ISLAND HOPPING IN THE NORTH DODECANESE ISLANDS OF GREECE
Sailing by gulet yacht is simply a perfect way to visit the Greek islands. No carrying luggage, no ferries, and no need to keep track of time means that there is so much MORE to experience in the Dodecanese, and the islands’ authenticity, stunning natural landscapes, and unaffected character lends absolutely everything to their charm.

While island hopping by gulet yacht, you can anchor in some of the most secluded spots letting you really get the feel for the places that most visitors leave at sunset. On a gulet yacht you don’t have to leave. We give you a boutique version of Island hopping, discovering historical sites, tiny harbour villages, untouched beaches and bays, and a choice of great activities while making yourself at home in the spacious comfort of your private cabin. On board you enjoy the relaxed company of your fellow guests, large lounge areas and deck, an attentive and professional crew, and magical feast after feast on board each day for breakfast and lunch or dinner.

**LIFE ON BOARD PRIVATE GULET CHARTER:**
Private Charter offers the unique opportunity to book a luxury gulet yacht exclusively and enjoy an itinerary designed just for you and your group. This is a truly customized vacation alternative emphasizing flexibility, privacy and luxury on a completely tailor-made vacation at sea. Charter your own ‘floating villa’ and set sail, free to cruise some of the world’s most beautiful destinations in the Greek Islands and Turkish Aegean waters.

Private gulet charter is fantastic for groups of friends and families and is ideal for all ages, comfortable and safe for babies and senior travellers as well as all ages in between. Our itineraries are carefully planned according to the
while the all-important dining experience on board provided by a skilled chef caters to your exact culinary tastes, dietary requirements and preferences.

Our privately-owned, stylish and well equipped yachts vary in size from 4 to 8 cabins; the maximum capacity being 17 passengers on the M/S Flas VII. During your cruise a professional and personable crew provide an impeccable service and experienced seamanship. Exquisite cuisine is prepared to your liking by the yacht’s chef, and you can dine whenever and wherever you like. Your cruise route is tailor made so that you can visit the places you want and remain flexible as you go along. We also offer activities and imaginative shore excursions ranging from Yoga sessions on board, cooking workshops and hiking to guided tours and special restaurant recommendations.

OUR GULET YACHTS FEATURE:

› 5 star luxury standards
› Uniformed, English-speaking crew including chef
› Optimized for sailing as guests wish
› Adjustable a/c throughout
› 2 generators & inverters
› En suite bathrooms with flush w/c & enclosed shower
› Spacious cabins
› Flat screen TV, DVD hook up & movie library
› Free WiFi
› Satellite antenna
› Stereo system/ iPOD dock
› Orthopedic beds & pillows
› 100% fine cotton linen and fluffy towels
› Zodiac dinghy with H/P motor water ski, wakeboard and ringo
› Paddle board
› Snorkel & fishing equipment for adults & kids
DAY 1 - SATURDAY - KOS
From Kos airport, transfer the short drive to the bustling Kos town and board your luxurious sailing yacht. Your captain and crew will be waiting to welcome you on board in Kos Harbor, which is overlooked by the old town and the crusader Castle of the Knights of St. John. Palm-lined cobblestone streets, lush greenery, and many ancient monuments and excavations are within walking distance in every direction, not to mention the charming old town labyrinth of shopping streets, cafes and restaurants.

History buffs will be thrilled with the number of ancient sites to explore on the island, most of which are concentrated in the town in central but quiet spots shaded by soaring ancient trees. Kos has a municipality train that takes you to the sites that are further out.

Asklepion
Kos Island was home to Hippocrates, who is now dubbed as the ‘Father of Modern Medicine’. The Asklepion was built in the 3rd Century BCE after Hippocrates’ death. Dedicated to Asclepius, the god of medicine and healing, the Asklepion was an ancient medical clinic that is largely in ruins today.

Ancient Agora
The Ancient Agora is a good example of typical marketplaces in Ancient Greece. However, it wasn’t only used as a marketplace; there are also remains of Roman baths here, the temples of Aphrodite and Hercules, and examples of houses with some mosaics and frescoes still intact.

Plateia Planou
The shady cobbled square of Plateia Planou is home to the remains of the Hippocrates Plane Tree, the site at which Hippocrates is said to have taught his students.

Casa Romana
The Casa Romana is a Roman mansion with 36 rooms that was built in a style popular throughout the Roman Empire in the 2nd Century BCE. It was built on top of the ruins of an older house from the Ancient Greek Hellenistic Period. The mansion is also the site of several impressive frescoes including one that depicts a panther attacking a bear.

Roman Odeon
The Ancient Romans built this structure, which was acoustically designed to accommodate singers, musicians, and poets. The Romans used this particular Odeon however for gladiator fights. The original Roman Odeon has been restored, making it a great venue for modern performances. Note that the first 9 rows or so are part of the original structure.
If you arrive early to Kos (or even a day or 2 before) we can recommend Kos Aktis Hotel. It is close to the harbour and to where the yacht will dock, and has a seaside café with sunbeds and umbrellas.

**Beach: Mylos Beach Club** is a short taxi ride from the harbour and has a private beach with a bar, restaurant and a unique mixture of music. It is a lot of fun to go to in the late afternoon for cocktails.

**Restaurant:** If you want to have lunch or dinner in the harbour area then Nick the Fisherman is a great answer. It has the best seafood and also offers a variety of salads and appetizers – the seafood spaghetti is delicious. Freshness is guaranteed. The restaurant started up in 1951 and the owner Larry is from one of the island’s original fishing families.

**DAY 2 - SUNDAY - LEROS**
Today come to the small island of Leros, the island of Diana, Goddess of Hunting. This is an island of small fertile valleys sandwiched between rolling green hills, deep coves and pretty beaches. Depending on the winds, dock in the harbor of Agia Marina or the more secluded bay of Panteli.

**Panteli** is the oldest fishing village in Leros, where most of the residents are still in the fishing trade, and located in the island’s most picturesque spot surrounded by enchanting landscapes of green trees, steep mountains and excellent coves. The small settlement is built amphitheatrically around the natural bay and joined with Platanos, the quaint harbor of Agia Marina, which has selective local shops located in old traditional buildings that sell antiques and handcrafts. The town of Alinda is also gorgeous with its attractive pebble beach and hip beach clubs. These waterfront towns hold most cultural interest, with their neoclassical buildings and pleasant village atmosphere.

Leros has a **magnificent crusader castle** or better known as Kastro, It is a strong medieval fortress presiding over the villages of pandeli and Agai Marina, with spectacular views of the mountainous landscape and the sea. It is a rigorous uphill climb from either village, but once at the top it is truly picturesque and a lovely walk back down directly into either village.

The island is a paradise for foodies with a rich culinary heritage, featuring many unique Lerian specialties. You can find the best combination of the local and fusion cuisine, witnessed by the seaside El Greco Restaurant on the Panteli beach. Make sure to try the tuna carpaccio and phyllo bread stuffed with soft goat cheese.
The patisserie-cafe To Paradosiako, meaning ‘The Traditional’ in Greek, is in the Agia Marina harbor, has a lovely setting on the water and offers some of the most delicious and creative treats you can find. With contemporary and spiced up traditional flavors, you will be spoilt for choice with what’s on offer here.

After dinner Leros comes alive at bars and nightclubs featuring local bouzouki as well as contemporary music, warm hospitality and a laid-back ambience, and is at its best in Panteli and Agia Marina.

DAY 3 - MONDAY - LIPSI & ARKI

Wake up to the sunshine, have a relaxing breakfast on board and then spend the day exploring Lipsi. Perhaps head out and cruise to one of the untouched bays or sandy beaches along the coast for swimming and relaxing on board.

The virgin nature, crystal clear waters, beaches and the relaxing atmosphere of Lipsi Island attract tourists looking for total seclusion and privacy. This is a frequent destination among naturists and hikers, as many beaches can only be reached on foot or by boat. A fortress crowns the uppermost peak of the island and in the scattering of small tavernas and cafes below you will find local delicacies like the traditional thyme honey, wine, cheeses, and grapes.

There are so many small churches in the island that it is said there is 1 church for each family in Lipsi. Panaghia tou Harou architecturally has a local feel, Byzantine in perception yet austere and unpretentious. As yet, unexcavated, the church was built sometime between the 7th and 8th Century CE. The holy icon of the Virgin here, holding Jesus crucified, is reputed to be of miraculous powers. The uniqueness of the concept and the skill of the rendition make this icon one of the brightest moments in hagiography.

Now to Lipsi’s beautiful beaches! Lientou is by far the most popular and located in town. Venture a little further and discover the Kamps, Platys Yialos - a delightful sandy strip of land stretching out to sea, and the exceptionally stunning sandy beach of Papandria in the south facing the island of Leros. Chochlakoura beach is loved for its pebbles, flat rocks and scenic caves and Tourkomnima, Xirokampos, Monodendri and Kamares are all remote beaches of wild beauty, and definitely worth the expedition visiting.
Arki, or Arkoi, is a tiny Greek island belonging to the municipality of Patmos, and had a population of just 54 inhabitants at the 2001 census. Today little has changed. Most residents live close to the main harbor with others scattered around the island on higher ground. Fishing, goat herding or running one of the island’s 4 tavernas are the options here, and as a visitor you feel truly privileged to experience this unspoiled and beautiful secret spot. The best things about the island of Arki are its lack of tourists, lovely walks, and warm and hospitable local people. Though the island itself is dry and rocky, marine life in its bays is thriving with various species of grouper and nudibranch, and herons can be spotted occasionally too.

At the other northern end of the island is what is referred to as the ‘Italian jail’. Villagers say it was used during World War II as a prison by the Italian army, since from 1912 to 1943 the island was part of the Italian Dodecanese. Also in this part of Arki you can explore the remarkable cave containing stalactite and stalagmite formations; it is not so easy to find amongst the olives trees and shrubs but worth the small challenge!

As usual there are quite a number of small churches because Arki was, like neighboring Lipsi, in the hands of the Monastery in Patmos Island for a long time.

**DAY 4 - TUESDAY - PATMOS**

Sail to Patmos and dock in the main port of Skala. Patmos’ breathtaking scenery and special atmosphere have made it an ideal getaway for those seeking inspiration or a quiet retreat. The island is built around the important Monastery of St. John and its medieval fortress, which is visible from nearly everywhere on the island, and stands overlooking Chora as a reminder of Patmos’ historical and spiritual significance. St. John is said to have penned the Book of Revelations and the Apocalypse here on Patmos. The monastery houses some spectacular frescoes and a museum well worth visiting. The smaller monastery of the Apocalypse halfway down the hill from Chora, grew up around the grotto where the Evangelist is said to have heard the voice of God.

Other sites of interest in Patmos include a library where there are rare manuscripts 2000 books and 13000 documents; the monastery of Zoodochos Pigi in Chora, an example of a real island temple with gorgeous 16th and 18th century icons; and the commune of Evaggelismos in southern Chora, an active monastery where there is a handicraft school for Patmian needlework.
The village of Chora, which grew up around the monastery, is built in the Cretian style of many of the first settlers here, and is probably the most beautiful in the Dodecanese, especially by night. From here you can see the three windmills, the port at Skala and many of the beaches along the west of the island. On a clear day like this you can also see the island of Lipsi, and the Turkish coast beyond. Patmos' beautiful and clean beaches have also helped to establish this island as a popular travel destination. Those looking for more seclusion can visit one of the many isolated beaches and coves around the island and surrounding islets, accessible only by boat, which is ideal for our Gulet yacht guests! Despite Patmos’s relatively upmarket reputation, accommodation often doesn’t quite match that, so visiting the island on board a luxury yacht you can explore the island and still sleep in the lap of luxury.

Although Patmos is traditionally a place of spiritual pilgrimage, it is has diversified somewhat, and you’ll find there are also great designer boutiques, Greek style local cuisine, cafes with spectacular views, and what’s more after dinner the island certainly doesn’t just sleep and there is a buzz into the early hours.

The International Film Festival of Patmos takes place this year from July 21 – 27 and the Patmos Festival of Religious Music happens late August - early September. The latter is staged in the dramatic grounds of the Apocalypse Monastery, showcases world class Byzantine and ecclesiastical music performances (mostly choral), and more recently also a program of secular concerts by popular Greek artists too.

**DAY 5 - WEDNESDAY - KALYMNOS**

Kalymnos is eternally tied to the sea: beautiful shores, a fascinating seabed perfect for diving and snorkelling, mouth watering seafood gastronomy, not to mention the fearless and open-hearted residents who are the descendants of sponge divers. Kalymnos has never relied on tourism so has remained wild and unspoiled, and is one of the most authentic destinations among the Greek islands. Only relatively recently has the Kalymnos begun to attract devoted rock climbers from all over the world to scale the craggy cliff faces.
Kalymnos Rock Climbing Festival October 7–9 2016 is a unique gathering of climbers in one of the world’s hottest climbing destinations. Among the features that make the island so popular for climbing are the spectacular views, dramatic caves and great climate, as well as of course excellent quality of the rocks, and some 2,700 safe climbing routes pre-equipped with permanent drilled-in bolts. The routes are easily accessed and vary in degrees of difficulty. In October, an international community of climbers, athletes, as well as legends from the climbing world, will attend the event. The program includes plenty of climbing, presentations, interviews, deep water soloing, and also live musical and cultural events. With sunshine in abundance, breath-taking routes on limestone rocks, amazing sea views, the festival will create the same unique ambience as it has done since 2000.

Sponge diving was a thriving trade in the mid-19th Century up until the early 20th Century, and Kalymnos was one of the centers of this activity. In early Spring time the legendary and daring sponge fishermen would venture out to ply the deep open waters of the Aegean Sea and the treacherous Mediterranean as far as North Africa, ‘skin diving’ to depths of 30 meters. Before the first suits were designed, the divers would descend to the seabed weighed down by a heavy marble stone.

Today sail to the small port of Massouri on Kalymnos. From here take a traditional “put put” boat to the island of Telendos. Telendos is located 700 m from Kalymnos, however until 535 CE this tiny island was actually part of Kalymnos until an earthquake separated the two. It is a lovely quiet spot with no roads and no cars; just warm and genuine Greek hospitality. A strip of tavernas offering fabulous views back to the escarpment of Kalymnos itself lines the waterfront, and the tiny village has a paved and shady main street which soon leads you to a couple of lovely beaches on the west side of the island.

Away from crowds, Telendos is a haven for soaking up some quiet time, as well as a great spot for climbing. Spend the day lazing in the sun, walking along the sea front in the shade of the tamarisk trees, and swimming or snorkelling in crystal clear waters.
GREEK ISLAND HOPPING NORTH DODECANESE

The On the Rock establishment on Telendos offers a choice of incredibly tasty Greek signature dishes including freshly caught fish, octopus and moussaka which taste even better from this fantastic spot by the sea. Don’t miss sampling a few from the extensive cocktail and Greek beer menu.

Return to Massouri and re-board your 5 luxury gulet and cruise to Pothia. Pothia, is the bustling port and capital of Kalymnos that spreads amphitheatrically on two hills, featuring pink and orange buildings of Italian origin, narrow back streets, and moored yachts, bars and restaurants lining the waterfront. There are still sponges on sale everywhere.

The Monastery of Agios Savvas is located on top of the hill above Pothia. Dedicated to Agios Savvas, the patron saint of the island, this lovely stone church has a red tiled roof and some exquisite and newly restored frescos. Its location provides excellent views of the town, the port and sea. The beautiful Monastery of Agioi Pantes is also located close by, and is still residence to the elderly nuns. There are long skirts and shawls available for women to wear when visiting this otherwise private area, and you can see the lovely gardens as well as the kitchen and sleeping quarters. It is a rigorous uphill climb to the monastery but comfortable descent on the return.

DAY 6 - THURSDAY - KALYMNOS

On Kalymnos your yacht will anchor in the hidden natural harbour of Vathi, which is the most fertile spot of the island. The lovely houses of the village of Rina trickle down the slopes of two hills while a small part of the settlement lies in the verdant valley that extends to the fishing village and the natural fjord-like gulf beyond. The charming village fringed with citrus orchards boasts one main street and a scattering of houses; an unexpected patch of lush vegetation on an otherwise dry and arid-looking island. Vathi is the only place on the island that is lucky enough to have it’s own spring water supply, and here it is used carefully to cultivate citrus fruits, figs, grapes and anything else that can be persuaded to grow!

This deep blue inlet is also home to a cluster of picturesque church remains dating from the early Byzantine period to the more recent past, and a short but lovely hike from the yacht takes you to explore them. Here stop for lunch on board, swimming and snorkelling in the most incredible water. Here you can even try some rock climbing as this is a great spot for it, before watching the sunset with cocktails on deck and stepping on shore to dine at one of the 2 tiny tavernas in Vathi where the octopus is a must-try!

DAY 7 - FRIDAY - PSERIMOS – KOS

Pserimos, one of the smallest inhabited islands in Greece, has an absolutely perfect sandy beach shelving gradually into a shallow, sparkling blue bay. This place is simply idyllic for kids and families. The whole island is only a few kilometers wide and long, full of rustic scenes, beautiful vistas, and great for walking short distances for lovely adventures. The secret is to sail into the small bay here in the afternoon, and depart the next morning after breakfast and a swim, before the day-tripper boats arrive. You will have the whole beach to yourself and can swim across the empty bay watching the fishing boats returning laden with octopus, sponges and fish. Pserimos at its best seems hard to beat.
Enjoy the 30-minute pathed walk to Grafiotissa beach crossing hillsides of purple-flowering thyme, wonderful sea panoramas, a long strip of white sand, rust-red cliffs, and passing half a small white-washed chapel perched on top of the hill, the other half having fallen into the sea many years ago. You can collect delicious natural spring water here—so remember to take a bottle. Another spectacular walk takes you to Krevatia beach, where there is a church surrounded by grazing goats and trees blown horizontal by the winds. A green swathe of hillside drops gradually down to a nice stretch of sand and pebbles, again deserted with immaculately clear sea.

Cruise finally back to Kos to end the cruise.

**DAY 8 - SATURDAY - DISEMBARK IN KOS**

Transfers to Kos airport can be arranged in advance.

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**Take to the sea on this dream private cruise holiday with your nearest and dearest, relax into the laid back rhythm of life on the sea, revitalise in the crystal clear waters of the Aegean and enjoy a kind of luxury hard to match on a regular villa or resort vacation.**

- Greek Island harbor fees are extra
- Optional touring where entrance fees are required or the service of a guide and/or van are needed are extra.
- Optional restaurants off the yacht are not included in the price, but meals off board will be deducted from the daily catering fees.
- Restaurants on-shore requires reservations.
- Transport to the airport or other incurs additional charges.
- There are nominal charges for drinks from the bar on board your gulet
- On a 7 day cruise embarkation is on Saturdays, and disembarkation the following Saturday.