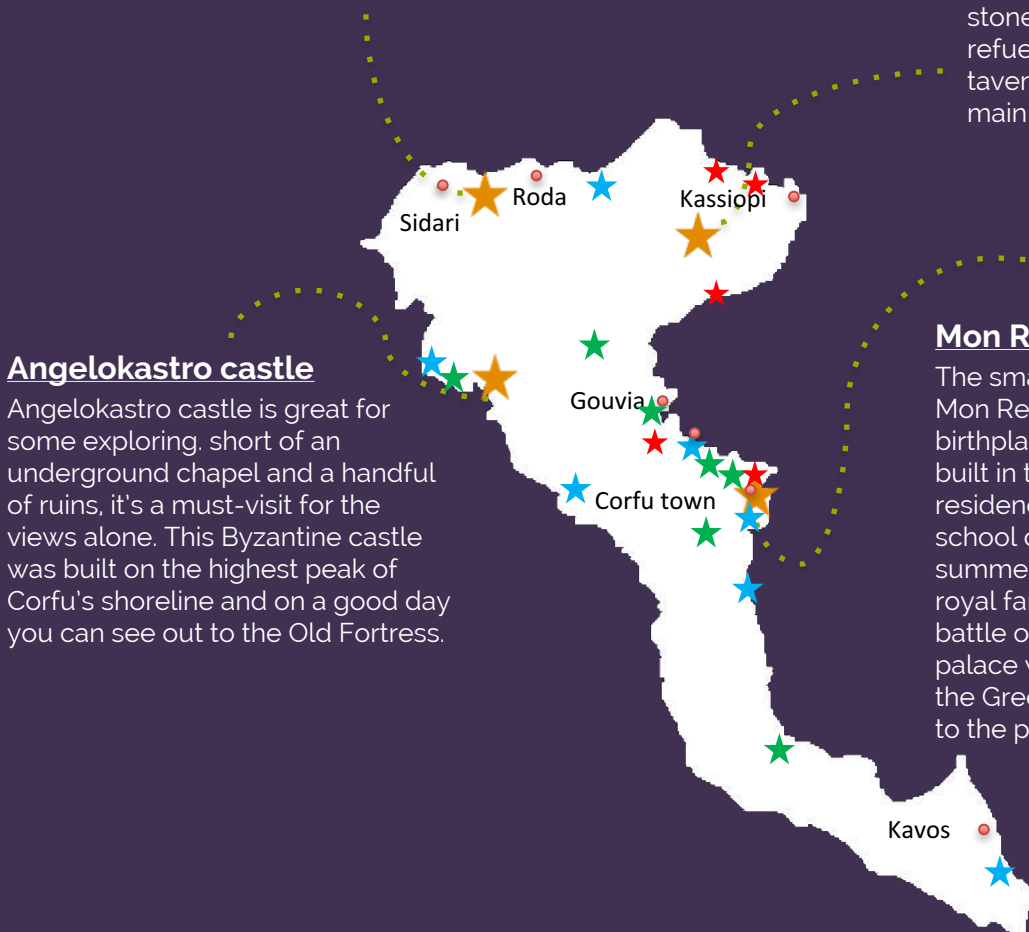
This medieval ghost town dates back to the 1400s but has been uninhabited since the 1960s. Today, you can wander its cobbled streets and rustic stone houses. When it's time to refuel, there are a handful of tavernas worth visiting in the main village square.

Angelokastro castle

Angelokastro castle is great for some exploring. Short of an underground chapel and a handful of ruins, it's a must-visit for the views alone. This Byzantine castle was built on the highest peak of Corfu's shoreline and on a good day you can see out to the Old Fortress.

Mon Repos Palace

The small but perfectly formed Mon Repos Palace, the birthplace of Prince Phillip, was built in the 1820s and served as a residence for British governors, a school of fine arts and later, a summer residence for the Greek royal family. After a long court battle over ownership, the hilltop palace was declared property of the Greek state and is now open to the public as a museum.



- ★ Hidden Gems
- ★ Picks for Kids
- ★ Best Activities
- ★ Foodie Delights



TOP PICKS : FOR KIDS

Aqualand



When you need a break from the beach, head to [Aqualand](#). The mix of slides, splash zones and pools keep kids cool and entertained for hours, plus there are usually loungers, pool bars and cafés for grown-ups!



Mavroudis



The family-run [Mavroudis company](#) has been crafting olive oil for generations. Having tracked down olive oil making machinery from as far back as the mid-1800s, they've set up an intimate museum.



Casa Parlante



[Casa Parlante](#) one-off heritage site in Corfu's old town gives a glimpse into the life of the island's 19th-century nobility. The treasures and artefacts on display are slotted into settings brought to life by noises, smells, animated figures and robotics.



Trailriders



Explore Corfu adventurously with this guided tour on foot, boat or horseback with [Trailriders](#). You'll have the best of the island's natural beauty on showcase and really help you get to grips with its history and culture.



Nautilus Underwater Experience



To see Corfu's marine life in its natural environment, head out on a glass-bottomed boat cruise with [Nautilus Underwater Experience](#) and discover the kaleidoscopic world beneath the waves.



Corfu Walking Tours



Get under the skin of Corfu's atmospheric old town with [Corfu Walking Tours](#), who'll lead you down ancient alleyways and into pretty old squares, revealing the secrets of the city as you go.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR KIDS



- ★ Hidden Gems
- ★ Picks for Kids
- ★ Best Activities
- ★ Foodie Delights



CROWD PLEASERS: BEST ACTIVITIES

Crazy Speedboat



If you're in the mood for a boat trip full of thrills, you'll love the [Crazy Speedboat](#). This over-water adventure showcases the best of the island's scenery with plenty of Corfu's party spirit thrown in for good measure.



Mountain Bike Tour



If you like to keep it active, [cycling tours](#) are the best way to enjoy Corfu's scenery. You'll cycle through pretty olive groves and the rural village of Old Perithia, for views well worth the effort!



Spa Retreat



For an indulgent dose of R&R, head to one of Corfu's luxury spa and wellness centres. One of Corfu's top-rated spas is the [Asian Spa Ayurvedic & City Retreat](#).



Achilleion Museum



Seek out a slice of culture at one of the island's excellent museums and galleries. Every extravagant inch of the [Achilleion Museum](#) celebrates Greek culture.



Wine Tasting and Tours



Anyone can go home an expert on Corfu's wine scene thanks to Corfu's vineyard tours and wine tasting sessions. There are plenty of local labels to try at [Theotoky Estate](#) and [Corfu Wine Tasting Tour](#).



Paleokastritsa Beaches



The [village of Paleokastritsa](#) offers a range of local taverns overlooking the clear bay. Surrounded by olive tree forests you'll be captivated by the beautiful scenery on your visit.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR GROUPS



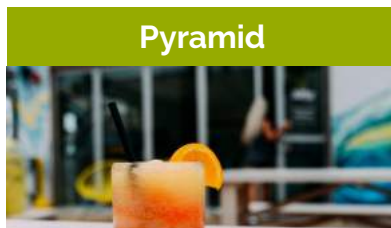


BEST FOODIE DELIGHTS



Trilogia Restaurant Corfu

The beachfront [Trilogia Restaurant](#) is located beneath the ancient castle walls. The kitchen here is run by a master chef, you'll be hard pushed to find a better setting for a cosy meal for two.



Pyramid

Pyramid offers sea views and a private stretch of beach. This top-rated restaurant serves classic Greek dishes featuring fresh ingredients from its own gardens. Plus, there is a stylish beach bar, perfect for pre cocktails.



Vitamins Taverna

Everyone is catered for at [Vitamins Taverna](#). Run by the same family for 30 years, the restaurant specialises in nourishing Med cuisine. And while meat-free diners can feast here, carnivores and pescatarians will also have plenty of choices.



Avli

Featuring everything from baked feta to grilled pork sausage, the menu at [Avli](#) is traditional Greek through and through. The setting is also pretty special, with a homely indoor dining room.



Dishes to Try

One of Corfu's signature plates is sofrito, a hearty dish of veal or beef cooked in white wine. Sofrito is usually served with potatoes or beans.



Corfu Sailing

Positioned inside the historic old fortress in Corfu Town, [Corfu Sailing Restaurant](#) is surrounded by history. The dining room is right on the water's edge and serves a menu of fresh fish, seafood and classic Mediterranean dishes.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR FOODIES





We'd like to think we know travel pretty well. Since we first hatched [Oliver's Travels](#) in 2003 it's been essentially all we've talked about. You could call us obsessed.

Our extensive [blog](#), Oliver's Journal has got tons of information and inspiration on locations across Europe and the Caribbean. It's a one-stop shop for family-friendly holiday fun, the best group activities, foodie finds and a good dose of adventure. If you found this travel guide useful, (we hope you did!), you can find a whole host more on the blog, too!

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