

Karpathos Island

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Karpathos has beauty and hospitality that is unmatched anywhere else in Greece.

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KARPATHOSISLAND

Karpathos Island at Glance

Region: South Aegean - Dodecanese Complex

Villages:10

Population: 7000

Area: 324.1 km²

Climate: Mediterranean

Summer Sunshine: 13 hours per day

Summer Average Temperature:29 °C

Karpathos Island In General

A Greek Island rich in culture and traditions, is part of a cluster of islands called the Dodecanese in the southeast Aegean Sea. Located halfway between neighbours, the islands of Rhodes and Crete. Karpathos has beauty and hospitality that is unmatched anywhere else in Greece. Despite it's beauty, it's secluded beaches and unspoilt character, Karpathos remains untouched by mass tourism.

a wonderful balance between tourism and tradition

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Uniquely in Greece, the women of Olympos still dress in traditional garb daily, providing a charming, living exhibition of traditional village life that does not exist anymore anywhere else in the country.

This rugged island of Karpathos, celebrated for its wild mountains and gas-blue coves, faintly resembles a woman being buffeted by the wind. Given its generous size and low-density population, as you wander its beaches and explore its mountain villages, it's easy to feel as if you have the place to yourself. The south of the island is popular with adrenaline junkies and is in the spotlight each summer

when it hosts an international kitesurfing competition. Meanwhile, the fierce wind that lifts the spray from the turquoise waves blows its way to the mountainous north, battering pine trees and howling past sugarcube houses. Fiercely traditional, Karpathian women at this end of the island still wear traditional garb, especially in the magical village eyrie of Olymbos, perched on the ridge of a

mountain. Very much an off-the-beaten-track destination, it's only just beginning to draw tourists in search of the real Greece. Traditions have been well kept in Karpathos and especially in Olympos village (600 meters altitude) women still wear their beautiful colourful traditional costumes every day, bake bread in their outdoor ovens.



The island is located about 47 kilometers southwest of Rhodes, in the part of the Mediterranean . It has a land mass of 301 sq. km and a coastline of 160 km. New Airport build in 2007 Flights from schengen and non-schengen with more than foreign 90000 passengers in 2012 Two Main ports on the island one in Pigadia and one in Diafani.

An island of Karpathos is blessed with an abundance of streams,sandy and pebble beaches, pine-tree forests, olive groves, rocky caves (which are actually home to monachus monachus) and excellent mountainous landscapes!

Karpathos comprises 10 villages. In the southeast of the island you can find Pigadia, capital and main port of the island. The capital is surrounded by the villages of Menetes, Arkasa, Aperi, Volada, Othos, and Pyles. In the North one can find Messochori, Spoa and Olymbos the last village in the North of the island, of great folkloric and architectural interest.



Surrounded by the temperamental Aegean Sea...

Explore the magnificent island of Karpathos and relish an unforgettable experience!!!

With its slow relaxed way of life, Karpathos is an unrivalled destination for sun worshippers, naturists and adventure sports enthusiasts. For those seeking to explore this tranquil island there is much to find in the way of "hidden delights". The old island capital of Pigadia, the scattered picturesque whitewashed villages, the inspiring landscape and the uninhabited islet of Saria are but a few of the delights which will make any holiday a truly unique experience to be remembered. Old customs and traditions are very much alive on Karpathos and in several villages

they are incorporated in the daily routine. In the north, the old village of Olymbos, in particular, is a live museum of architecture, ethnology, linguistics and musicology, where time to a large extent seems to have stood still. The wedding ritual here is very significant and celebrations last for 15 days after the wedding ceremony. The villages' authenticity, the warm hospitality, the respect to the traditions and customs, the traditional architecture and decoration of the houses, all hold together the character of this island and the traditions are relived at every occasion and at traditional events.



Centuries old traditions are preserved, from dress to musical instruments to festivals and several of the many windmills are still functional.

There are about 75 windmills presently in Olymbos that were once a major production center for the community for producing flour for bread. Of these, 4 windmills are operational today (view below), which still produce flour from wheat and barley. Of these, 4 windmills are operational today (view below), which still produce flour from wheat and barley.



An Island Paradise with more than 75 beaches...

This little paradise, located between Rhodes and Crete, has the most beautiful beaches you can imagine. Hidden everywhere, even in high season there will be private beach where you will feel like nobody ever has been there before. The beautiful, blue waters unite with the green and lush vegetation and they create the perfect destination for the visitor who wishes

to explore an unspoiled place. . Karpathos has many beautiful beaches for every taste with lovely sea. Most beaches at the east side of the island have pebble and a view to the pine-filled mountains, while the west beaches are usually sandy. There are some small but wonderful beaches on the Saria island, just north of Karpathos, with



boats leaving frequently from Diafani. Finally on Karpathos, in the Afiartis area to the south, there is the annual Windsurf Speed World Championships held. Apella is probably the most famous beach of Karpathos. It won a prize in 2003 as the most beautiful beach in Europe!





world-class surfing beaches, roads with soft hills ideal for cycling, and shimmering, glass-blue water for swimming and snorkelling..

Walkers are particularly enchanted with Karpathos, eager to explore the trails that seem to have unravelled across the island like unruly yarn. The maps shows 155 miles of hiking paths, but there are at least another 155 miles of trails not on the map

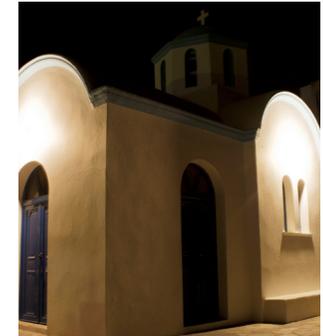




Archaeological finds proved that the island was inhabited since the Neolithic times...

The island prospered during the classic period and it was mentioned by Homer, Virgil, Pliny and Strabo. The Karpathians allied with Sparta during the Peloponnesian War and they were annexed by Rhodes. Then came the Romans, the Byzantines, the Ottomans, the Italians and finally the island was united with Greece along with the rest of the Dodecanese in 1948. Indeed, nowadays, the island hosts many people from many ethnic backgrounds yet it strongly preserves its tradition. The villages near the coast-

line though they stick to tradition they do not conform to it zealously; the mountainous villages, however, are famous for sticking to their tradition religiously. This means that they dress and speak almost in the same way that their ancestors did 200 years ago. And even though the people of Karpathos are a fascinating mix that gives the island its unique character, tradition remains the quality that unites the people and it makes life on the island fascinating.





Karpathos island belong to the NATURA 2000

Carved by sea, wind and waves – conserves a dynamic natural environment inhabited by a diversity of plants, animals and birds. It constitutes migratory centre of migrating birds, while in caves live the Mediterranean seal “monks”. The waters around Karpathos are so clean that the Mediterranean seal “Monachus-Monachus” chose to live here. Karpathos has

the most wild nature, preserved pine forests, precipitous mountains, inaccessible settlements, solitary old paths, and harsh character. One can often spot dolphins, and the notorious seahawks that can literally plunge to grasp the fish which is primary food source.



Kali oreksi! Good appetite!...

As we-inspiring as the Titans, the elder gods who made Karpathos their home, this anthology will give you a rare glimpse into the flavors that ascend as high as their mythological ancestors. It's a slice of heaven of which the myths only hint! To become truly familiar with a culture one must live with its natives, breathe the same air, and of course, sample its foods. Foods reveal a story of the people who create them—cultures of the sea have diets abundant in fish, those inland take from the earth, and their use

of spices reflects the passion they happily share. On Karpathos, all of these elements combine to tell the tale of a civilization with a generous lifestyle that makes holidays and every day a celebration. Extracted from the unspoiled mountain village of Olymbos that remains frozen in time to the inland farming town of Volada to the age-old fishing port of Finiki, these recipes remain true to their heritage with an originality that sets them apart from standard Greek cuisine--this is an edible trip worth tasting!





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