



General Information

Please read these notes in conjunction with our **Booking Conditions and with price panels.** Information contained in this brochure may alter after publication so please check with us for any changes prior to booking.

Our Bonding and Your Financial Security

Sunvil is a fully bonded operator. We are licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority (ATOL 808) for all air based holidays in this brochure. All non air travel arrangements (e.g. accommodation or ground arrangements only) conform to the bonding requirements of the Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO). Complete financial protection is thus assured.

In the unlikely event of our insolvency, these organisations will ensure that you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid us for an advance booking. For further information on how the CAA deals with air based bookings and to check our ATOL number, visit the CAA website at www.atol.org.uk.

A Few Facts of Life

We believe the information in this brochure is true and correct. It is essential you read our descriptions carefully to avoid making a wrong choice. If you're unsure of anything please ask to speak to someone who has been to the area you wish to visit. Our advice is honest – we would rather lose you than allow you to visit a resort unsuited to your needs.

Having said that, we would like to make our own position clear. Seasons change and so do resorts. What is quiet in May can be crowded in August. Tourist facilities depend on the weather and/or demand. Our descriptions are based on a typical June day in Greece. Please bear this in mind as it is impossible to qualify every statement on every page.

If you visit a Mediterranean country (not only Greece) you must accept the local way of life which, due to the climate, can be very different to ours. Buses run early in the morning, shops and offices close in the afternoon, and restaurants, bars and clubs are noisier, open-air and open later than their British equivalents.

Plumbing is rarely perfect, hot water not always available and water itself in short supply (localised water shortages are common, particularly in high season when demand is at its maximum). Roads are largely unlit, often have no pavement and are sometimes unmade, so take a torch. Many areas are growing resorts and building may be going on in the vicinity of your accommodation. We are not trying to dissuade you from travelling but just pointing out that you must take the rough with the smooth when you visit any foreign country.

Despite the above, no-one loves Greece more than we do. We are certain that you will have the holiday of a lifetime, but if you do experience some niggles try to have patience and understanding and gracefully accept that you cannot live in Greece as you would at home.

Accommodation Only

Most properties are available on an "accommodation only" basis - please ask for a price quote. Please note the price will not include car hire, 'meet and greet' at Greek airport or port, transfers or a Welcome Pack of provisions unless specified on the Confirmation Invoice. Self catering properties usually have to be booked by the week starting on our regular change over day. Rates will include an amount for our local costs e.g. local agent handling fee, rep costs etc.

Airport Hotels and Parking

A wide range of airport hotels and parking can be pre-booked via 'Manage My Booking' on our website.

Some airport hotels give reduced or free parking for the duration of your holiday.

Amendment and Administration Charges

If we are advised more than 8 weeks before departure, £25 will be charged for each amendment or name change to a confirmed booking to cover administration costs. In the case of a minor amendment (e.g. cancellation of a pre-booked car) this charge is per booking; in the case of a major amendment (e.g. change of holiday dates to earlier or later in the same season, change of accommodation or resort) this charge is per person. A reduced administration fee of £10 will be charged in cases of altering passenger initial or title, or changing the dates, delivery or category of a booked hire car or service, unless tickets have been issued (normally c. 3 weeks before departure) in which event the charge will be £25. Within 8 weeks of departure we reserve the right to treat a major alteration as a cancellation of the original holiday (attracting cancellation charges) and regard it as a new holiday booking.

APIS (Advanced Passender Information System)

In 2009 the UK Government began to implement its requirement for APIS (Advanced Passenger Information) data for all passengers travelling internationally into and out of the UK. We need to collect this information from all passengers on behalf of the carrier, who is legally required to collect this information and provide it as part of the check-in process. These details can be submitted confidentially and securely online via the e-borders section at <http://mybooking.sunvil.co.uk/apis/login.asp>

If you do not have your passport details to hand this information can be submitted at a later date. However, it must be submitted at least 10 days before departure.

The information will be passed on directly to the relevant airline and kept for no more than 10 years by the British Government. It will be protected in keeping with the Data Protection Act and appropriate security controls will ensure it is not used or accessed incorrectly. It will be given only to organisations that are legally authorised to receive it and that need it to carry out their official duties.

Your details will be destroyed by us on your return to the UK.

Beaches

There are very few private beaches in Greece. Even if a property is directly above its 'own' beach and there is no alternative access, the public usually have the right to pass through the grounds to use the beach. Some hotels encourage daytime visitors to use their facilities at the same time. Please note, beaches are described 'as seen' by ourselves which is often more than one year before your holiday takes place. Weather conditions, winter storms, currents etc. can lead to changes – sand for pebble and vice versa.

Building Works

A fact of life in any developing tourist country is new building works. Although we do try to contract properties which seem less likely to have a building going up alongside them, we have no way of knowing in advance when or where this will happen, nor for how long it will last. Building work can start at very short notice in Greece and we fully appreciate the nuisance and inconvenience this can cause. We will always try to offer alternative accommodation but this is not always possible, especially in the peak season. Please note that half-finished building shells are a common sight all over Greece and the presence of one close to your accommodation does not mean it is an active building site. These shells can be there for years, unfinished normally due to financial or legal reasons. There is no way of telling in advance when or if they are likely to become active again.

Cancellations

Should you wish to cancel your holiday please call to tell us as soon as you can. Cancellation is only effective when we receive notice in writing by recorded or registered mail (please call to check we have received it). For further details and cancellation charges see section 4 of our Booking Conditions.

External Websites

Sunvil has no control over the content of external websites, even if mentioned in this brochure, and can accept no liability for any statements, descriptions or photographs seen on any other website other than www.sunvil.co.uk.

Extra Accommodation and Bought-in Flights

Should we request accommodation extra to our allocation the room description may differ from that in the brochure (e.g. if we state 'our' rooms are top floor it may be that the extra room requested will be ground floor as it will be additional to contract). There may also be a supplement to pay. Similarly, should we buy-in flight seats there may be a supplement and a higher deposit required (note: non-refundable). In either case the extra cost involved will be quoted at the time of booking.

Extra Beds

Nearly all hotels and self catering can take an 'extra' bed. This is usually folding or convertible and may make the accommodation cramped. There may also be a lack of wardrobe space and privacy. We would recommend their use for young children only. It is quite legal for an extra bed to be placed in a twin room or studio even though the sign behind the door may state the room is for 2 persons.

Facilities and Low Season

Beach and sports facilities are payable locally. Centralised air-conditioning is at the discretion of the management and may not operate all day every day, outside the peak season or if the temperature drops below a certain level. Sunbeds and umbrellas are commonly charged for on the beach (although not around the swimming pool) as this is a concession granted on a commercial basis by the council. In the low season (generally April, May and late September onwards) not all advertised hotel facilities may be available, particularly open-air facilities, pool bars/snack bars, open-air restaurants, watersports and a full excursion programme. If you feel a particular facility is vital to the holiday, please ask us to check if it will be available when you wish to travel. At the beginning and end of the season (normally May and mid-September onwards) the smaller islands, villages and resort areas can be very quiet with only one or two tavernas open. Minimarkets may also be closed in these off season periods, depending on demand. If you would like more

choice we would recommend you rent a car or book into a larger resort area at this time of year.

FCO Travel Advice

Keep up-to-date with the latest UK Government Travel Advice as issued by the Foreign Office before you travel. This can be accessed by telephone (0845 850 2829); the Internet (www.fco.gov.uk/travel/); or BBC text services. As a responsible tour operator, Sunvil follows FCO advice – should it advise against non-essential travel to any of our destinations during a period in which you are booked to travel imminently you may change or cancel your holiday with no penalty.

Ferries and Domestic Flights

Ferries and small aircraft are the only means of travelling to many of the smaller islands. Generally reliable, occasionally bad weather and breakdown can cause delays, and timetables can alter with little notice. If you want to visit the islands then this is a risk you must accept. Our agents can help by extending or shortening your dates booked on various islands, or by securing accommodation elsewhere for your last night or two.

Flight Delays and Missed Connections

Delays on our flights last summer did not reach significant levels. When possible, in the event of a significant delay (3 hours plus) on a regular Sunvil flight, we will endeavour to provide refreshments, meals and overnight accommodation as and when appropriate. Additionally our Travel Insurance does give compensation for longer delays (6 hours plus) – see page 172. Should a flight delay mean a missed ferry or domestic flight connection in Greece we will arrange overnight accommodation, usually in a BB hotel (please note the category of this hotel may not match that of the hotel you have booked). We will transfer you the next day to the port/airport for your new connecting ferry/flight and rearrange transfers accordingly on all islands. We regret that no refund is possible for unused accommodation.

Greek Accommodation

Designed for a summer outdoor lifestyle, most holiday accommodation in Greece is more basic than that elsewhere. Although our individual property descriptions should give you all the information you need, you should expect the following from standard Greek holiday accommodation.

Furnishings. Simple pine furnishings, tiled floors and whitewashed walls (usually bare!). Plastic table and chairs for sitting outside on the balcony or patio. Most bedrooms are twin bedded.

Bathrooms. Compact and tiled, with hand-held shower, wc and washbasin. Baths are rare, as are plugs (that fit) and shower cabinets. Where a room has both bath and shower, the shower will be an attachment (usually hand-held). Water on the floor will quickly dry. Lavatory paper, tampons, cotton wool etc. should not be put in the toilet as the Greek drainage system cannot cope – instead put in the pedal bin or basket provided.

Water. Solar power is commonly used to heat water. Therefore hot water supplies can be erratic, particularly early or late in the day or when cloudy. Greeks consider anything from tepid upwards as hot. As in most of the Mediterranean, water is in short supply and should be used sparingly. In some areas, particularly during the peak summer months, pressure can drop or supplies cut off at certain times of the day for conservation purposes.

Air conditioning. A/C usually also doubles as heating in the early and late season. Where there is a local charge, this is payable in cash.

Electricity. Voltage is 220. Continental adaptors will be required. Greek electricity supplies can be temperamental and power cuts are not uncommon.

Hotels

Official Grading. Traditionally Lettered A to E (A being 4 star equivalent, B = 3 stars, C = 2 stars etc.) plus deluxe (5 stars), but now moving to a more conventional star rating. However, we think this grading system should really be ignored in many cases – often the newer 2 star hotels are of a better standard than the older 3

star ones. Whatever the category, you should expect comfort rather than luxury. Small hotels are usually family-run – what they may lack in facilities they often make up for in atmosphere.

Double and Twin Rooms. These are generic terms used by hotels to describe a room for two persons – a double bed or twin beds are not guaranteed unless the description specifically states the rooms are all 'double-bedded' or 'twin-bedded'. The modern style is to have twin mattresses on a double base, which rather blurs the boundaries.

Single rooms. Single rooms are often smaller and without much of a view. In the low season you may well have a double for sole use. A twin/double for single use can be guaranteed for a further supplement.

Meals. Greek hotel breakfasts are still nothing to write home about. Most hotels offering a buffet-style breakfast, normally Continental. However, the minimum remains the basic pat of butter, bread, jam, biscuits and tea or coffee. Half Board is generally accepted to mean breakfast and evening meal – some hotels will provide lunch instead of dinner if adequate notice is given. We find local tavernas often offer more choice at a reasonable cost.

Hotel bungalows. Hoteliers use this term to indicate that their rooms are not all in one building but in separate units, maybe of several storeys, situated away from the main block. The rooms are standard, with no self catering facilities.

Hotel, Apartment and Room Facilities

Unless stated as free of charge, advertised facilities (e.g. room-safe, WiFi) may have a local charge.

Internet and WiFi

WiFi or broadband internet access is available at many of our hotels now, and some apartments. In most cases it is free of charge, and where known this is noted in the descriptions. If not noted as free there may be a local charge. Please note that WiFi is commonly available in certain public areas but not necessarily in your room as the signal strength may vary. Many local cafes also advertise free WiFi connections. Please note that we cannot guarantee WiFi availability as this is dependent on local ISPs, technical issues etc. and this facility does not form part of our contract with you.

Local Representation

We employ our own company representatives in many of the islands and resorts we feature - see resort introduction pages. In some areas they may be shared with our sister company GIC – The Villa Collection. Our reps can help solve problems, provide information, arrange car hire and book excursions. Their aim is to help you get the most from your holiday, not to organise you in any way. If you would like a representative close to hand, choose one of these locations.

In Athens and in areas/islands where we have smaller numbers, we use the services of local agents. Otherwise, hotels are well used to supplying useful local information. Wherever you are our agent or representative can always be contacted by telephone.

It is essential that any difficulties you experience are reported to our representative or nearest local agent at the time of occurrence so that we are given the opportunity to resolve things locally.

Local Transportation

Information stated in the brochure regarding the frequency, timetable or operation of local transportation, including public buses, water taxis and ferry schedules, is based on information from the previous year and subject to change or even withdrawal of the service.

Maps and Resort Guides

Please note that maps in this brochure are for guidance only and not to scale. Should you require more detailed information please contact us.

Mobile Telephones

Greece has generally good network coverage and in most of our resort areas you should be able to get a signal if you are using a Roaming

facility. It is worth noting that when calling a Greek number it is better to dial the country code (+30) as well as the local number, even from within Greece.

Noise, Villages and Rural Locations

Greek villages can be just as noisy as towns – a dog barking or cockerel crowing through the night can disturb as much as passing traffic. Mopeds and motorcycles never seem to have silencers. Village life starts early and finishes late – the quietest time is usually siesta between 2 pm and 5 pm. Noise is particularly bad even in 'quiet' areas during the peak weeks from mid-July to end-August, reaching its height over the major holiday weekend of 15th August. High season nightclubbing spring up in even the smallest places; tavernas and bars play music late into the night; and traffic is heavy everywhere.

During this period there is nowhere in Greece we would guarantee peace and quiet! Centrally located properties, particularly those close to a harbour or waterfront, will inevitably have a higher noise ratio – even if it's just people strolling at night or sitting in cafés. If you are particularly noise-sensitive we recommend you try to avoid the peak season and properties on or near a road, taverna or harbour. Please ask our advice – it may be better that you are a little further from the beach or slightly up a hill. Please note that when we say 'quiet' in a description it means that there is normally little or no traffic noise, and no club or noisy taverna near enough to disturb. It does not mean that you will not hear the natural sounds of the country e.g. roosters, dogs etc.

Much of our accommodation is in a rural location so a visit from the native wildlife (most commonly ants, lizards, fieldmice and rats) should not come as a surprise. If any of your party are squeamish about such things, please check with us as to the suitability of your accommodation before you book. Wherever you go, we recommend you take a torch as roads are often unmade, pavements (if any) uneven and street lighting poor or non-existent.

Passports, Currency, Pregnancy and Health

The following information for UK visitors to Greece was correct at the time of going to press. It is advisable to check before departure as to whether any changes have taken place.

Passports and Visas. A full UK or EC Passport is needed for Greece. Visas are not required for EC citizens. All children (including babies) do need to hold their own passport. Non-EC nationals should inform us when booking and check with the Greek Consulate (tel. 020 7313 5600) as to whether a visa is required. If a visa is required for return entry into the UK, this is your responsibility. See website www.greekembassy.org.uk for further information.

Health and EHIC. No inoculations or vaccinations are necessary for British Passport holders at the time of printing, but for the latest government health advice please see the National Travel Health Network and Centre website www.nathnac.org. All EU citizens should have a free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) in addition to travel insurance – to apply please go to www.ehic.org.uk. Should you be on medication take adequate supplies with you and carry them in hand luggage only. All our islands and resort areas have doctors and chemists.

Currency. Traveller's Cheques are now expensive to change so, unless you are staying in a resort which has ATMs, we recommend most spending money is taken in the form of cash (Euros) with Euro Traveller's Cheques as a back-up. Credit cards are still not widely accepted away from the major centres in Greece and should not be relied on as your main form of holiday money, nor are ATM hole-in-the-wall machines always found away from the larger towns/resort areas (information on these will be sent with your tickets). For competitive rates and commission-free currency delivered to your door, please see www.currency-express.com/sunvil.

Pregnancy. If you are more than 28 weeks pregnant on the date of return travel most airlines require a medical certificate of fitness to fly. If you are more than 32 weeks pregnant you will not normally be allowed to travel.

Diving. Do not fly within 24 hours of diving.

Payment & Ticket Despatch

The balance of your holiday cost is due 8 weeks before departure and you can pay online via our secure website. We accept Mastercard and Visa (n.b. a charge is made for credit card payment) as well as debit cards and cheques. Please note, we do not send reminders. Should you require a receipt please enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your payment. **Tickets are sent about 10 days before departure. On receipt please check all documents carefully and advise us of any discrepancy or error as soon as possible.**

Photography

The photographs in this brochure have been taken to show a property or resort area to its best advantage. Wide angle lenses are used for most room interiors, building exteriors and some beach/scenic shots. Most are taken off-peak so in high season the beaches will generally be busier than shown. When an interior or a view is shown, this is an indication only as not all rooms or views may be the same. Interior fixtures, fittings and furnishings may also vary from room to room, or the owner may have decided to change a certain piece of furniture or décor since the picture was taken. Exterior shots can also change. As we cannot re-photograph all properties, views etc. every year, inevitably trees, bushes and shrubs can appear where previously there were none, or it was only a baby not shown in the photograph. Greenery can grow fast in Greece and this can affect views etc., even with cutting back.

Privacy

Where it is stated that a room, apartment or house has a private balcony, terrace, patio or garden, it means that the facility is exclusively for the use of those staying in that particular unit of accommodation. It does not necessarily mean that you cannot be seen from the road or a neighbouring balcony, building etc.

Safety Standards and Regulations

The safety standards and regulations in operation overseas are those of the country in question and may not reach the same levels as those we enjoy in the UK. The monitoring, enforcement and compliance with these local regulations is a matter for the authorities of that country and the foreign supplier of the services concerned. The general standard of safety is lower than in the UK. Liability insurance requirements vary considerably from country to country, as does the responsibility placed on an organisation by local law. Please therefore take all precautions to protect yourself and your family whilst on holiday. In particular, you should familiarise yourself with hotel fire escape routes and always be aware of hidden dangers involving swimming pools, balconies and hotel lifts, especially if travelling with children. Should you notice anything which causes concern, please point it out to our representative.

Satellite Television

Where it is stated that satellite television is available please do not expect Sky. Greek satellite tv normally includes some English-speaking channels (usually CNN, Eurosport and sometimes BBC World and a film channel). Normal terrestrial Greek television often shows English-language films (in English) and covers major sporting events such as the World Cup.

Scooter, Moped and Bicycle Hire

Scooters & mopeds are available at most of our resorts. However, due to the poor roads and erratic driving habits the accident level is very high. We strongly recommend you rent a car instead. Bicycle hire is a healthy and fun way to explore. However even the experienced should take extra care with Greek drivers and roads – cars always take priority, roads are potholed and often turn into dirt tracks, and neither are up to the standards of the UK.

Self Catering

All our self catering accommodation is licensed by the relevant authorities and the degree of comfort is as per the individual descriptions.

Studios. One open-plan room with beds for two adults and sometimes a child, kitchenette area (occasionally separate), shower room with wc, and balcony or patio.

Apartments. Two rooms or more. One of these rooms is often a living/dining room separate from the bedroom(s), although you can get two bedrooms with a small kitchen (see individual accommodation descriptions). Kitchenette likely to be in the open-plan living room (occasionally separate). One, sometimes two, convertible beds in the living room for families. Where an apartment (as opposed to the living room) is described as 'open-plan' this usually means there is no door between bedroom and living room, although there is often a separation (i.e. archway or corridor).

Cooking facilities. cooking rings, sink and fridge (often all-in-one unit) for breakfasts, snacks or light meals but not intended for full meals. Work surfaces and utensils are limited although most of our accommodation does now possess electric kettle and toaster.

Cleaning and linen. Unless you are staying in an apart-hotel, please do not expect hotel-style service e.g. daily maid service. Frequency of cleaning varies from area to area but the 'norm' is twice weekly, with a once-weekly linen and towel change. Between cleans you are expected to empty any bins yourself, and bin-bags are provided for this purpose – please put them in the nearest municipal rubbish bin. Please note, Greek towels are small, and beach towels are not provided.

Local charges. Facilities charged locally such as air conditioning and safety deposit boxes should be paid in cash.

Please note: the term 'villa' is often used to mean a small unit of studios and apartments. For insurance reasons only those persons named on the booking form are allowed to stay in the accommodation without our prior consent.

Smoking

Like nearly every other EU country, Greece has a smoking ban in public places – officially! Those who know the Greeks, however, will not be surprised to read that its interpretation is rather liberal, and can vary from place to place.

Special Requests

Unless a supplement is charged, special requests cannot be guaranteed as room allocation is made locally – normally it is 'first come, first served'. If you request a double bed you may well find you get two singles pushed together. Special requests should be noted on the booking form. Airline seat requests can only be made at the airport unless for a valid medical reason.

Swimming Pools

It is common practice in Greece for hotels and the larger apartment units to allow use of their facilities, including the swimming pool, to non-residents (sometimes at a charge). Where we say the pool is for guests' use only, this does not preclude friends/relatives of the owner. Pool rules vary but should be observed – these may restrict pool hours (especially during afternoon siesta time) or diving, specify a 'quiet time' during the afternoon etc. Swimming is not normally permitted at night. Pool bars will inevitably play music that is not to everybody's taste, although we always ask the owners to control the volume. Swimming pools are rarely supervised, so children should always be accompanied. Swimming pools may occasionally be withdrawn from operation for a short period for maintenance reasons.

Where it is indicated that a property has 'use of pool' this is based on information from the previous year and not guaranteed. Unless otherwise stated a small charge may be payable. If there is no entrance charge you are expected to purchase drinks or food from the bar or restaurant. These pools are not under our direct control and may not be open early or late season. If a swimming pool is essential to your holiday please book a property which has its own pool on-site.

Transfers and Luggage

Approximate transfer durations are given on the resort pages. These do not include any waiting time for other arriving passengers, ferry/hydrofoil departures, accommodation

drop-offs etc. Taxis are licensed for 4 adult passengers so taxi transfers are likely to be shared. Parties may occasionally be split, unless a supplement is paid. A private taxi transfer can be booked on request – please ask for a quote. Boot space for luggage in taxis is limited and it is normal practice for luggage to be secured with elasticated straps if the boot cannot fully close. Taxis do not have child seats – should this be a concern please bring your own or book a car from the airport with a child seat. We reserve the right to substitute alternative forms of transportation to those mentioned (e.g. ferry for hydrofoil) should local circumstances dictate this. Porterage is not generally provided as the distances are not great (please note that, for insurance reasons, our local representatives are not permitted to carry clients luggage). For transfers involving sea crossings you do have to carry your baggage on and off the boat yourself so bear this in mind when packing! It is your responsibility to ensure that your luggage is safely on the coach/ferry/taxi before it leaves. We cannot guarantee to transport large or bulky items eg. windsurfers, bicycles etc., for which you may need to rent a car with roofrack or a private taxi transfer. In some areas luggage storage may be available, but this is at your own risk. Some transfers are shared with our sister company GIC (Greek Islands Club).

Travel Insurance

It is essential that you are adequately insured. **Our insurance is tailored specifically for our holidays** – please see page 172 for details. We cannot be responsible for any claim, item or events, which would normally be covered by our insurance (if taken).

Vacation of Rooms and Night Flights

In accordance with international practice, hotel rooms should be vacated by midday on the last day of your holiday. You may be able to extend this locally for a charge. Self catering accommodation should be vacated by 10.00am. However, luggage storage and bathroom facilities will usually be made available. In the case of night flights, if you are arriving at your accommodation early morning your room is booked from the previous day to ensure immediate access when you arrive. Very early morning departures from a hotel will probably miss breakfast and no refund can be given in this case. However, it is worth asking the hotel if they could leave anything out for you e.g. a thermos of coffee, biscuits, or even a kettle, cups and some Nescafe.

Walking Difficulties

Greece is a hilly country. Due to the nature of our programme, we regret that we consider only a few holidays in this brochure as suitable for those with severe walking difficulties. Many roads are unmade and have no pavement, accommodation is often built on rising ground, and buildings in general are not designed with the disabled in mind. Most buildings are slightly raised and have some steps even to rooms described as "ground floor". If in doubt please check with us.

Further advice can be had from the HOLIDAY CARE SERVICE (01293 774535).

Your Holiday Price

Includes – flights, accommodation, car hire (if included in the brochure holiday) and transfers as detailed; services of our nearest local agent or representative; all airport taxes/security charges, UK Air Passenger Duty (taxes and APD currently total c.£40) and VAT known at the time of printing.

Does not include – travel insurance; accommodation or flight supplements as stated in the brochure; surcharges, if any (see Booking Conditions section 6); hotel facilities payable locally.

Note: when persons are travelling completely on their own there will be a transfer supplement if transfers are by taxi.

A 2% charge is made for payment by credit card to cover the processing costs incurred. This charge may increase should the credit card companies increase their charges to us and will be quoted at the time of booking.

About Sunvil

2012 sees our 42nd birthday. Originally, we sold villas and apartments in Cyprus – but, in 1973, we decided to organise self-catering holidays, giving our property owners an income. Well ahead of our time, Sunvil created the self-catering villa market in Cyprus.

Sunvil's first Greece brochure was published in 1975, followed by Italy in 1979 and Portugal in 1984. All the programmes had a common thread - avoidance of the more touristic areas, accommodation of character and a philosophy of 'non-packaged' holidays to some of Europe's most both beautiful destinations.

The Atlantic archipelago of the Azores was added in 1990; and long-haul holidays followed in 1992 with Namibia and, in 1995, with Costa Rica. These programmes have expanded significantly and now comprehensively cover Southern Africa and Latin America.

Greek Islands Club (now The Villa Collection) became part of the family in 1998, making Sunvil the leading specialist operator to Greece and her islands. Sweden and Norway followed (2008) – and, in 2010, the Faroe Islands.

Sunvil has pioneered many specialist destinations in its 40-year history. The original directors still play an active part in the day-to-day running of the company and we are all proud that repeat and recommended holidaymakers make up 70%

of our customers – due testament, we hope, to our expertise and dedication to quality.

Everyone in the team visits our destinations many times: we know them and our properties extremely well.

Unusually, in this web-based travel age, we take full responsibility for our holidays, too, and give 100% financial protection as we are fully ATOL-bonded, putting us in the very top echelon of companies that you can really trust to look after your holiday plans.

Sunvil is proud, over 40 years, to have gained many accolades and awards, both from the travel industry itself and from the national press and leading consumer publications such as Holiday Which? and Wanderlust magazine. We've also been at the forefront of environmental initiatives and good practice over 25 years.

Few companies have survived intact and independent for 40 years in this most competitive of industries. Here at Sunvil we hope for many more years of innovation to come, allied with our traditional high levels of customer care, despite the current challenging economic situation.

Do visit www.sunvil.co.uk for our latest news, podcasts and blogs, and call our team to discuss your holiday wish-list or request a tailor-made quote. We look forward to serving you in 2012 and beyond, and we thank our many loyal customers for their continued and much-appreciated custom.



The Genevieve

A unique vessel for your River Thames Charter Cruise

Genevieve is a 40 foot beaver stern saloon launch, built by Taylor and Bates of Chertsey in 1914. Her hull planking is African mahogany and all topside and interior fittings are in teak. Back then, her selling price was £1,150!

In 1998, she was found rotting away on a canal in Lancashire and Peter Freebody, owner of one of the foremost UK boatyards for renovating classic boats, was immediately taken in by her shape and decided she must be saved for future generations to enjoy. The extensive, painstaking renovation requested by Sunvil finished in May 2010. The launch is unique and very rare.

The saloon has bevelled windows and opening lights with port and starboard seating. She also has a spacious, canopied, forward cockpit with additional seating. There is an another small cockpit aft, with further seating. Genevieve is powered by a six cylinder Sea Prince petrol engine, smartly sited under a teak and glass engine case. In chilly weather, the engine supplies heat to the saloon and cockpit.

Genevieve is available for private charter April to October and hire charges are from £200 per hour. She can host up to 10 persons. Catering can be supplied.

For further details see www.vintagethamescharters.com