



THE MIRACULOUS MAGNESIA AND THE SPORADES ARCHIPELAGO



A trip to the heart of Greece that combines culture, nature,
mesmerizing waters, idyllic sceneries and authentic experiences



Tolly Roger
SAILING

15 Reasons

to Choose Magnesia and Sporades as a Sailing Destination

Volos, the main sailing base of central Greece, the Magnesia peninsula, and the Sporades Islands, nestled in the heart of the Aegean Sea, offer an unparalleled visiting and sailing experience that captivates sailing enthusiasts from around the globe. Here are the **key advantages** that make

Volos an excellent starting base and the Sporades the perfect destination for sailors.

⚓ Advantages of choosing Volos as the starting Base ⚓

1 Easy access to the Base

With only half an hour from the **airport of Nea Anchialos** (VOL) and an hour and a half from the major **airport of Thessaloniki** (SKG), which connects daily with all major European cities, Volos is easily accessible. The transfer (taxi or mini van) drops the clients off right in front of the boat. No luggage hassles.

2 Easy provisioning at the Base

Near the mooring location of the boat - in less than seven minutes walk - there are major supermarkets to get the provisions for the sailing week. Upon agreement with Jolly Roger Sailing, the supermarkets will deliver the provisions to the boat **free of charge**.

3 First sailing destinations close to the Base

Excellent sailing destinations lie at the edge of the Magnesia peninsula, reachable within three hours of sailing from Volos. **Agia Kyriaki**, a small fishing village and a popular destination among the locals for its fish taverns. **Kottes**, another small fishing village with a cosy harbour, and **Trikeri Island** all provide mooring spots or anchoring sites to spend a quiet evening. In case of an early check-in, beautiful destinations in **North Euboea**, such as **Orei**, are also reachable.

4 Convenience in refuelling

After returning to the Base, fuel refilling is done very conveniently after the boat has returned to her mooring spot and the check-out has been completed. A fuel vehicle will come to the boat, so, there will be no wasted time waiting in line to refill before returning to the mooring place.



SIGHT SEEING AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES WHILE IN VOLOS

Port of Volos

An excellent place to spend an evening

The port of Volos, with its wide range of leisure activities, is an ideal place to spend a day. It is a charming city with vibrant day and night life and numerous cafes, taverns, and bars along the waterfront as well as in the city centre. An overnight stay there can be a rewarding experience. What's more, there are many artisan shops, boutiques, and markets for those looking for souvenirs or gifts to take home.



Mount Pelion

*picturesque villages,
mesmerizing view of the Pagasetic Gulf*

The verdant Mount Pelion, on whose foothill lies Volos, was the home of the mythological centaurs, who mentored many legendary heroes such as Hercules and Theseus. In less than a 20-minute drive from Volos, one can reach the first villages known for their unique architecture. Traditional taverns offer local dishes, quite popular among Greeks, which can be enjoyed while marvelling at the captivating view of the Pagasetic Gulf.



Antiquities/mythological sites to visit

enrich the visiting experience

Surrounded by numerous ancient cities and mythological sites, Volos provides the opportunity for a quick visit to antiquities and mythological places such as the **ancient Iolkos** from where Jason and the Argonauts set sail in pursuit of the golden fleece. An exact replicate of the ARGO - the Argonauts' boat - is exhibited at the port of Volos.



Coastal fishing villages by the seashore

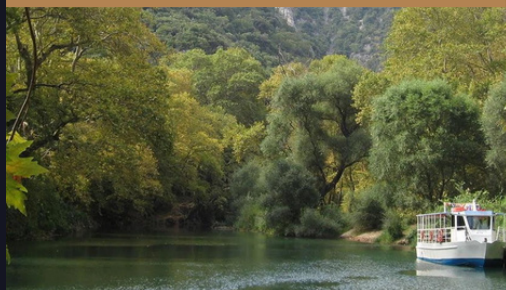
Within the Pagasetic Gulf, along the coastline and in a few minutes' drive from Volos, there are numerous fishing villages to visit and relax having a coffee or a drink, or enjoy a delicious meal in a local tavern by the seaside. An excellent idea for a Friday evening after check-in or for a whole day if the vacation planning includes an extra day. The beautiful beaches near these villages are also very **popular swimming destinations**.



Must see places near Volos

9 About a two-hour drive from the Base lies **Meteora**, one of nature's wonders, included by **UNESCO** in the World cultural heritage list. A visit to Meteora would be an excellent idea if the flight departs late on Saturday afternoon, and even more convenient if the flight departs from SKG airport. A detour to Meteora guarantees beyond any doubt the experience of a lifetime.

Alternatively, on the way to SKG airport, make a quick stop at the Agia Paraskevi monastery which lies at the foot of **Tempi valley**, a geological formation created when Mount Olympus was split by tectonic forces millions of years ago. Nowadays, in the gorge formed by the split lies a verdant valley with the river Peneus running through it. The monastery is built by the riverside, and the surrounding facilities provide the opportunity for a relaxing coffee, drink or meal in idyllic scenery.



SPORADES, THE IDEAL SAILING DESTINATION

Embark on a sailing journey through the Sporades, where nature, culture, and adventure merge to create memories that will last a lifetime!

Ideal sailing conditions

10 The Sporades enjoy consistent weather patterns, with moderate winds all summer-long, providing perfect conditions for both beginner and experienced sailors. So, whether one seeks adrenaline-packed sailing vacation or a relaxing cruise with family and friends, Sporades vouch for it. From thrilling regattas to tranquil sunset sails, this destination offers something for everyone.



Short distances between major islands

11 The Sporades archipelago consists of four major islands in close proximity to each other, making it ideal for island-hopping. Skiathos and Skopelos, featured in the **Mama Mia** movie, are highlights, with Skiathos ranked among the **top 10 touristic destinations in the world** for 2024. Furthermore, the short time needed to sail from one island to the next, allows for more time to search around each island for the perfect cove or leaves more leisure time to spend on the island.



Crystal-clear waters and scenic routes

12 Sailing through the Sporades means navigating crystal-clear turquoise waters and discovering hidden coves, pristine beaches, and secluded bays. Marvellous destinations such as **Lalaria Beach** in Skiathos and the **Blue Cave** in Alonissos are must-see destinations, which also offer ideal anchoring points and unforgettable swimming spots.



Plethora of destination types

From the cosmopolitan Skiathos to the traditional Skopelos and from the tranquil Alonissos to the picturesque Skyros, the Sporades offer a full range of vacation styles to choose from, with each destination easily reachable within a few hours of sailing. Moreover, the Archipelago is replete with small scattered uninhabited isles that offer ideal anchoring points and unforgettable swimming spots to those who specifically seek a tranquil vacation time spend in a "personal" cove. The generator and water-maker **ARTEMIS** is equipped with, provide the necessary autonomy to live this ultimate experience for as long as it is desired.

Marine life

The National Marine Park of Alonissos

For marine life enthusiasts, the Sporades is the place to be. Sporades abounds with marine life with the dolphins predominating all around the area, quite often being a charming companionship while en route. Furthermore, the island complex north of Alonissos hosts the **Marine Park of Alonissos**, established for the protection and preservation of the last robust population of the mediterranean monk seal ***Monachus monachus***. Visits to the marine park, and on certain places an overnight stay, are allowed and, if very lucky, one may encounter this magnificent and shy animal.

The ancient shipwreck of Peristera

Lastly, a dive to the ancient Peristera shipwreck will boost the the whole sailing and visiting experience in the Sporades. Peristera lies east of Alonissos, inside the borders of the marine park, and a **guided diving tour to the shipwreck** can be arranged with one of the diving centres in Alonissos. The shipwreck dates back to the 5th century BC, and lies in 20m depth. The site was opened to the public in 2000 as the **Alonissos Underwater Museum**.



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