



Sun, Sea &...San Stef.

Summer 2011 News Paper

An introduction to myself



Hi there, or yasoo as the locals would say! My name is Cerys and I have had the great pleasure of creating this news paper for you to enjoy. San Stefanos has been like a second home to me since I was 3 years old when my family brought me along for our first Greek holiday together. 19 years on and I still love it here just as much as I did then. Last summer, after dreaming of moving here since I was a child, I decided to take a chance and uprooted from sunny old Wales. I started working part time with Noula and Sally at San Stefano Travel and this move confirmed my hopes and dreams, I'm never going back!! Working closely with the girls, they have become my extended family here. My family back home are elated too as they now have an even bigger reason to visit San Stefanos!

As of summer 2011 I am a fully fledged member of San Stefano Travel and you can find all 3 of us lovely ladies here in our brand spanking new office on the road to the beach. We took it upon ourselves as a trusted source of information, to create this news paper for guests of San Stefanos to learn more about the village and its residents. It is the first issue of what we aspire to make an annual feature. We hope that you find these articles not only informative but interesting too and if you have any suggestions for further issues, send your suggestions to cerrys@san-stefano.gr as we would be glad to hear them. San Stefano Travel has been a foundation block for San Stefanos for over 12 years and we pride ourselves on issuing our guests with expert advice and products so that your time here is the best that it can be. I sincerely hope that you enjoy San Stefanos and build your fondest memories and lasting friendships as I have over the years.

Introduction to San Stefanos



Welcome to San Stefanos! Situated on the North-West coast of Corfu, San Stefanos has been a popular holiday destination for families and couples for many years. With the appeal of its golden sandy beach, fantastic local cuisine and friendly atmosphere it's no wonder more than 70% of our visitors return year after year. This is a truly unique statistic not only for Greece, but for holiday destinations around the world. But after spending your summer vacation with us I'm sure you'll see why people just can't get enough. San Stefanos is a diverse resort, with something to suit everyone right here on your doorstep. Shops, bars, restaurants, cafes, pools, a glorious beach you name it, we've got it. You can even say "I do" here! (Contact Sally our wedding co-ordinator at weddings@san-stefano.gr)

But San Stefanos didn't always look this way. If we went back only 50 years there would be none of the facilities that you see here today. The original San Stefanos consisted of a few houses, a small church and a harbour. The church is still standing today and is located on the way to the harbour overlooking San Stefanos bay. It was originally built during the Venetian era and they named it the church of Agios Stefanos (Saint Steven), the surrounding area was then named after the church. It fell into ruin but in 1930 a young monk dedicated his life's work to restoring the church. It is not used regularly, only on special occasions but is still open to guests who can light a candle or just be inspired by the intricate decorations. If you wish to enter the church, be sure to cover bare arms and legs as we must keep in mind that it is still seen as a very holy place.

San Stefanos was once a small fishing village where locals would take their boats out from the old harbour and literally fish for their sup-

per. This is still true of some locals today but the old harbour, although still visible is merely for decoration these days. A new working harbour was built to accommodate modern times and it is from here that the locals, young and old, depart every morning to hook their catch. Fishing is still an integral part of life in the village and local fishermen supply the restaurants and tavernas as well as exporting their goods to make a living. They use traditional methods and techniques passed down from generation to generation, with the aid of modern adaptations.

San Stefanos is bustling with tourists during the summer months, but in the winter the locals get to enjoy their picturesque surroundings resting and preparing for the following season. Most local people live in neighbouring Avliotes and years ago this was regarded as the main town. San Stefanos was just a small fishing village back then and the locals from Avliotes would come and use the beach here as their own. San Stefanos beach is one of 32 Blue Flag beaches on Corfu Island and is well known for its long stretch of golden sand and gently sloping clear waters. The calm warm waters are ideal for families with young children and big kids of all ages!

The majority of businesses within San Stefanos are run by local families who take great pride in making sure that every visitor is made to feel at home. This is one of the reasons that people keep coming back. You may have noticed that most locals here share the same last name, Mouzakitis. It is common in Greek communities that a whole town of people will share the same last name. In Avliotes there are even two churches, one for the Mouzakitis and one for all the others with a different last name. No matter what your last name, you'll feel like part of the family by the end of your stay!



Getting out and about



Aspri Ammos, Othoni



San Stefano Travel Boat Hire

By boat

There are many ways you can explore the picturesque surroundings, on land or by water depending on your level of curiosity. For those who fancy themselves as a captain of the high seas you can hire a boat for the day exclusively at San Stefano Travel (call 0030 26630 51771/51910) and take in the glorious coastline at your own leisure, stopping in hidden caves and deserted beaches to bathe in the summer sun. Many of those Kodak moments can't be reached by car or on foot so to seek out Corfu's hidden treasures a boat is the perfect way to go. This also gives you the unique opportunity to pull up anchor at Akrogiali, a unique sea front fish taverna in St George. For those who want the experience of a day at sea but don't know port from starboard, let captain Sam take the lead. Known as San Stefano Travel's Varkarola trips, small groups can all climb aboard and be ferried around by their own private pirate to secluded beaches and hidden coves. There are also many excursions that can be taken on larger boats, such as a day out on board the Nearchos to the Diapontia islands; Mathraki, Othoni & Ericusa. These are nearby islands that offer peace and quiet in their unspoiled surroundings. There are separate trips including a voyage to Ericusa that departs 3 times a week and a trip to both Mathraki and Othoni that departs only once a week but is not to be missed! Another must see is Paxos and Parga. Lay back and relax as you cruise to each island, stopping off for a look at their breathtaking beauty and for a traditional Greek dining experience. Corfu is Greece's most northern point, sharing sea borders with Italy. There is also a local ferry service called Pegasus that departs from San Stefanos harbour 3 times a week to the nearby islands. It's designed for the local people to transport essential goods to the secluded islands and is only bookable from the kiosk at the harbour. Please note this ferry service is in no way a tour of the islands and is just designed as a large boat courier service for people and cargo. For information on this service, please visit San Stefanos harbour.



views in town that you can enjoy in comfort. When you reach Arillas be sure to check out Brouklis restaurant located just past the main junction in Arillas where you will be spoiled for choice with fantastic home-made traditional Greek cuisine and a welcoming atmosphere. It prides its self on being one of the longest running local restaurants and it's no wonder with its mouthwatering dishes, spectacular service and rustic Greek decor. On the other hand, if you prefer to be shown where the hot spots are, some guided walking tours are available through San Stefano Travel. Here you have the advantage of a leader who will be sure that you don't miss a thing.

On foot

No need to worry for those who haven't yet grown their sea legs as there is plenty to see on land down quiet tracks and through lush olive groves. Not to mention the thrill of feeling Corfu's golden sands between your toes. You can easily navigate your way around the small villages, taking in the old churches and small cafes where you are more than welcome to rest your tired legs after a day of exploration. There is a beautiful walk right on your door step here in San Stefanos and is suitable for most. Behind the Zest for Life juice bar serving sandwiches and fresh juices, opposite Margaritas Supermarket there is a steep but manageable road that will take you along the headlands of San Stefanos and will bring you via the scenic route to Arillas. There are some truly awe-inspiring views to be had of the whole area, giving you a bird's eye view of both San Stefanos and Arillas. If you get a little tired half way you can stop and enjoy the view with an ice cold drink or creamy latte at Akrotiri. Its name literally means 'cape' in Greek, a projection of land into a body of water. This new cafe bar boasts the best

By car/bike

If just reading this is making you tired, fear not, there's something for everyone in and around San Stefanos. Hiring a car is a popular favourite mode of transport for those who want to explore without breaking a sweat, so why not call in and see Valantis at San Stefano Rent A Car to begin your adventure. Corfu is a relatively small island and it's possible to discover a lot of it within one or two days. Also, don't worry about getting lost, we're an island encircled by ocean so you can't go too far wrong! Navigate your way through winding mountain roads surrounded by breathtaking views of olive trees, small unspoiled villages and crystal clear waters. If you like to feel the wind in your hair, why not visit Pegasus Bike Hire in the center of San Stefanos where he has a range of scooters, quads, bikes and beach buggies for rent.

By local bus

the green bus

For those looking for a direct route from A to B, there is a green bus designed for the local people to get to Corfu town. The bus runs from San Stefanos and the surrounding villages to Corfu town, so no chances for popping on and off. As I said, it's a bus designed for locals and is in no way a



guided tour, but is convenient for those seeking a straightforward journey to town. We recommend you do as the locals do and catch the earliest bus as this then leaves you with enough time to explore the delights of Corfu Town. It's useful to know that Corfu Town has a little siesta in the afternoon so all of the shops close from 14:30 and reopen at 17:30, but on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays they do not reopen in the afternoon. Here is a list of the green bus time table, but be advised that it runs on Greek time so may be slightly late sometimes!

San Stefanos – Corfu Town.

Week days; 06:30, 10:45 and 15:45.
Saturdays; 08:15 and 15:45.
Sundays; 17:00.

Corfu Town – San Stefanos.

Week days; 05:15, 09:00 and 14:00.
Saturdays; 07:00 and 14:00.
Sundays; 09:30.

Please note that we at San Stefano Travel are in no way responsible for the Green Bus and the times stated above are subject to change at any time. The Green Bus company is run by KTEL, their telephone number is 26610 39985. You can also find the Green bus timetable at the bus stop in the center of San Stefanos.



Paleokastritsa



Liston

By coach

There are other coach options that are designed for tourists and will allow more time in the designated destinations and more information about the areas you pass will be available. To get the best from your visit to Corfu, the Grand Island coach tour is definitely recommended. Here you will see all Corfu has to offer with the benefit of an English speaking guide on board the air-conditioned coach. You can also visit Paleokastritsa by coach and stop off at the Kumquat distillery for a sample of the locally produced liquor and the ancient monastery. Another popular tourist attraction is the coach trip to Kassiope where you will visit this quaint town that has retained its traditional charm and character. It boasts an ancient fortress as well as an idyllic fishing harbour. Brand new for Summer 2011, San Stefano Travel are offering a Mountain Safari which will allow guests to explore the unspoiled rural villages hidden within the winding country hills. You will be taken to Mount Pantokrator, the highest point on Corfu with panoramic views of the entire island and then to Old Perithia, an old abandoned village. This forgotten village is said to have bore a curse long ago and was deserted by all of its residents. These breathtaking ruins are located amidst beautiful countryside within a protected heritage site.



Old Perithia

In case of emergency



Here's a list of some useful numbers in case of an emergency. We hope that you won't need them. For minor ailments there is a pharmacy situated in Avliotes, the next local village. There are also small medical centers in the local villages, including one here in San Stefanos. We advise that if you need a Doctor to call the local General Practitioner, Dr Yiannis. He is a well known trusted Doctor from nearby Arillas. Just don't be intimidated by his tool box!

- Ambulance:**166
- Police:**.....100
- Police Station in Karousades:** 26630 31222
- Fire Dept:**.....199
- Local Doctor Yiannis:**26630 51498,
- » » » **Mobile:** 69445 28593
- Coast Guard:**26610 32655
- British Embassy:**.....21072 72600
- British Embassy out of hours (emergency only):**21072 37727
- Corfu Airport:**.....26610 039040

Learning the lingo

The phrase 'it's all Greek to me' need not apply with these handy day to day words. Impress the locals by saying good morning or thank you in their native language, and here's how;

- Hello – Yasoo
- Good morning – Kalimera
- Good afternoon – Kalispera
- Good night – Kalinihta
- Thank you – Efkaristo
- Please – Parakalo
- Yes – Ne
- No – Ohi
- Ok - Entaxi
- How are you? – Ti kanis?
- Good – Kala
- Very – Poli
- Where is? - Pou ine?
- Here – Etho
- There – Eki
- How much? – Poso kani?
- The bill – To logarismo

LATEST NEWS

As I'm sure you're well aware by now, San Stefano Travel has moved into their brand new office within the Margaritas Suites building on the road to the beach. They welcome you with open arms to come and check out their new home along with a guided tour of the luxury suites at Margaritas. In other news, Perdita's Glass Art has also moved premises and can now be found opposite Margaritas Supermarket on the road to the beach/harbour. Also, Tasty Corner has branched out and created an Internet Corner equipped with games consoles and computers offering internet access.

San Stefano addicts

Sue and Keith Stanton

San Stefanos has a way of inspiring magical moments for those who visit. People share the happiest days of their lives here relaxing in paradise, so it's no wonder that over 70% of our guests return year upon year. Lasting friendships are formed not only with other holiday makers but with the local families too. San Stefanos' community grows each year as new guests discover not only the picturesque surroundings and glorious sunshine, but also its charm and welcoming atmosphere. One couple who have experienced the fairy tale wonders of San Stefanos first hand is Sue and Keith Stanton. Not only did they meet here, they even chose to host their big day here and now they are living their dream and have left the cold confines of the UK to become residents of San Stefanos.

Their story began in August 2003 when they first set eyes on each other at Tsaros pool bar. Keith had been a regular visitor for many years with his daughter but this visit was Sue's first. She was here with her daughter and some friends and whilst having fun around the pool Sue and Keith laid eyes on each other over breakfast. "We shared a breakfast table and that was that!" Sue recalls. From then on the pair were inseparable, even though they only had a couple of days together as Keith was approaching the end of his holiday and Sue was just beginning hers. They relished their holiday romance and went for coastal walks around the village and on the beach, watching sun sets together and enjoying the euphoric atmosphere. Sue and Keith agree that the idyllic setting of their meeting emphasized and encouraged their love affair. They parted ways but kept in contact and in October 2003 Keith moved to Leicester to be with Sue where they planned their wedding through Noula at San Stefano Travel.

On August the 12th 2004 Sue and Keith were married, one year after fate had brought them together. They shared a horse drawn carriage from Sidari to Velonades where the wedding ceremony was held. Locals came out to their balconies and lined the streets to clap and cheer to congratulate the couple. Once they were married, Sue and Keith along with all their friends and family came back to San Stefanos to celebrate. They danced and rejoiced through the night, then walked romantically back to their bridal suite across the beach at midnight. This magical day went perfectly for the couple, who chuckle as they say "We got married in Greek time". To keep up with Greek time, just set your watch back 5 minutes or so!

When asked, "What brings you back to San Stefanos?" they both reply with broad smiles across their faces, "San Stefanos is one of those places where, once you get on the plane your holiday begins. It's such a relaxed, laid back island. It's more like coming home than going on holiday." The couple feels so at home here that in August 2010, they travelled through Europe before arriving at their final destination here in Corfu. This had always been



Sue & Keith

a dream for them both but never seemed feasible until Keith took early retirement. They packed up their belongings and took a leap of faith, knowing that destiny would take care of the rest. Their initial family reaction was one of disbelief, this then turned into encouragement as Keith explains "Our girls are happy at the possibility of a free holiday with us!" They spent the summer months here in their paradise, basking in the sunshine and cherished their new found freedom. Their move has been made all the more enjoyable by the locals who have welcomed them into the community. Sue describes, "We feel as if we have been accepted as a neighbour as opposed to a tourist or holiday maker. The locals here don't treat us any differently than the way they treat each other. It feels as if we've always been here and even the language barrier doesn't feel like that much of an issue." It is definitely true of the locals here in San Stefanos who make all visitors and residents welcome.

Sue and Keith have a special bond with each other that was formed here but they have also formed lasting friendships with the locals. They have become close friends with Noula who planned and organized their blissful wedding. Also to Thanassis and his family from Tsaros pool where they first met, who have always welcomed them and made them feel at home. After Keith's many visits here, he smiles and recalls, "Manthos is one of my oldest friends, we met over 20 years ago but we are still making new friends. Even when we walk to Arillas and Avliotes, we always stop and chat with the locals on our way."

When asked about future plans the pair smile at each other and agree that they are taking things day by day. Sue explains, "As long as our health and families are both well then we will be here for the foreseeable future". When asked to sum up San Stefanos in a few words the pair went into a frenzy of beautifully suiting adjectives! "Wonderful, spectacular, relaxing, breathtaking, a gem" It's clear to see that Sue and Keith have not only fallen in love with each other but with San Stefanos as well.



Inspirational people from San Stefanos;

Stamatis Mouzakititis

The history of Muay-Thai has roots that extend over 2000 years and the original meaning of the name Muay-Thai means 'the art of eight limbs'. This is because this martial art utilizes fists, elbows, knees and kicks, thus making eight points of contact as opposed to two points (fists) in Western boxing and four points (hands and feet) used in sport-oriented martial arts. Someone who is skilled in the art of Muay Thai is known as a nak muay. Many original Muay-Thai fights were for honour and so were to the death.

San Stefanos has its very own nak muay in the form of Stamatis Mouzakititis, known as Sam to his friends. Sam is a part of the Greek Muay-Thai Union and has his own school of fighters here in San Stefanos called Thersilohos. The name of his club derives from a legendary Corfiot warrior who fought in ancient Olympia.

Sam started his Muay-Thai training in 1982 where he studied in Astoria, New York. He attended a school called Master Won where he learned how to engage in full contact fights and kick boxing. It was clear that Sam was dedicated to his art early on and won many titles, including Teen Champion of New York at 91 kilos.

Sam returned to Corfu for 1 year and continued to perfect his fighting skills before moving on to England where he would stay for 6 more years. While he was there, he was a member of the ABA Club in Leamington Spa and won 9 fights. He expanded his interests and pursued the art of Judo at the BJA Club that belonged to Bill Hastings, coach to 3 time Olympic winner Neil Adams. During his time here, Sam racked up 3 more wins, with 1 tie and 1 loss. Unfortunately, after the death of his coach the union closed.

A new chapter began for Sam when Anthony Hayes, the English Muay-Thai champion, created a new club called The Warriors. He trained here for 6 years and also joined K-Star in Birmingham, headed by Steve Logan and Damien Trainer. With the wealth of information that Sam had gathered within his many years of training, he earned his certificate to become a trainer himself from the WMTO (World Muay Thai Organisation). He became the official trainer for Warwickshire Police educating them in Muay Thai and boxing.

Although he had already gained many titles and his certificate to become a trainer, Sam continued on his quest to better himself as a nak muay and earned yet more honors including 3 times champion for the police and WMTO and WPMT titles.

Sam moved back to his home village of San Stefanos in 2001 where he created his Thersilohos team. At the time, he was still training in England so he could not dedicate his full time to the club but in 2004 he made the decision to move back to Corfu full time and this is when his group flourished. Sam had a vision to bring the culture that he had learned to the youth of San Stefanos so that they too could experience the joy that the art had brought to him. He opened the group to all ages, training men, women and children. Thersilohos is open all year round, which is exceptional as it is situated in a seasonal village and summer temperatures easily exceed 30°C, but his pupils show him the same dedication he has shown them by training in all weathers all year round. His team takes part in national fights for titles and in 2006 they held their first organised fight in Sidari. In Sept 2009 the English team was invited to compete against Sam's Thersilohos and all was taken in good spirits. Thersilohos celebrated numerous triumphs within this tournament. Most recently in March



2011 Sam held a super fight night in Sidari where the 3 time world champion fought against the Cypriot champion. Sam's newest achievement was being chosen by the EOMO to be the lead trainer for all of Greece.

The Thersilohos fighters are definitely proving their worth and flourishing under Sam's supervision. He has outstanding fighters training under him including 16 year old Natalia who is currently the Greek champion, 1st in the Balkans and is 2nd in Europe within her 63.5kgs weight category. Another fighter making Sam proud is Mixalis, at 18 years old he is currently Greek Champion and 3rd in Europe within his 60kgs weight category. One to look out for is Arsenis who at 13 years old is already rated 2nd in the Balkans within his weight category of 47kgs. Sam's talents could definitely be hereditary as his son George follows in his footsteps. At the age of 12 he has already conquered the ring with 20 fights and 19 wins under his belt. He is currently rated 10th in the world in his weight category of 42kgs. It's clear to see that Sam and his Thersilohos are a force to be reckoned with, and as his team grows and news spreads of their success we could definitely see some world famous champions among us very soon.

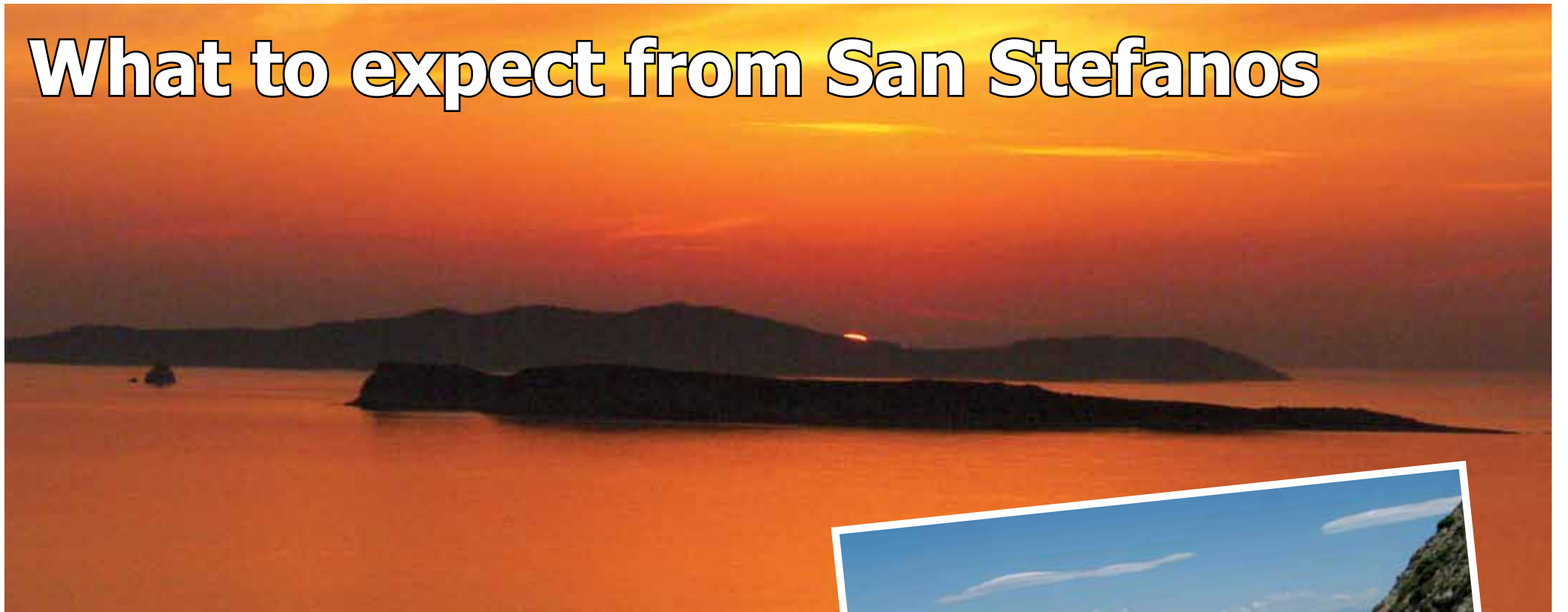
Looking to the future, Sam has already organised an Ionian Muay Thai tournament in Sidari where the English have been invited back to compete against Greece. The fight is due to take place in July 2011. The North of Corfu has got a lot to thank Sam for as he is the one who has brought international attention to the region and without Sam, none of these fights would be possible. Sam's dream is to open a professional training camp for fighters of all ages to come and improve their fighting skills and meet other Muay Thai enthusiasts. In the mean time he is opening his doors to everyone who shares his passion for the art, this includes holiday makers who want to get involved. Training sessions are available upon request and Sam can be found either at ASPA, his family run supermarket or behind the supermarket where his training grounds stand. For those who can't take part but want to contribute, Sam is selling calendars featuring photos of him and his fighters in action. The proceeds from the calendar will be put straight back into the team to fund international trips for his fighters to compete and gain more titles for Thersilohos.

You can follow Sam and his Thersilohos via his facebook group, Muay Thai Boxing - Corfu, the link to which is <http://www.facebook.com/#!/group.php?gid=48513209025>.





What to expect from San Stefanos



San Stefanos is a very diverse village with something to suit everyone. There is a wealth of bars and restaurants catering for all palates including Greek, Mediterranean and Italian cuisine. Town Pizza even offers a free delivery service to your accommodation for a relaxing evening in, just call 26630-51439. There are bistros and tavernas where you can enjoy a delicious traditional home cooked meal or more extravagant eateries where you will experience 5* dining. There are also super markets where you can pick up all of your essentials such as English brand named products, freshly baked bread, fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy products and much more. Within San Stefanos you will also find a wealth of news paper and gift shops where you can purchase Corfiot memorabilia, accessories, ornaments and much more. For a very special gift there are two jewellers situated in San Stefanos who specialise in white and yellow gold, silver and precious gems. There are many modern facilities such as internet cafes and an electronic games room on offer, as well as handy conveniences such as Willy's Wash House (call 6946482936), a speedy launderette who are only a phone call away and will collect and deliver your washing, saving you the hassle of washing a suitcase full of dirty clothes when you arrive home! San Stefanos' neighbouring village of Arillas even boasts its own brewery, producing four types of Corfu Beer available in numerous bars and restaurants locally. This local nectar is world renowned and guests travel from all over the globe for a tour around the micro-brewery. Whatever your needs and desires, San Stefanos has the answer. Even when the facility cannot be found within San Stefanos such as a hairdresser, florist or if you require a birthday cake, call in to the office to let us know and we will arrange whatever you need.

Don't forget, you can always keep up to date with the latest happenings in San Stefanos through numerous outlets such as;
www.sanstefanos.co.uk, San Stefano Travels facebook page and through www.san-stefano.gr.



Corfu Beer & The Smile Of A Child



Located on the outskirts of neighbouring Arillas stands Corfu's first ever microbrewery. This pioneering establishment was opened only 3 years ago and has taken real ale drinkers by storm as their naturally brewed beers quench thirsts worldwide. All of Corfu Beers products are 100% natural and have no additives or preservatives leading to a superior finished product. As well as the ground-breaking progress they have made within the beer industry here in Corfu, they are also striving to support the local community, more specifically, a children's hospice situated in Magoulades. This sanctuary is run by a Greek charity called To Xamogelo Tou Paidiou literally translated to The Smile Of A Child. Corfu Beer has taken it upon itself to hold fund raising events to support the foundation and have already had great success in July when they held an event with the support of local radio stations and merchants. Also, San Stefano Travel and Corfu Beer have joined forces to organise weekly walks to the brewery including a guided tour and free tasting session in order to raise money continuously for the children's charity.



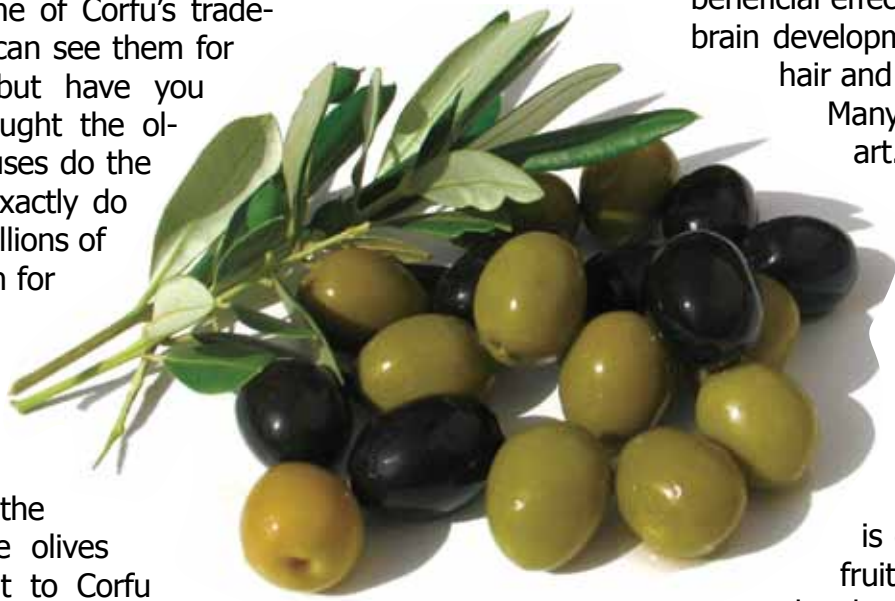
History of our olives

Olive trees are one of Corfu's trademarks and you can see them for miles around, but have you ever thought who brought the olives to Greece? What uses do the olives have and how exactly do they collect all those millions of olives? Well your search for answers ends here!

The olive tree is the symbol of wisdom and peace and was the sacred tree of goddess Athena and Athens, the capital of Greece. The olives were originally brought to Corfu by the Italians around 1500AD to replace vineyards. They encouraged the Greeks to cultivate the olives but were deterred from entering into commercial competition with Venice. You will notice many of the Venetian influences around Corfu, especially in the architecture in and around Corfu Town. Notably the Liston, an arched colonnade lined with cafes, a Corfu town hot spot.

The olive groves are harvested in the winter months and there are many different methods that people use to collect the precious fruit. Most modern Greeks lay nets all around the olive grove and let the olives naturally fall into them when ripe. They then gather the nets and collect the olives into sacks where they can be transported to local olive presses and squeezed for their delicious oil. Others prefer to pick the olives from the trees instead of letting them fall and gather in nets. What is certain in Corfu is that most of the olives are collected by hand as the land is too mountainous for machines, therefore the fruit is not bruised and leads to a superior finished product.

There are many uses for the olive trees, from the wood to the fruit. Olive oil has been used in soap making for thousands of years. It is said to have a rejuvenating effect on the skin and promotes health and beauty. It's also very good for sensitive skin. You can purchase many olive oil beauty products from the Taste of Life Natural Produce shop situated here in San Stefanos. Olive Oil has been shown to have



beneficial effects on virtually every aspect of bodily function, including brain development, digestion, aging process, the condition of skin & hair and metabolism.

Many artists use the trunk of the olive trees to make wood art. They usually harvest the wood from the top of the olive trees, this also encourages the olive trees to grow quicker and produce better fruit. Once the olive wood is cut, it is stored in darkness for years to ensure that the wood is dry. Once the wood is ready to be sculpted it can be made into a variety of useful objects such as pens, smoking pipes and ornamental decorations ranging from clocks and mirror frames to intricate carvings and models.

The most common use for the olives grown on Corfu is either to process them so that they can be eaten as a fruit as part of a mezze (a small plate of food designed to be shared and eaten with your fingers containing cured meats, cheeses and olives) or to press them and use the oil for cooking purposes. Many olive farmers sell their oil internationally, but most have a private stash for them to enjoy with their families during meal times. It's used in cooking and as a salad dressing and a Greek salad wouldn't be a Greek salad without a good dousing of local olive oil!



Pastitsio Recipe

of Bucatini pasta (a thick tubular type of spaghetti), finely grated yellow cheese.

For the béchamel sauce layer you will need; 200g margarine, 1 egg, some milk, some plain white flour, salt, pepper, nutmeg, cinnamon and clove powder.

Step 1: Heat olive oil in a frying pan and add the minced beef.

Step 2: Finely dice the 4 small onions and add to the beef, fry until golden brown.

Step 3: In a separate pan, boil some water ready for your pasta, when the water is at boiling point, add your Bucatini pasta and cook until ready.

Step 4: Add a tin of chopped tomatoes, a splash of white wine and 200g of tomato puree to the frying beef. Add a little water so that all the meat is covered.

Step 5: Season the beef by adding a pinch of salt, pepper, nutmeg and clove powder. Feel free to judge your own measurements as everyone has their own preferences.

Step 6: Leave to simmer until all of the water has been absorbed.

Step 7: Gently melt 200g of margarine over a medium heat in a separate pan.

Step 8: Once the margarine has melted, slowly add plain white flower a table spoon at a time whilst whisking (you will need roughly 2 and a half tablespoons). Continue doing this until the mixture has thickened and deepened in colour.

Step 9: Add milk a little at a time whilst still mixing the sauce. Keep doing this until the mixture has reached a creamy texture.

Step 10: Add a pinch of salt, pepper, cinnamon, nutmeg and clove powder to the sauce.

Step 11: Beat 1 egg in a separate bowl. Take the pan off the heat and add the beaten egg to the mixture. Return the pan to the heat and stir.

Step 12: Baste a deep baking tray with margarine. Layer some of the pasta in the base of the tray. Top with a little grated cheese before continuing to layer some of the meat. Repeat layering.

Step 13: Finally, spread the béchamel sauce over the top and finish with some grated cheese.

Step 14: Place in the oven for 40minutes at 200oc until the béchamel sauce has turned golden brown. To test if it's ready, pierce with a knife and withdraw, if the knife comes out clean then it's ready. A handy tip is to leave it cool before serving as this will allow the mixture to set further and will be easier to section and serve.

Pastitsio is one of the most popular and well known traditional Greek dishes. The dish has 3 separate components (minced beef, pasta and béchamel sauce) that are all placed together in a casserole dish and baked to receive the final product. I'm sure once you've served this dish it will become a popular favorite in your household too. The recipe below will feed 4-5 people. So, let's get started!

For the meat layer you will need; olive oil, 500g minced beef, 4 small onions, 200g of tomato puree, a tin of chopped tomatoes, a splash of white wine, salt, pepper, nutmeg and clove powder. For the pasta layer you will need; 500g

For returning guests

If the mere thought of leaving us is too much to bear, turn that frown upside down as we have a selection of properties in San Stefanos and booking information so that you can get started with arranging next year's holiday. Below you will find a wide selection of package holidays through tour operators and un-packaged options bookable direct through the owners so whatever your expectations you will find it here. Once you've decided you can begin your San Stefanos count down all over again!

Hotels;

Little Prince Hotel – Thomson.

The Little Prince hotel is located 50m from the center of San Stefanos and 5minutes walk from the beach and has its own elevated sun terrace and pool area. It's classed as a 3*plus hotel that offers nightly Greek dancing with fire and other tricks in its popular restaurant performed by the waiters. Little Prince is known for its welcoming atmosphere and fantastic service, adding a personal touch as they never forget a face. <http://www.thomson.co.uk/destinations/europe/greece/corfu/san-stefanos/apartments/little-prince-apartments.html>

Terezas – Thomson.

These hilltop apartments offer outstanding clear views of San Stefanos bay, located 5minutes walk from the beach and 10minutes from the center. <http://www.thomson.co.uk/destinations/europe/greece/corfu/san-stefanos/apartments/teresa-hotel-and-apartments.html>

Romanza Hotel – Thomson.

The Romanza Hotel is a 3* property situated at the top of San Stefanos on the cliff side, offering stunning panoramic views of the bay below. <http://www.thomson.co.uk/destinations/europe/greece/corfu/san-stefanos/hotels/hotel-romanza.html>

Thomas Bay Hotel – Thomson Gold (adults only).

The Thomas Bay Hotel is a 3* property located in the center of San Stefanos and is one of the only hotels exclusively to adults. <http://www.thomson.co.uk/destinations/europe/greece/corfu/san-stefanos/hotels/hotel-thomas-bay.html>

Athina Hotel – Thomson.

This 3*plus hotel is situated right on the beach and a stone's throw away from the center and offers the most unique pool in San Stefanos with its crossing bridge and abstract shape. <http://www.thomson.co.uk/destinations/europe/greece/corfu/san-stefanos/hotels/hotel-athina.html>

Barras Hotel – Thomson.

Located in the center of San Stefanos only 250m from the beach and a stone's throw away from the bars and restaurants stands the Barras Hotel offering spacious 2*plus apartments. <http://www.thomson.co.uk/destinations/europe/greece/corfu/san-stefanos/apartments/barras-apartments.html>

Nafsika Hotel - Thomson.

Situated 1minute away from the beach and 5minutes away from the center, Nafsika Hotel is a 2*plus property that boasts fabulous views in a great location. <http://www.thomson.co.uk/destinations/europe/greece/corfu/san-stefanos/hotels/hotel-nafsika.html>

Luxury Self Catering Apartments & Suites;

Margaritas Suites – Direct bookings through San Stefano Travel.

These exquisite suites are located in private gardens right on the beach front and all rooms have breathtaking sea views. Margaritas supermarket is less than a minute away and the center of San Stefanos is a 5minute walk. www.san-stefano.gr

Vassilys Up & Down – Direct bookings through San Stefano Travel.

Located in a slightly elevated position, the newly refurbished Vassilys Up & Down apartments boast magnificent sea views that stretch across the bay of San Stefanos. www.san-stefano.gr

Tsaros Luxury Villas – Direct bookings through San Stefano Travel.

Situated in an elevated position offering breathtaking views of San Ste-

fanos bay, Tsaros Villas offer comfortable quality and can sleep up to 6. www.san-stefano.gr

Sugar & Almond – Direct bookings through San Stefano Travel.

These large ultra modern luxury apartments are located in a slightly elevated position facing the beach therefore offering stunning views out to the turquoise waters. www.san-stefano.gr

Paralia Luxury Apartments – Direct bookings through San Stefano Travel.

Also known as the Beach apartments, these newly refurbished luxury rooms have been finished to a very high standard to ensure guests superlative comfort. www.san-stefano.gr

Luxury Villas;

Romanza Villas – Direct bookings through San Stefano Travel.

Located by the small church on the road to the harbour, these spacious villas offer superb quality for you to enjoy equipped with a private swimming pool and magnificent landscaped gardens with stunning views out to the Diapontia islands. www.san-stefano.gr

Self Catering Apartments;

Theodosia – Direct bookings through San Stefano Travel.

Located just a stone's throw away from the center of San Stefanos within their own private gardens Theodosia offers quality accommodation in a great location, only 5minutes walk from the beach. www.san-stefano.gr

Anatoli – Direct bookings.

These traditionally decorated apartments are located on the road to the harbour, up a slight incline on the left and boast sea front views. www.anatoliapartments.awardspace.com

Christina – Direct bookings.

Located by the old church on the way to the harbour in a slightly elevated position, the Christina apartments offer panoramic views of the bay. www.christina-apartments.eu

Athens Bar apartments – Direct bookings.

These colourful stylish apartments are a mere stone's throw away from the beach and a couple of minutes from the center of San Stefanos. www.athens-bar.com

Kapetanios – Thomas Cook.

Kapetanios apartments have their own pool and snack bar, located in an elevated position offering beautiful views of the surrounding area, including the crystal clear ocean. http://www.thomascook.com/destinations/greece/corfu/aghios-stefanos/kapetanios-apartments/?intcmp=hp_Right1a_promo_hotel_CH&isAccomSearch=true&_requestid=15611

Vicky Apartments – Thomas Cook.

These apartments are ideal for beach lovers as they are located only 10m away from the golden sands and only 50m away from the center of San Stefanos. http://www.thomascook.com/destinations/greece/corfu/aghios-stefanos/vicky-apartments/?intcmp=hp_Right1a_promo_hotel_CH&isAccomSearch=true&_requestid=15690

Angelo – Direct bookings through San Stefano Travel.

Angelo offer high quality accommodations that have been tastefully decorated to combine traditional Greek design with a fresh modern touch. They also have their own private pool. www.san-stefano.gr

Rose Gardens – First Choice.

Situated in a quiet, rural part of San Stefanos the Rose Garden apartments are ideal if you're looking for a tranquil place to relax but with only a 10-15minute walk from the center and 15-20 minute walk from the beach, you have the best of both worlds. <http://www.firstchoice.co.uk/holidays/corfu-holidays/san-stefanos/rose-garden-studios-and-apartments/>

Dimitra – Direct bookings through San Stefano Travel.

The Dimitra apartments are located within their own gardens on a small incline offering spectacular views of the turquoise ocean and of San Stefanos resort. Only a 5minute walk to the nearest supermarket and beach and only 10minutes from the center. www.san-stefano.gr

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