Greece, West-coast Mainland and Ionian islands



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

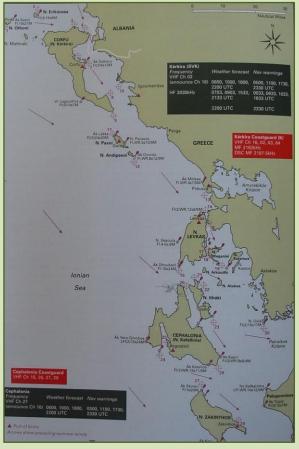
We choose <u>Preveza</u> as a port of entrance, coming from Italy and entered Greece in the official way (see Greek Waters Pilot, Heikell). We bought the Cruising permit at the Port Police Office (in 2006 the permit was 29.35€ and is only necessary for boats over 10m) and got our first entry stamp. Before 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.

West coast Mainland Greece

Preveza is a very safe and sheltered harbour for the prevailing NE-winds and has several options to moor.

- Preveza, 38°57'58N 20°45'39E
 - In summer the quayside is mostly taken by flotillas, but if you find space, you are allowed to moor and pay a small fee to the Port Police. Water available from taps at the quay, no electricity.
 - 2. Sail along the quay to the northern part where you will find an unfinished marina. At the starboard side are a few concrete jetties. Mooring alongside the jetty or along other boats is for free. At the first jetty (called "The Swedish pontoon" amongst the yachties) you can leave the boat while you go home for a while. A Swede will look after your boat for 1 €/day, if you like. Water available only at this jetty, 1 €/fill.
 - 3. Anchor off the coast north of the marina depth 2-5m, holding is good (we were told). Opposite the town quay at the south side of the mainland, are 3 yards with excellent repair facilities and hard-standing for wintering. The town is nice and welcomes you with the smell of meat cooking on wood fires, hmmmmmmm! You will find everything you need. In one of the narrow streets near the quay is a small chandler (English) with the normal things, but they also swap books and have a washing machine you can use for a small fee. At the quay opposite the unfinished marina is a nice and quiet Internet cafe. After a 6km bike-ride along the road from Preveza to Nikopolis, you will find a Lid!

Amvrakikos Kolpos, Lake east of Preveza Nikopolis, anchorage 39°01'2N 20°45'5E



The quiet anchorage is next to the <u>ancient Town of Nikopolis</u> and worth a visit. (If you haven't visited it already from Preveza) The holding (clay) is very good. And we saw pelicans, dolphins and turtles here. This lake is still not spoiled by flotillas, we loved it!

Vonitsa, town quay, 38°55'27N 20°53'12E

Moor with own anchor, stern or bow to the new town quay, under the <u>Venetian Castle</u> at the most western side behind the breakwater where the depth is OK. Holding is perfect, clay/sand. Water is available from taps on several spots at the edge of the mooring quay, no electricity available.

The town is small but picturesque; the castle is worth a visit, a nice walk along the beach to the little church on the tiny island east of the town. East of this island is an excellent anchor spot very sheltered from the prevailing winds.

Ionian Islands

Levkas Island

Levkas town, quay 38°49'97N 20°42'67E

Levkas town quay starts just after the passage of the swinging bridge at your starboard side (coming from Preveza). The quay runs circle-wise to the shallow part N of the new marina. Moor at own anchor stern or bow to the town quay. In summer the west side of the quay is mostly taken by flotillas, if there is space, you are allowed to moor for free. The quay at the south side is the quiet one and you will find here the best shelter for the prevailing (NE) winds often blowing in the afternoon. The "water-man" comes along (on a scooter) twice a day, early in the morning and somewhere in the afternoon. Ask him, if you need water $(5 \ \epsilon)$ or electricity, which is possible at a few spots. Drinking water is also available from a tap in the garden opposite the south quay. Levkas town is beautiful and lively especially at night. On the road to Nidri (3km walk, bike or bus ride) you will find a <u>Lidl</u>. Internet access is to be found in lots of cafes in town and around the quaysides. The island is worth a visit, we hired 2 scooters for 2 days and saw most of the island (scooters are everywhere for hire and inexpensive).

Levkas marina

The new marina with all facilities is in full swing and expensive in summer so we haven't been there ourselves. For wintering, it should be a good place with lots of live-a-boards and acceptable fees, we were told by friends who wintered there.

Vligho Bay, 38°41'33N 20°42'65E

Vligho Bay is just south of Nidri. It's a large bay, shallow and well protected. There are many restaurants at the eastside of the bay after passage through the narrow entrance. To the west lays the little town of Vligho. Med. mooring possibility at the town quay if there is space (not in weekends when the charters boats come in). There are also a few little quays to leave your dinghy. Water (good quality) from the "Ionian Sailing" quay but, the hosepipes are in use from Saturday til Sunday 2 P.M. for cleaning the charter ships. After they have finished you can use the hosepipe again. There is also a water tap at the outside wall of the Yacht Club, free to use. The Yacht Club provides; restaurant facilities, washing and drying machines (€3,50/a load in 2009) showers, book swab and Internet access. The fuel station is at the main road at the bottom of the bay and in Nidri on the main road near the "Nelson" pontoon.

In town there is a bakery in the backstreet and a few small shops for provisioning. In Levkada is excellent provisioning. The bus to Nidri and Levkada stops at the little red houses along the main road. Timetable is available at the Yacht Club.

Meganissi Island

Spartakori (Spiglia), 38°39'77N 20°45'E

The most western Bay of Meganissi Island is wonderful. The island is so small, not even C-map has detailed information about the bay! The bay entrance is good visible and the depth is not a problem. As soon as you enter the bay, go to starboard and moor at "Bobby's restaurant". The owner will help you moor (bow/stern to the quay) with the mooring lines (it's too deep to use your own anchor).

No mooring fees, but you have to eat or drink something at Bobby's restaurant, which is delicious and inexpensive. We stayed 3 days and never cooked our own meal! Bobby also provides; washing facilities, showers, Internet and has a mini market. No electricity but water is available from a tap at the south corner of the quay.

A few boats of a flotilla fleet will more here too, but Bobby will never put a private boat in the middle of a flotilla. The small town on the steep hill is worth a visit we were told (we were too lazy and it was too hot to go there). At the end of the same bay is another restaurant with mooring facilities where most of the flotillas are heading.

Ithaca Island

Vathi town quay, 38°21'97N 20°42'98E

On the east side of the island of Ithaca in the bay of Aetou, you will find at the port side another bay, this is the bay of Vathi with the town at the very end. Entering the Bay of Vathi, almost directly to portside you will see a restaurant with mooring facilities (often occupied by flotillas). Free anchoring in the bay to port in-between fuel pontoon and town quay.

At the end of the bay, after you passed the tiny Lazaretto Island, you will see the town quay. The quay at starboard next (south) of the ferry space (yellow paint at quayside) has a good depth. At the quay next to the tiny shops at the very end we saw ships moored too. Moor bow or stern to the quay, using your own anchor. Holding is good, also with the prevailing afternoon winds. Mooring is for free. "The water-man" comes several times a day at the quayside, no electricity available. Many little minimarkets to buy fresh food, an Internet cafe is next to the quay.

Scooters are for rent in the street behind the quay. Ithaca is lovely to see on a scooter, up into the hills (breath-taking views) and you must have a look around in the *Homeland of Odysseus*.

Cephalonia Island

Ay. Eufimia marina, 38°18'2N 20°35'89E

The town quay of Ay Eufimia has no free mooring anymore, you have to pay a fee. ($1 \notin /m/night$) You use your own anchor and moor bow or stern to the town quay. Friendly staff of the Marina will help you with the lines. Water ($1000ltr/4 \notin$) and electricity ($2 \notin$) is available. Holding is good. Inside the breakwaters in front of the moored yachts is space for a few yachts at swinging anchor (for free) The town is small but nice, especial at night. Good restaurants are along the quay, mini market for the essentials available. Scooters are for rent so you can have a tour around the island.

