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## PLACES OF INTEREST

- 1 Archaeological Museum**, 5 Vraila Street, houses finds from local archaeological excavations.
  - 2 Cathedral of Corfu** is a magnificent Greek Orthodox building in the old part of town. It dates from the 16th century and houses the remains of Saint Theodora Augusta.
  - 3 Church of Saint Spyridon** is named after the town's patron saint. This 16th century church is located in the center of old town and inside are many valuable icons as well as the remains of Saint Spyridon.
- Old Fort** is a Venetian fortress, situated in the western section of the town, cut off from the town by an artificial defensive moat. Built to protect the town from invaders from the sea, it once held the Palace of Venetian Governors, their Naval Command and the Latin Cathedral.
- New Fort** was constructed between 1576 and 1588 on the landward side of the town, to protect it from the menace of the Turkish fleet and Ottoman Empire.
- 4 Museum of Asiatic Art** is located at the top of the Esplanade. This imposing building, the Regency Royal Palace

(1819), housed the British High Commissioners and later the Greek Royal Family. Inside the Museum is a rich collection of some ten thousand items of Chinese, Japanese origin and other oriental arts.

- 5 Esplanade or Spianada** is the main square and social center of Corfu. It is here that the cricket field is located. Running along the side of the field is the Liston Facade, an arcaded row of French buildings with many outdoor cafes.

- 6 The Synagogue**, on Velissariou Street was constructed in 1537. It was from this area that 5000 Jews were moved to the Spianada and subsequently sent to Auschwitz.

### Beyond Corfu Town

**Kanoni** is 2 miles south of Corfu Town, a very beautiful and popular resort area. A narrow causeway leads to the Monastery of Vlaherna. Nearby is another small island, Pondikonissi (Mouse Island) which has a tiny 13th century chapel on it. Not far away is a villa, built in 1831, called 'Mon Repos' which was the birthplace of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

**Achilleion Palace** at Gastouni, 5 miles south of Corfu, was the summer home of the Empress Elizabeth of Austria. Built in 1891, it was purchased in 1907 by Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany and, since 1962, has become a Casino, opening in the evenings. There is a small museum, filled with mementos of the life of the Empress, and an extensive garden with sweeping views.

**Paleokastritsa**, 16 miles west of Corfu, is considered by some to be the loveliest spot on the coastline of Corfu Island. It is a small bay with clear blue-green water surrounded by hills. Nearby, perched on a rock over-looking the sea, lies the historic Byzantine Monastery of Theotokos.

- Admission Charges are in local currency.
- When going ashore, passengers are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables.

**SHORE EXCURSIONS** To make the most of your visit to Corfu, we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For further information, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Manager at the Shore Excursion Desk.

**LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining:** It is considered normal to barter with merchants and storekeepers in Corfu, it's part of the fun.

**Tippling:** If services are enjoyed, a 10-15% tip is a good guideline.

**Local Cuisine:** Tzatziki is a yoghurt and cucumber dip, flavored with garlic. Taramosalata is another dip, pink in color, made from fish roe, generally served with crusty bread. Calamari (squid deep-fried in batter) is popular throughout the Islands and coastal resorts of Greece. Another well-known Greek dish is Moussaka; minced lamb, layered with egg-plant and bechamel sauce. For dessert, the specialty is Baklava, a very sweet phyllo pastry filled with walnut and honey.

**Drink Specialties:** Retsina is the best known of Greek white wines. They have a slightly bitter taste that is soon acquired. Ouzo is the local liqueur, aniseed flavored, sometimes drunk with water.

Bottled water is recommended.

**SHOPPING FACILITIES** Shops are generally open from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm Monday thru Saturday. Some tourist orientated stores may remain open during the afternoon.

The main shopping areas include G. Theotoki, E. Voulgareos and Kapodistrio Streets, behind the Esplanade.

Items of particular interest include; jewelry, especially silver, leather goods, ceramics, woven rugs, carved olive-wood and embroidered cotton or hand-woven lace.

Some tourist orientated stores may accept U.S. Dollars, most accept major credit cards.

Value Added Tax (VAT), is added to most purchases. Visitors who spend over a certain amount may be entitled to re-claim some or all of the tax paid, however, regulations and conditions governing the refund of VAT are subject to change and RCCL cannot guarantee the cooperation of local authorities.

**LOCAL CURRENCY** The unit of currency in this port of call is the euro. There are 8 euro coins denominated in 2 and 1 euros, along with 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, and 1 cent pieces. Every euro coin carries a common European face. On the obverse, each Member State decorates the coins with their own motifs. No matter which motif is on the coins they can be used anywhere inside the Member States. There are 7 euro notes. In different colors and sizes, they are denominated in 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, and 5 euros. The notes are uniform throughout the euro area; unlike coins, they have no national side. All euro notes are legal tender in all countries of the euro area.

**POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES** The main Post Office is located on Alexandra's Avenue.

International calls may be placed from the "OTE" (phone company). It is possible to use local phone cards which are available from a number of outlets, including the "OTE". Collect calls can take a long time to place.

AT&T: 00-800-1311  
MCI: 00-800-1211  
Sprint: 00-800-1411

**TOURIST INFORMATION** The local Tourist Information Office is located at Zavitsianou Street.

**TRANSPORTATION** Taxis are generally available pier side. It is important to negotiate a fare prior to departing. Some taxi drivers may accept U.S. Dollars.

### USEFUL WORDS

Yes • Ne  
No • Ochi  
Good Day • Kalimera  
Good-bye • Adio  
Thank-you • Efharisto  
You're Welcome • Parakalo