

Ithaca Island, Ionian Islands, Greece

The legendary home of Odysseus rises from the Ionian Sea in a mosaic of emerald hills and electric-blue coves. Unspoiled by mass tourism, Ithaca rewards unhurried exploration with genuine Greek hospitality, mythic landscapes, and the quietest harbourfront you'll find on any Greek itinerary.

Tender port

Typical call: 6–8 hrs

Currency: Euro (€)

Language: Greek

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: Arrive: All aboard:

Excursion: Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — ships anchor in Vathy Bay; 5–10 min tender ride

Best For: Mythology, quiet beaches, authentic tavernas, scenic hikes

Walk to centre: Immediate — tender drops at the Vathy waterfront

Don't Miss: Water taxi to Gidaki Beach & the Statue of Odysseus

Getting around: Taxi €5–€15 · Rideshare not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Palace of Odysseus & School of Homer** — Head to the northern village of Exogi to visit the Mycenaean ruins at Agios Athanasios, long associated with the legendary palace of Odysseus.
- Water Taxi to Gidaki Beach** — The island's most stunning beach is accessible only by sea.
- Vathy Town & Archaeological Museum** — Stroll the horseshoe harbour promenade, admire the rebuilt Venetian-style townhouses, and visit the small Archaeological Museum with finds from the...
- Filiatro & Dexa Beach Half-Day** — Dexa Beach (Odysseus's mythic landing spot) is a 25-minute walk or 5-minute taxi; Filiatro is 10 minutes by taxi with sunbeds and a beach bar.
- Northern Villages: Kioni & Anogi** — With 8+ hours in port, a tour to the postcard-perfect fishing village of Kioni and the Byzantine tower at Anogi reveals the wilder, quieter side of...

BEST WALKS

- Vathy Waterfront & Town Stroll** 1.5 km · 20–30 min · Easy · Free — From the tender landing walk the full arc of the harbour promenade past the Statue of Odysseus, the town square (Plateia), and the Maritime Museum.
- Vathy to Dexa Beach** 2.5 km one way · 25–30 min · Easy–Moderate · Free — Follow the coastal road south out of Vathy toward the bay entrance to reach Dexa Beach, where mythology says the Phaeacians left Odysseus sleeping on his homecoming.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	High	Low	Rain
Mon	67°	56°	7d
Apr	83°	70°	4d
Jun	90°	76°	1d
Aug	83°	71°	2d
Sep	74°	64°	4d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:37AM–7:47PM · Jun 5:49AM–8:35PM · Aug 6:27AM–8:04PM · Sep 6:54AM–7:19PM · Oct 7:20AM–6:34PM

Currency: Euro (€)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Get tenders early. Ships rarely stay more than 8 hours; tender queues back up mid-morning. Head to the tender lounge 30 minutes before you want to go ashore.
- Taxis are scarce — claim one immediately. There are fewer than 15 taxis on the whole island. Walk to the taxi stand right next to the tender quay the moment you step ashore if you want northern-island access.
- Wear water shoes on every beach. Ithaca's beaches are almost entirely pebble — bare feet hurt. Bring your own or buy cheap sandals in Vathy.
- Book your water-taxi return time upfront. Confirm your pick-up slot with the Gidaki water-taxi driver before they leave the Vathy quay — missing the last tender is an expensive mistake.
- Try rovani. Ithaca's signature sweet — a dense cake of ground rice, honey, and olive oil — is sold in the Vathy bakeries. Order it with a Greek coffee on the waterfront.
- Motion-sickness prep for north-island tours. Roads to Kioni and Exogi are narrow with constant hairpin bends. Take medication before departure if you're susceptible.

Ithaca Island, Ionian Islands, Greece — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1

Folklore and Nautical Museum of Ithaca

Museum showcasing Ithaca's rich folklore and maritime history.
- 2

Vathi Port viewpoint

Panoramic spot offering stunning views of Vathy port and bay.
- 3

Odyssey

The legendary epic poem about Ithaca's mythical king, Odysseus.
- 4

Venetian cannons

Historic cannons from the Venetian era, guarding Vathy port.
- P

Cruise port / terminal