

# Kythira

Kythira lies just off the south eastern part of the mainland Peloponnese and is almost a fantasy Greek island. It is hard to think of another that offers so much and yet has such low key foreign tourism. It reminds us of Greece before it got so popular, when accommodation and flights were still limited and the resorts only busy in August.

For this you have to thank the hard-to-reach location off the main ferry routes and the fact that the airport is too small to take large aircraft. But, thanks to improved flight schedules from Athens - from one to two small planes a day - it is now possible to reach Kythira without having to overnight.

Kythira is the 17th Greek island in terms of size (280 sq km), about the same as Kos but with a fraction of the population (c 3500) and numbers of summer visitors. It offers a varied topography hiding many villages and over 30 beaches, and enough history and interest to satisfy the most avid explorer.

Traditionally listed as belonging to the Ionian group of islands, geographically Kythira is closer to the Aegean. This is reflected in the Cycladic style of architecture - flat-roofed whitewashed houses, blue-



Kaladi beach near Avlemonas

domed churches and a traditional fortified Hora (capital town) high above the sea for protection against pirate attack.

The island's strategic location at a crossroads between Crete and the mainland has meant a trading past and plenty of conquerors. Its history dates back to pre-Classical times and more recently includes Roman, Byzantine, Venetian, Ottoman and British rulers.

The most well known resort area is **Kapsali** in the south. You will understand why if you go. The village is built back behind a pair of horseshoe-shaped bays - the main one of which has an excellent sandy beach - overlooked by the picture postcard whitewashed village of Hora and its Venetian castle high on the hillside above.

Kapsali's beach is backed by an array of taverna restaurants, cafes and small shops and is of course busy in high season. Motor boats can be hired, there is a dive school and some seasonal excursions run by boat, including to the rocky islet of Hytra which has a fantastic sea cave where you can swim in translucent water. The area is also good for walking.

**Agia Pelagia** in the north east spreads around a couple of sand-shingle bays and has a very laid back Greek holiday feel. It is known for the quality of its tavernas - there are five, plus the usual cafes and shops - and the main beach is organised in parts. A high season boat trip runs (subject to weather, it can be windy here) to



the islet of Elafonissi close to the Peloponnese, which boasts Caribbean-like white sand beaches.

Tiny **Avlemonas**, halfway down the east coast, is charming and picturesque. It is known for its natural swimming pool - a fjord-like rocky inlet which has the clearest of water. The village has made this a centrepiece, with landscaped gardens, paths and seating leading down to it. Ladders lead into the sea, which is very sheltered and therefore a popular swimming spot when the wind blows.

The village has four tavernas, a pair of cafes and a mini-market. A 10-12 minute walk south (1 km) is the well-liked long sandy beach of Paleopolis. Avlemonas is really a very sweet little spot, ideal for total relaxation in a small village atmosphere.

Kythira's interior hides a gently rural landscape and over 50 traditional villages. There are monasteries, hundreds of small churches, ruined castles and villages, springs, waterfalls and caves with stalagmites to discover, not to mention some fabulous beaches such as striking Kaladi or the white sands of Diakofti. There is a good value island coach excursion but, to make the most of Kythira, car hire is recommended as the bus service is limited.

## KYTHIRA INFORMATION

### Getting to Kythira

Flights to Athens from Bristol, Edinburgh, Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton, Manchester, Stansted. Then onward domestic flight to Kythira (50 mins) and transfer to accommodation (20-40 mins.). On return the reverse applies. Most flights should connect same day through Athens - however if not then an overnight hotel will be booked in Athens with transfers.

### Multi-Centre Options

Many options tailor-made via Athens. Alternatively ferries connect Kythira with the SE Peloponnese (Neapolis port) in 75 mins. but you will need to take a hire car over (extra ferry and mainland insurance payable locally, see car hire panel P268/9) and overnight. Cars can be dropped at Athens and Kalamata airports for a one way hire supplement. For a short side trip from Kythira we recommend stunning Monemvasia only an hour's drive from

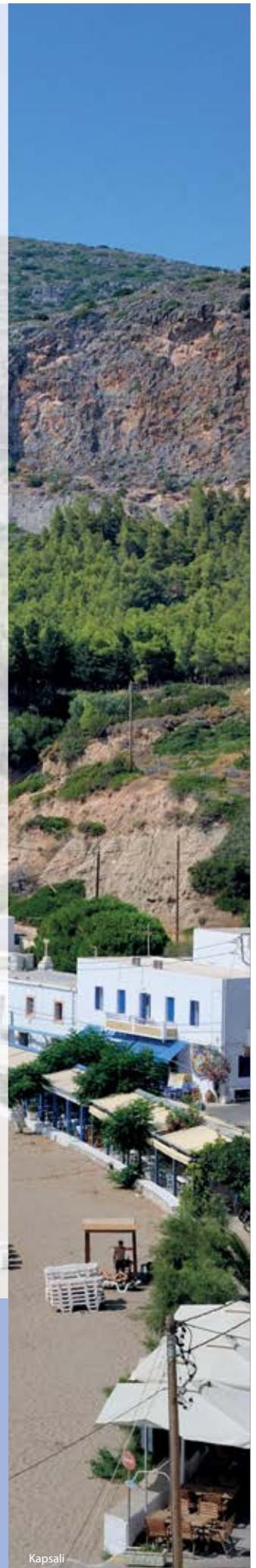
Neapolis, where we have a range of hotels you can pre-book, from small pensions within the castle walls to the wonderful 5 star Kinsteria (see P147).

### Car & Motorboat Hire

Can be pre-booked and delivery is free - see pages 268/9 for details.

### Representative

We have representation on Kythira c/o our local agent and you will be visited at your accommodation shortly after arrival and before departure.



Kapsali

## Porto Delfino Hotel Kapsali

The Porto Delfino is on the hillside behind Kapsali and enjoys super views over the second bay to the open sea and the rocky egg-shaped islet of Hytra (not Hydra!). It is a 10-15 minute walk down the hill to the seafront and beach.

The hotel's 24 rooms are housed in three separate 2-storey buildings. All possess twin or double bed, AC, TV, fridge, bath and/or shower and hairdryer - there is a safe in reception for valuables. Balcony doors and windows have insect screens. Superior rooms have a small second room with sofa-bed. All rooms are south facing and enjoy divine views from their good-sized balcony terraces. Furnishings



are simple and traditional (dark wood).

The main building has a lounge and a large sea facing terrace where breakfast is taken or a drink/snack from the bar. In the evenings the hotel will provide dinner with a little notice.

The infinity pool below is of filtered seawater, has steps in and measures c 100 sq m (depth 0.80m-1.40m) - it has an adjacent pool bar in high season.

The hotel is happy to provide advice on the good walking opportunities from here - from 30 mins. up to the monastery on the cliff behind to 4-5 hours - and can provide picnic lunches and a walking guide. Yoga and massage treatments are also on offer.

We have read very good reports of the excellent, friendly service here.

The Hotel: 3 Stars  
Bed & Breakfast  
Swimming Pool  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi  
(public areas)



## El Sol Studios Kapsali

Below Chora and the castle, the El Sol studios are on the hillside a short walk from Kapsali. There are 10 bungalow rooms here, set in lush gardens.

The studios are twin or double bedded and all possess AC, WiFi, a basic 2-ring kitchenette area with fridge, a shower room, hairdryer and room safe. Furnishings and decor are traditional in style, with iron beds, wooden ceilings and floors.

The studios are all upper ground floor reached by a few steps up from the garden, and boast terrific views over Kapsali Bay from their

front terraces. Privacy is good and there are common seating areas also in the gardens.

It is 300m to the start of Kapsali beach via a small road - a five minute walk but please note that 200m is quite steep - and a further couple of minutes to the restaurants.

The Studios: Self Catering  
Studios for 2  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



View over Kapsali from Hora

## Kythea Resort Agia Pelagia

This is one of the best hotels on the island. Standing on a bluff above Agia Pelagia, Kythea Resort offers good levels of comfort, facilities and fine views.

The hotel's 37 rooms are housed on 5 floors, served by a lift. All are spacious, with double or twin beds (some family rooms available), bath and/or shower and a large front balcony terrace from which to enjoy the panoramic views over the village, sea and coastline south. Room amenities include AC, WiFi, room safe, TV, hairdryer and the hotel offers a laundry service.

Hotel facilities include lounge, lobby bar, and a poolside a la carte restaurant for lunch and dinner.

The swimming pool measures 15m x 6m (depth 1m-4m) and has steps in. The adjacent pool bar serves drinks and snacks.

You can walk to Agia Pelagia's beaches and good selection of taverna restaurants within 10 minutes.

The Resort: 4 Stars  
Bed & Breakfast  
Swimming Pool  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



Agia Pelagia



## Filoxenia Hotel Agia Pelagia

Quietly located towards the southern end of Agia Pelagia, the Filoxenia is within easy reach (3-4 minutes' flat walk) of the centre of the village and the main beach.

The hotel has 27 rooms housed in two buildings with a pretty courtyard garden between them.

Our favoured rooms are the Junior Suites, spacious at 30-40 sq m. Although open plan they have a glass 'wall' separating the bedroom area with a living room space. They have king size or twin beds, a sofa bed in the living area (an extra folding bed can also be placed here for a child), a good-sized shower room, and balcony with garden,

mountain, sea or side sea views. Decor and furnishing is in the attractive minimalist modern Greek style.

Other room types include studios (some disabled-adapted), sea view suites, family suites and maisonettes.

Amenities in all rooms include AC, TV, fridge, room safe, hairdryer and insect-screened patio doors and windows. Tea-making facilities can be provided on request. Please note rooms are on three floors and there is no lift.

The hotel has a large freshwater pool (depth 1.30m-2.85m) with adjacent pool bar serving drinks and snacks.

Family run and friendly, the Filoxenia makes a quiet comfortable base in a very convenient location.



Agia Pelagia

The Hotel: 3 Stars  
Bed & Breakfast  
Swimming Pool  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi  
(public areas)

## Castri Village Agia Pelagia

This wonderful accommodation combines all the benefits of a good small boutique hotel with the freedom of a spacious fully equipped apartment. The service, attention to detail and quality you will find here is rare.

There are just four maisonette-style apartments here (not counting the owners!). Each comprises an air conditioned ground floor living room with full kitchen corner, dining area, comfy sofas (can be extra beds), TV and guest wc. The high-ceilinged double bedroom (also with AC and TV) with en suite shower room is upstairs. Bathroom amenities are provided, as is a room safe and hairdryer. Each floor has a patio terrace or balcony with sea view. Furnishings and decor are lovely.

A rich and delicious a la carte breakfast is individually prepared for guests each day and served to the room. Dinners also, if requested in advance.

The pool below is 8m x 4m with decking and sun beds - pool towels provided.

It is only 200m down the hill to the centre of the village and beach - however, be warned it is a stiff walk back up!

We cannot stress enough the high level of personal service Christina and Konstantinos provide to their guests.

**Air Conditioning:** available at a local charge of €5 per day.

**Early Booking Offer**  
Reductions apply for bookings made before 10/2.

**The Apartments:** Boutique Apartments  
Bed & Breakfast  
Swimming Pool  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



Agia Pelagia



## Anemes Hotel Apartments Avlemonas

Quietly situated at the southern end of this very pretty little village, the Anemes is an easy 5 minute walk from the centre and less than 10 minutes from long Paleopolis beach in the other direction.

The hotel has just 12 rooms in two buildings with gardens to the front. All rooms are double bedded with AC, WiFi, TV, basic 2-ring kitchen facilities with fridge, shower room, hairdryer and room safe. Each has a generous front terrace with sea views over the gardens. Standard studios are ground or first (top) floor are 25 sq m and have a traditional

air with stone floors and dark wood furniture; the Superiors on the first floor are even larger (35 sq m) and have a modern minimalist decor.

Furnishings are of good quality and decor light and fresh.

A well reviewed buffet breakfast containing home made treats and local delicacies is laid out every day, a reflection of the care and attention the personable owners, Mema and Pashalis, pay to their hotel and guests.



Avlemonas

**Early Booking Offer**  
Reductions apply for bookings made before 31/1.

**The Apartments:** Bed & Breakfast  
Studios and Suites for 2  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi  
No children under XX

## Maryianni Apartments Avlemonas

These beautiful all-suite apartments occupy a central location just a minute's walk from the village centre and the natural 'swimming pool' here, reached by steps and a path. Paleopolis beach is 1 km - a 12 minute walk.

There are just 7 very spacious apartments here (most are 47 sq m), very well furnished and equipped. Each has an air conditioned

bedroom with queen-sized bed, a separate living room with full kitchen and a sofa bed, a very nice shower room and a large furnished terrace. Ground floor rooms overlook the garden, most of those on the first (top) floor have some sea views. All units have WiFi, a hairdryer and a room safe. Furnishings and decor are traditional throughout.

These are high quality, roomy apartments in a prime location. The helpful owner, Captain Manos (ex-airline pilot, not fisherman!), cannot do enough for his guests.



Avlemonas

The Apartments: Self Catering Suites for 2/4  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



## Avlemonas Bay Studios Avlemonas

This is a charming small accommodation of 7 beautifully furnished studios 100m from the centre and 900m from the large beach of Paleopolis.

Our studios are on the top floor. They are double bedded and possess a small kitchen area (2-rings, fridge), shower room and good-sized balcony with good sea views. Amenities include AC, WiFi, insect-

screened balcony doors and windows, TV, hairdryer and room safe.

The studios are spacious with good quality furnishings and fresh, light and tasteful decor. Cleaning is daily.

Very sweet accommodation, and very well priced given the high modern standards, views and central location.



Early Booking Offer  
Reductions apply for bookings made before 31/1.

The Studios: Self Catering Studios for 2  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi

KYTHIRA		Guide prices per person in £s departing during									
ACCOMMODATION	PERSONS BASIS	Low Season (May - end Jun & mid Sep - Oct)				High Season (early Jul - early Sep)					
		From		To		From		To			
		1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wk		
Anemes Hotel	Studio Ground Floor	2	BB	832	1018	REQ	REQ	REQ	REQ	1122	1447
	Studio First Floor	2	BB	852	1058	REQ	REQ	REQ	REQ	1142	1487
	Deluxe Junior Suite	2	BB	908	1170	REQ	REQ	REQ	REQ	1289	1781
	Luxury Studio	2	BB	908	1170	REQ	REQ	REQ	REQ	1289	1781
	Premium Panorama	2	BB	908	1170	REQ	REQ	REQ	REQ	1289	1781
Premium Studio	2	BB	872	1098	REQ	REQ	REQ	REQ	1162	1526	
Avlemonas Bay	Studio	2	RO	860	1074	1012	1266	1030	1440	1234	1670
Cagri Village	Maisonette	2	BB	1004	1360	REQ	REQ	REQ	REQ	1380	1964
		3	BB	940	1234	REQ	REQ	REQ	REQ	1242	1686
		4	BB	908	1170	REQ	REQ	REQ	REQ	1172	1546
El Sol	Studio	2	RO	852	1058	962	1255	1069	1362	1090	1384
Filoxenia	Junior Suite	2	BB	980	1313	1165	1689	1300	1824	1321	1845
	Junior Suite Sea View	2	BB	1056	1464	1240	1840	1376	1975	1396	1996
Kythia Resort	Superior Room	2	BB	900	1154	1133	1614	1256	1736	1396	1996
	Family Room	2	BB	1004	1360	1224	1816	1368	1959	1536	2274
		3	BB	961	1276	1159	1676	1292	1808	1443	2089
		4	BB	912	1178	1088	1523	1210	1645	1348	1900

ACCOMMODATION		PERSONS BASIS	Low Season (May - end Jun & mid Sep - Oct)				High Season (early Jul - early Sep)				
			From		To		From		To		
			1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wk	
Maryianni	Suite	2	RO	952	1258	1128	1592	1240	1704	1261	1726
		3	RO	818	990	961	1246	1061	1347	1082	1368
Porto Delfino	Standard Room	2	BB	924	1202	1094	1531	1212	1649	1234	1670

Prices shown are indicative only and variable due to offers, changing flight prices and seasonal supplements. Please call or check online for a confirmed costing (note: not all holidays can be checked online). Prices based on Gatwick flights as sourced from Easyjet in November 2018 and are likely to increase as time passes. Prices include transfers or car hire (see text); accommodation as described; and all airport/fuel charges & taxes known at the time of printing - for our surcharge policy see booking conditions at the back of this brochure. To add: regional price supplements, room and board supplements (see text) - single room prices on request. Not all our accommodation is suitable for guests with reduced mobility. Please contact us to answer any questions you may have regarding our properties and to advise their suitability for people with health conditions or impairments.

**Not included: Overnight Stay Tax of €0.50 to €4 per room, apartment or villa per night payable locally - the amount varies according to the category of the accommodation (i.e. most self catering and 1-2 star hotels = €0.50, 5 star hotels = €4).**