



20 *Corfù*

*Antipaxos* 70

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# DIAPONTIA ISLANDS CORFÙ, PAXOS & ANTIPAXOS

### DISTANCES BETWEEN THE MAIN PORTS AND MARINAS IN MILES

Ammos - Agios Stefanos	13
Erikoussa - Astrakaris	10
Astrakaris - Saranda (Saranda)	12
Astrakaris - Otranto	62
Astrakaris - Koulora	14
Koulora - Ipsos	6
Ipsos - Gouvia	3
Gouvia - Kerkyra (Corfu) Old Town	4
Gouvia - Filattes Sagrada	13
Kerkyra (Corfu) Old Town - Mandraki	1
Mandraki - Benitses	6
Benitses - Petriti	7
Petriti - Lefkimi	6
Lefkimi - Igoumenitsa	10
Lefkimi - Georgios	13
Lefkimi - Lakka	12
Georgios - Paramonas	7
Paramonas - Paleokastritsa	14
Paleokastritsa - Agios Stefanos	7
Lakka - Gaios	5

### CLIMATE

The climate of the Island of Kerkyra or Corfu is typically Mediterranean, featured by mild, rainy winters and hot, sunny, dry summers, whose heat is mitigated by breezes. In winter, temperatures never fall below zero, but the climate is certainly colder than in the Aegean Islands. Corfu can also be hit by humid depression fronts of Mediterranean origin as well as cold currents of Balkan origin. The wettest period is certainly spring, but the frequency of rainfall gets rarer as summer months approach. The heat-waves occur between July and August, but are almost always mitigated by breezes, mainly from the North (N).

### WINDS

Outside of the summer season, there are no prevailing winds, which may blow from all quadrants. It should be noted that there can be small, but rapid depressions, which, although short-lived, may be dangerous as they are difficult to predict and localise. In summer, on the other hand, the prevailing winds are from the North-West (NW), which rise almost daily from the early afternoon onwards, even blowing with great intensity before sunset, and then die down at sunset.

### CURRENTS

The direction of the surface current is towards the North (N) and is very weak, achieving 2.5 knots only near the mountain heads. It flows in the opposite direction to the prevailing summer wind and may sometimes cause a short sea with a steep wave. Offshore, far from the coast, the direction of the current is reversed and flows southwards (S) from the Adriatic Sea.

### LANDSCAPES

The Island of Kerkyra or Corfu is long and mushroom-shaped, very wide in the northern part and with a narrow stem stretching southwards for some 30 miles. The region all around the Cape of Akrotiri Drastis, located on the north-western edge of Corfu, is rich in very picturesque landscapes, dominated by high, white cliffs, islets, and narrow channels whose rocks take on unthinkable shapes, thanks to the shaping action of wind and sea. Longa is one of the most unusual places on Corfu. The 'White Cliffs' overhanging the sea hide numerous small beaches that, although accessible by land, are not very crowded, due to the impervious paths. Cape of Akrotiri Drastis is as picturesque as it is exposed to the sea. Here too, to visit the area safely, it is best to pass through in the morning before the summer Mistral (North-Westerly Wind) breaks out. Further east, behind Cape Saint Catherine, stands out the small brackish Lake Antinotissa or Antinoti Lagoon, a resting place for many species of migratory birds, as well as an ecosystem with a variety of wild flowers and resident water birds.

