

## Greece - Cephalonia

Cephalonia, the island of honey and wine lies in the Ionian Sea south of Paxos and Corfu. One of the larger islands of the group, Cephalonia is a scenic island with a rich and turbulent history, having been occupied by the Turks, the Venetians and the French. Its recent history is no less dramatic with the slaughtering of the Italian contingent on the island by the retreating German command in the second world war and the terrible earthquake of 1953, events described in the best seller "Captain Corelli's mandolin".

Despite the devastation caused by the earthquake, which meant that much of the South had to be rebuilt, the North of the island preserves much of its traditional architecture and the island is full of archeological sites. Perhaps the most attractive towns are Assos with its beautiful setting and Fiscardo, a pretty, traditional yet stylish fishing harbour, with great restaurants. The island is wonderful for walkers and there are great beaches on the island including world-famous Mirto beach.

For the explorer Cephalonia offers two museums and many ancient sites of unrivalled beauty. Venetian fortresses and monasteries; Byzantine churches containing their sixteenth century icons; underground Mycenaean tombs dating back to 1200 BC; serene lakes, large caves with stalactites and a host of small fishing villages and secluded coves.

Mount Aenos 1625M. home to golden eagles, hoopoes and kestrels dominates a luxuriant landscape of olive, cypress, orange, lemon, grape, corn and wild lavender. We offer a range of villas and houses at Makris Yalos and in the attractive fishing village of Fiscardo with its pretty harbour surrounded by restaurants.

We can arrange the hire of a small boat and a car.