

PARSIFAL
YACHTING

MEGANISI

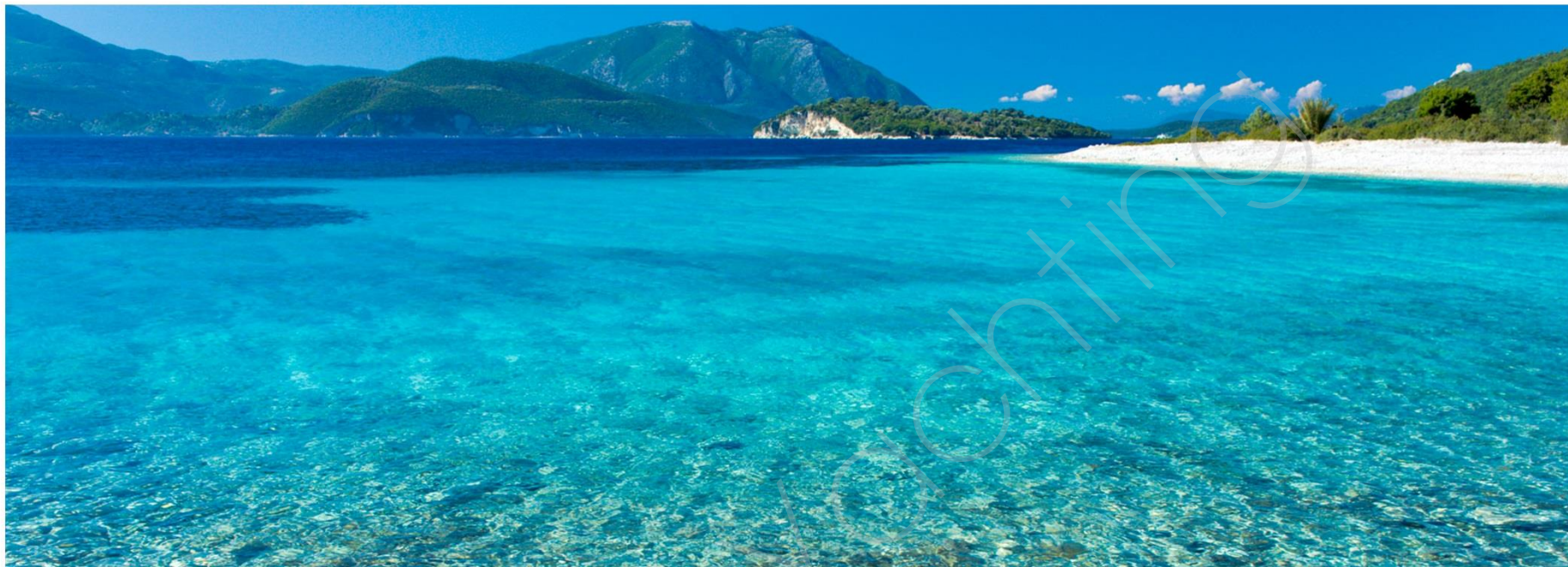
itinerary.



Meganisi island

Meganisi is a picturesque island of the Ionian sea, 4 nautical miles southeast of Lefkada. It is the largest island of a complex (skorpis, Thilia, Kythros and more), composing the administrative district of the Municipality of Meganissi (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 Spartochoiri 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.



Around Meganisi

The island has three villages: the central village of Katomeri and the ports of Vathy and Spartochoiri. There is also a harbour at Atheni Bay used mainly by fishing boats. Meganisi is connected with Lefkada by a car ferry service from Vathy and Spartochoiri.

Aghios Ioannis, Spillia, Pasoumaki, Ambelakia, Atherinos, Faros, Limonari, Elia, Loutrolimni and Bereta are the most well known beaches of the island which along with Papanikolis and Giovani Caves are worthwhile a visit. The visitors can enjoy the breathtaking view to the many islets scattered around Meganisi such as Madouri with the old family house of the greek poet Valaoritis and the islet of Skorpios, still owned by the famous Onassis family.



Historical facts

The first traces of life on the island date back to the Neolithic era. The first name of the island was Taphos from the son of Ippothois, daughter of Leukadiou Lelegas and Poseidon. As Homer writes, Anchialos, a wise man and cordial friend of Odysseus, ruled in Taphos and later his son Mentès (Athena disguised as Mentès and presented to Telemachus) and they were excellent traders being the only ones who were engaged in metal trading and were competent, brave seamen and sailors competing with Phoenicians. Some Latin writers asserted that the ancient island of Capria (the island of Capri in Italy) used to be a colony of Taphians. In general, from the ancient times up to the historical years, the destiny of Meganisi had always been connected with Lefkada. During the 7th century B.C the island became a Corinthian colony (an artificial channel was first constructed by the Corinthians) and followed in all the important events until the Roman conquest in 197 B.C. After the fall of Constantinople (1204) to the French, the island was given to Venetians but soon it was incorporated to the dominion of Hephros. In the year 1294 (until 1479) the island came into the hands of the French and then Meganisi as well as Lefkada fell under Turkish rule until the return of the Venetians in 1684.



Historical facts

In 1797 the islands were passed on to the hands of the French and a year later fell under Russian-Turkish rule. The Eptanesian State was established in 1800 until 1807. The people wanted more democratic rights while Meganisi was always the refuge of rebels, thieves and people chased by the Turks. From 1807 to 1809 Meganisi was conquered by the imperial French only to fall in the hands of British in 1810. During the greek Revolution in 1821, Meganisi fought actively and in an enthusiastic manner featuring one of the most competent leaders of the Revolution, Demos Tselios (Demetrios or Demos Ferentinos) the well known "Ghero Demo", which is the title of a traditional, rebellious song (Spartachori, Meganisi 1785 - Agrinio 1854). Meganisi and Lekada as well as the rest of the Eptanisa were united with Greece on the 21-05-1864 after the end of the British occupation.



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