

Greece

East coast and Northern Cyclades



In this info bulletin, you will find the places we have been visiting with SY "Zeezwaluw" (LOA 14m, D 2.05m) during the sailing seasons of 2006 & 2007 & 2008 & 2009. The prices mentioned below may have gone up a bit.

Entering Greece

We choose Preveza as a port of entrance, coming from Italy and entered Greece in the official way (see Greek Waters Pilot, Heikell). We bought the Cruising permit at the Port Police Office (in 2006 the permit was 29.35€ and is only necessary for boats over 10m) and got our first entry stamp. Before leaving Preveza we had to go again, this time for the exit stamp to do it officially. Normally you pay a small fee for using the harbour (5-7€/night). The Preveza Port Police Office, is a little bit difficult to find, but the yachties around are able (and willing) to tell you where to go.

From that moment on we reported to the Port police only, when they invited us (always very friendly) and asked to come with our papers to their office. This is the way sailing boats act we were told by other yachties! It worked perfect for us that way and we never had a problem.

Northern Cyclades Islands

Mikonos Island

Anchorage is at the south coast of Mikonos, 37°25'87N 25°24'42E

We anchored for one night only, holding (sand) was good, we did not go ashore. Shelter during the night was OK (no wind at all!)

Siros Island

Anchorage in bay at south coast Siros, 37°23'34N 24°56'61E

The anchorage was near Chontra Point, not very protected but OK because we did not had any wind. Holding in sand was good. We did not go ashore.

Kithnos Island

Anchorage in bay at west coast Kithnos, 37°24'72N 24°23'75E

The beautiful bay had 2 opportunities to anchor, the 1ste one was to port just after the entrance which was crowded with hugh motorboats with long lines ashore and lots of sailing boats at swinging anchor. The 2nd was to starboard and we found after 2 attempts a nice spot in front of the beach. The anchorage was a favourite weekend spot for all kinds of boats from the area of Athens. Shelter is perfect and after the weekend, the place is almost deserted and very nice. No restaurants ashore. Clear water and it's nice to snorkel.

Mainland east coast and Evvia Island

Lavrion

Olympia Marina, 37°41'8N 24°03'7E

A relatively new marina very expensive (47€/night) and mostly occupied by huge motorboats from around Athens. The staff is not friendly and the marina chandler is ill stocked & the mini market doesn't have bread, fresh veggies or fruit! For those shopping's, you have to walk 2 km to the North to the town Lavrion!

Lavrion harbour, 37°42'66N 24°03'43E

Lavrion harbour is hugh and well sheltered by 2 big breakwaters with many quays for commercial ships and ferries. At the end of the harbour to port, is a slip and quays at both sides. The starboard quay

has mooring lines and if space, you are free to moor (for free) here. Water and electricity is at the quay. We never saw someone to collect fees for mooring or elec/water. In summer a few charter boats take the space. The town (a 2 min walk) is very nice, especially at night, several restaurants, supermarkets, internet cafes. We had a great time here and we preferred this spot above the expensive and boring marina! Athens airport is an hour by car, we were told.

[Petaloi Island, 37°58'92N 24°15'13E](#)

Petaloi Island is a small island at the south west side of Evvia Island. We anchored in the sheltered south bay at Vasiliko in 4m sand, holding perfect. The water is crystal clear and it's a quite spot. We did not go ashore here.

[Evvia Island](#)

[Aliverion 38°23'64N 24°02'71E](#)

Aliverion harbour is at the end of the bay and protected by 2 breakwaters. Around the corner of the port breakwater are a few spaces deep enough to moor. Go bow or stern (at own anchor or use the unreliable mooring lines) to the quay. We used a very thick mooring line, which was fine, because our anchor did not dig in due to the very soft mud. The quay is safe and protected against the strong afternoon NE breeze. Electricity (1 socket) and water is available at the breakwater wall. We never saw the port police or paid mooring fees. In the tiny quiet town are a few restaurants, a bakery, a mini supermarket and an internet café.

[Khalkis Bridge, 38°27'7N 23°35'3E](#)

Khalkis Bridge spans the narrow gap between Evvia Island and the mainland. The gap is only 39.3m wide and a strong current (6kn) makes passage difficult. Only at slack water during the evening or night the bridge will open. (*See pilot for specific info*).

[Mooring South harbour, 38°27'67N 23°35'15E](#)

The anchorage is in the wide area at port side but a few places are available at the concrete quay at the north side portside of the bridge. No water or electricity available. It is the most convenient spot because the Port Police office is nearby at the crossing behind the quay to acquire for the bridge opening schedule and to pay the fee for passing the bridge.

[Mooring North harbour, 38°27'9N 23°35'54E](#)

Just past the bridge at the [free of charge](#) town quay to starboard No electricity but water is available from a tap underneath a metal lid along the quay. It is a top spot to be for enjoying Khalkis night live. It is not too noisy although you are in front of cafes (will close at a reasonable time). We enjoyed the spot very much! In the town is a daily and covered fresh market (fruit and veggies) and several supermarkets, internet cafes and lots of restaurants.

[Bay of Volos, mainland](#)

[Pigadhi, 39°02'21N 22°58'76E](#)

The bay of Pigadhi is at the north side of the large bay of Ptelou, just around Ák Stavros. In the small bay is space for a few ships at swinging anchor. Holding, sand/clay is perfect. We stayed 1 night at anchor because a Sun Sail flotilla (12 boats were moored/rafted up) at the small concrete quay. After they left we moored alongside the concrete quay, depth is 3-5 meters and the water is very clear, good shelter. No water or electricity. Sometimes, one or two fishing boats are moored to, but they were very friendly to us. (Asked us if we liked to buy some of their fish) The village is very small and only 1 tiny mini-mini market around but several restaurants. A 30 min walk uphill you will find the ruins of the [Achilles tower and an old settlement](#). The story goes that Achilles had set sail for [Troy](#). On top of the hill you have a splendid view over the bay of Pigadhi and the next one.

Vathoudi bay, anchorage 39°08'98N 23°12'84E

The very sheltered bay lays at the south-east side of the [Gulf of Volos](#). The entrance is narrow but depth is sufficient and in front of a hotel in the passage is a Sun Sail base (not bothersome). The large anchorage is a little further and is occupied with a lot of anchoring buoys. You can take a free one if you wish. Depth is over 10m, but in between the buoys you will find a spot to drop your anchor in 5/10m (or use an empty buoy). The holding in mud is very good, visibility under water is nil! We stayed a few quiet day's at anchor without going ashore.

Volos town, 39°21'32N 22°56'93E

The town of Volos lays at the northern end of the bay and is protected to the south by a large breakwater. Mooring is possible at the town quay near the footbridge, go at own anchor bow or stern too or use one of the (unreliable) mooring lines. Water and electricity is available (if you can find the waterman). At the inside of the breakwater (starboard side) is a long floating pontoon, fixed to the quay but with a gap where once was a little bridge. The gap is passable and we were moored alongside there for 3 weeks. The spot is quiet due to the gap, only in the evening the local youth is getting assembled at the pontoon for a chat and some flirting but will leave at 23 hours. We have never had a problem with them. No water or electricity at the pontoon. Mooring was for free and we collected drinking water in jerry cans from a tap at the town quay.

In the big town everything is available (even a [Lidl](#)) and the people from the tourist information (stall at the very end of the town quay near the ferry terminal) will give you a lot of info.

Volos is the town from where [Jason and the Argonauts, set sail to find the Golden Flees](#). In 2008 a replica of the ancient [Argo](#) will undertake the same voyage as Jason did, and this boat is to be seen at the yard where she is build. (A statue of the Argo is to be found along the town quay)

In the vicinity of Volos are several archaeological sites and worth a visit even a car drive around the [Trikeri Peninsula](#) to visit [Mt. Pillion](#) (1548m) which is [the summer residence of the ancient Greek Gods](#), has to be done. We went but, never saw the Gods (maybe they had a holiday too?) but the scenery is fantastic! The best car rental deal we got from the Renault dealer along the north bound road out of town.

Leaving Greece

Before you sail to Turkey you have to check out of the EU. Take your ship papers, the original ones, copies are not allowed, passports and cruising permit etc. with you to the port police. They will inform you what the rules and regulations are at that specific time. This is the official way, but Ernie in Sesame Street would say "think again".

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