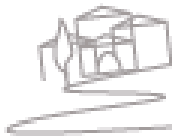




**Our favorite excursions with
culinair and beach tips**



VILLAS CAVO MARATHIA



Map Zante Island



1) The Shipwreck Bay –Navagio near Volimes

Full day Tour



The Shipwreck Bay also known as Navagio is the most popular photo and advertising motive of the island worldwide. The beach is only accessible from the sea and is an example of size and perfection. It consists of millions of small stones and is completely surrounded by the bright blue sea.

The wreck of the seventies seems to have been placed there by an artist. Often the water around navagio turns in an artificially-looking symphony of different colors blue like a tropical lagoon.

Because many caves contain sulfur, the sulfur is released at high tide. You have the opportunity to shoot wonderful souvenir photos. You can reach the beach with a daily taxi boat from the nearby bay of Porto Vromi or from the lighthouse in the north of the island at Cape Skinari with Potamidis Tours. It offers small, personalized and cost effective tours at the same time with the Blue Caves.

Our recommendation: Rent a small boat in Porto Vromi. The big ship tours offered which start from the city of Zakynthos Town are passing also the Navagio but this is considered more like mass tourism. We recommend the Shipwreck beach to visit in the morning, because the sea in the afternoon often swell, making it difficult to return. You have the opportunity to shoot wonderful souvenir photos.

This spectacular view you can also enjoy from the top of the cliffs. Drive by car from the gas station in Lithakia to the north to Volimes. You will pass the monastery Anafonitria. From here follow the signs for "Navagio/Ship Wreck".

Here in the immediate area we have no food recommendation. On the way back from Navagio / Shipwreck you can stop at Kampi, dining while enjoying a beautiful sunset. There are two taverns, at the entrance to the cliff and then at the top at the cross. Both have a super view and good food.



2) Explore the Blue Caves with guided boat tour

Full day tour



The Blue Caves are certainly one of the most famous natural attractions on the island.

This unique geological rock formation with caves can be visited with an organized tour which you can reserve in the capital of Zakynthos town. As well you can have a more individual experience and therefor more environmental friendly by making a tour in small groups by boat at Cape Skinari.

Captain Antonis takes you through the unique maze of blue caves also in combination with the Shipwreck Bay. The tour costs below EUR 15 P.P. and is an experience with explanations in English.

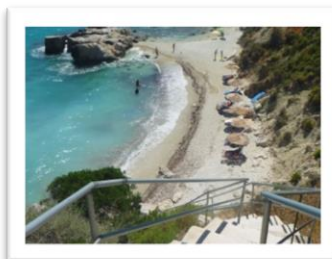
It is best to go back to the gas station in Lithakia where you turn left up in the mountains direction north/Volimes. There you look for the signs Potamitis Tours, Cape Skinari- Lighthouse. At Cape Skinari, Antonis Potamitis has a little stand where you can buy the tickets. You might have to wait here briefly until a small group is gathered and the tour begins. After the tour you can visit his windmill. From there is a long stairway to rock slabs, from which you can also swim into the caves. Caution - you have to be a good swimmer. We also recommend again to visit the caves in the morning to experience the uniqueness of the phosphorus ornamental water.

And here are our culinary Food Tipp and Bathing Tips:

Drive from Cape Skinari back to Alikes direction along the north-east coast. You reach the nice beach of Xigia. This water holds collagen, so a free rejuvenation cure while you swim. Sun umbrellas and sun loungers are available for a fee.

Before you reach this beach, there is a very nice fish tavern also named Xigia.

Along the road on the left side look for the painted sign from the tavern with a fish in the form of a mermaid. From noon you can get delicious fresh fish along with other dishes. Enjoy this atmosphere around beautifully landscaped, shady hillside terraces with fantastic sea view.



Xigia Beach

3) The caves of Keri & discover the Turtle Island Marathonisi by motorboat.

Full day excursion



The caves of Keri are located directly around the corner from us. Reachable only by private boat or with organized tours which can be booked in Keri Beach.

In this coastal zone there are numerous caves, some with very small entrances, which can only be reached by swimming or kayaking, but others are quite large, so that you can drive into with the boat.

A kayak can be rented on the beach of Marathias.

From the sea, where the water is very deep, these caves are easily accessible. The coast you can easily approach with boats.

Our tip - After breakfast, rent a boat in the port of Keri Beach. In the high season we recommend to reserve a boat the day before. There are a number of providers in Keri Beach. Also, before you go straight to Keri Beach, there is on the right hand curve before driving into Keri Beach a local provider called Lofos Cruises. Stathis offers boats in lower prices especially in low season too. If you value fancier Italian models, then hire in a higher price category boats in Keri Beach. There are a number of providers. Daily price per boat: EUR 50 to EUR 100 + gasoline. Depending on the season and type of boat.

Explore the caves of Keri with swimming stops at beautiful small sandy beaches. Then go over to the Turtle Island Marathonisi. You can drop anchor and have a swim. Entry to the island which is a nature reserve, is prohibited. Is monitored throughout by different volunteers from various environmental organizations. They pay attention that the nests of the turtles are not getting destroyed during the breeding season.

Our Tip In the village of Keri at the lighthouse you can wonderfully hike and bike during the off season. Trails we have compiled for you on a separate sheet. Available at the front desk.

Dining tip - unfortunately we have always received bad feedbacks from the Lighthouse Tavern which is beautifully situated. Drinking yes - food unfortunately no.

Go back into the village of Keri to the small tavern of Katharina called Allegro with nice starters and a meal of the day.



Snorkelbeach at Marathonisi



Marathonisi



Pebble beach at Marathonisi

4) Beach trip to Porto Limnionas half or full day



Two wild rocky beaches.

Both bays are virtually untouched by mass tourism, because they are hidden on the west coast. Perhaps for this reason one of the most beautiful and wild places around the island? To get to both bays you first pass the mountain village of Agios Leon, here follow the signs and drive for a few miles along an asphalt road that leads towards the sea and ends at a large parking. From the parking just go a few steps down. It reaches a beach, which is a real fjord and where you will be amazed

by the color shades and the clearness of the water. The sea is very beautiful and because of the depth and the caves it is perfect for snorkeling. The water is cool in the low season, high season refreshment. The only beach is very small. To sunbathe you have to lay a towel on smooth stones. We recommend a parasol + slippers, as this part of the coast offers little shade.

Dining: The family tavern known for years in Porto Limnionas offers delicious home cooking. Recommended is the Greek Goulash called "Stifado". It is flavored with small onions and classic spices like cinnamon and cloves in a fine Olive sauce.

The journey takes about 45 minutes.

Porto Limnionas is connected to the beach Porto Roxa by a road and this beach-tip continues on next page (Tip 5)



Swimming in cristal clear water
Porto Limnionas

5) Beach trip to Porto Roxa

Half or Full Day



A visit to Porto Roxa is no less beautiful as in Porto Limnionas. It is also a rocky beach.

Porto Roxa can also be reached via the main road from the gas station in Lithakia direction Volimes. Just follow the signs to the village of Agios Leon. And follow a well-paved road until you arrive in Porto Roxa.

Meals: we recommend a good restaurant in the first tavern "Ionian".

On the rocky beach you can enjoy free sun chairs and an umbrella to use when you have something to eat in the tavern. The tavern owners still bake their own bread and also offer their own lamb or rabbit meat. If you continue to go down after a few meters you reach a very idyllic swimming spot. There you find nicely landscaped terraces with sun beds and umbrellas for renting. Here you can take a coffee or ice cream and swim or snorkel in the crystal clear waters of the bay.

Directions: see Porto Limnionas.
Travel time about 40 minutes.



Porto Roxa

6) Superb views in Porto Vromi

Full day tour



In Porto Vromi you can expect magic colors of greens and blues.

Access is again from the road of Lithakia. Turn left at the petrol station. Via the mountain village Kiliomenios passing Agios Leon drive up to the mountain village of Maries. On the way you pass forest sections which are still regenerating from the last fire. Fortunately, the nature in winter by the abundant rain recovered fairly quickly.

To continue to Porto Vromi is left after the village of Maries - watch for the sign. You go on a well paved road down to the bay. You will pass the only tavern "Aeras" run by the village pastor and his wife. Here you eat quite well especially Mezedes, the classic Greek starters. Some products are from his own garden. It emphasizes organic vegetables and local meat from the village. Worth mentioning is the service friendly and sociable owner. And of course beside the good food the fantastic view is a real treat.

In Porto Vromi you will find a small beach front along with a cafeteria with refreshments and snacks. Interesting is that you can take the small guided boat tours to the "Shipwreck" from there. Recommended especially in the off-season, not necessarily in the high season. The Shipwreck Bay is crowded then.



Family run Tavern Aeras



View at the bay from the Tavern



Tavern Aeras

7) Beach trip to Gerakas

Half or Full Day



Largest sand beach on Zante, Gerakas Beach is the most southern and certainly one of the most beautiful beaches of the island.

The unique beach begins with a long tongue of sand and ends with a small hill that reaches down to the sea. The hill consists entirely of clay and it is a must for every tourist to take a rejuvenating mud bath here. Your skin will be silky! The sea water here is warmest with 27-30 degrees in the high season. Accordingly the water in off-season is warm.

Early risers have the opportunity to come to this beach and experience the hatching of baby turtles as well as its first route to the sea. For this reason, the beach is protected and it is not allowed to enter one hour after sunset and up to 1 hour before daybreak. You'll also find no food there. You have to leave the beach and in the vicinity there are then taverns.

Our food Tip - A fish tavern at the small port of Agios Nikolaos.



Gerakas Beach

8) Beach trip to the "Azzuro Beach" in Argassi

Half or Full Day



Azzuro Beach is a sandy beach with grass surface, chic yet relaxed with Wireless Lan.

A beach bar with complete infrastructure towards Vassilikos about 45 minutes driving time. Beautifully designed Beach and Music Bar, international cuisine, sun beds for a fee, beach showers and showers with toilets in the building. Located 8 km from Zakynthos town. Massage on the beach while sunbathing. In midsummer, however, especially in August crowded too.

Our food tip in Argassi.

The Peppermint at the beginning of the tourist area. Pay attention to the sign on the right side of the road opposite the church. Another very nice evening restaurant Portokali with chill out music, occasional live music is a few hundred meters further on, also on the right hand hidden in a small garden. Figurehead is an orange.



Azzuro Beach



Azzuro Beach



Azzuro Beach



Peppermint Tavern



Portokali Tavern

9) Beach trip to "Gaidaros Beach" in Tsilivi

Half or Full Day



Sandy beach for individualists.

On the east coast above the touristic Tsilivi Beach surprises those visitors looking for a quiet place, an idyllic beach:
The Gaidaros Beach (translated: ass beach)

This somehow hidden and not signposted sandy beach and small harbor is located on the same small cape, Akrotirio Gaidaros.

It can be found if you follow the red / green shield of "Abra Abra Cat" -Strands, pass-by on this beach and go straight on until the cape. Since the water is shallow the Gaidaros Beach is also suitable for families with children. Directly on the beach although there are no restaurants or bars, but they can be reached in a few minutes by car.



Gaidaros Beach



Gaidaros Beach



Gaidaros Beach

10) Beach trip to “Dafni Beach” in Vasilikos

Half or Full day



Sandy Beach for individualists

Dafni beach

A beautiful, isolated sandy beach.

A dirt road leads up to this point and therefore you will find fewer tourists. With a bit of luck, you can see the *Caretta caretta* sea turtle in it's natural habitat while swimming.

Dafni is located directly on the National Marine Park & opposite the uninhabited island Pelouzo . Therefore no sport activities are offered. However, some tavernas you can find there.

Known breeding site for turtles, which shows by protective framework set over the nests on the beach

Driving time aproximately 45 minutes



Dafni beach



Sandy beach guide

[Comfortably relaxing on sandy beaches, with or without children](#)

The nearest sand + gravel beach in **Keri Beach** directly on the harbor promenade ideal for children.
Distance 5 minutes

The long stretched fine sand beach in **Kalamaki** with sun loungers + umbrellas for hiring ideal for children building nice sand castles.
Distance 15 minutes

Casa Playa Beach in Vassilikos direction, a sandy beach with generous infrastructure and children's playground.
Distance about 45 minutes

The sandy beach **Gerakas** is beautifully situated in a bay. Located on the opposite lying Peninsula. Ideal because of the long hours of sunshine. Description see above.
Distance 60 minutes

[Hip & chic, with music and beach bars, some with water sports](#)

Azzuro Beach Vassilikos. Direction; see description above

Banana Beach Vassilikos, Water Sport Facilities. Direction to Vasilikos
Distance 55 minutes

[Quiet and a bit off in scenic surroundings with interesting taverns](#)

The idyllic bay of **Marathias** in only 800 meters away from the Villas Cavo Marathia which is a real gem.
Distance 2 minutes

The rocky beaches **Porto Roxa** and **Porto Limnionas** on the west coast give a real Bacardi Feeling.
Distance 30-60 minutes

Dafni Beach

Distance 45 minutes

Gaidaro Beach and **Psarou Beach** on the east coast. Direction; see description above.
Distance 45 minutes

Wellness beach - collagen **Beach Xigia** East Coast (60 minute drive time)



*We wish you a lot of fun exploring the island ,
Your hosts Ioanis & Petra Zantiotis*



Villas Cavo Marathia
My holiday residence
Petra Zantiotis
Keri-Marathias 336
GR-29092 Island Zakynthos

Phone: + 30 26950 22120
Mobile: + 30 6944382138
Fax: +30 26950 42957
Mail: info@villas-cavo-marathia.com
www.villas-cavo-marathia.com



VILLAS CAVO MARATHIA

Änderungen vorbehalten. Keine Haftung für etwaige Fehler.
Alle Tipps sind subjektive Empfehlungen.