

Andros – November 2009

We had booked a hotel in Andros for the whole November to celebrate that both of us were retired. We also visited Andros in May this year.

The 3rd of November

The plain left from Gardermoen at 07.55. We should leave early in the morning, but what we didn't remember the night before, was that the tunnels at Grua are closed during the night. We luckily remembered that when we were awakened by the clock. But that meant that we suddenly was short of time, because it takes much longer to drive the old road over Skjerva. It is quite high up there and the snow covered the road. The road make a lot of turns, so only because of that it takes much longer time to drive this way. But it turned out well. We parked the car at Dalen Parkering and was driven from there over to the airport.

We travelled with Czech Airlines, which we also travelled with to Italy in 2007. We had an intermediate stop in Prague and from there to Athens.



At Gardermoen. Anne Berit has coffee and brought bread. Kjell has just a morning beer.



In Praha waiting for the next plain to leave for Athens.

When arriving in Athens, we took a taxi over to Rafina where the ferry was to embark for Andros at 17.30. When we came to the ticket office on the pier, we were told that the ferry didn't go because of too strong wind. That was a disappointment and we just had to find a hotel until next day. Then the ferry was scheduled to leave at 07.35. What we disliked even more was that it was raining dogs and cats. We opened our suitcases and pulled on rain gear and jogging shoes before we walked on to find a hotel. We had stayed at Hotel Coralli when we were here in May, so we walked straight up there and got a room.



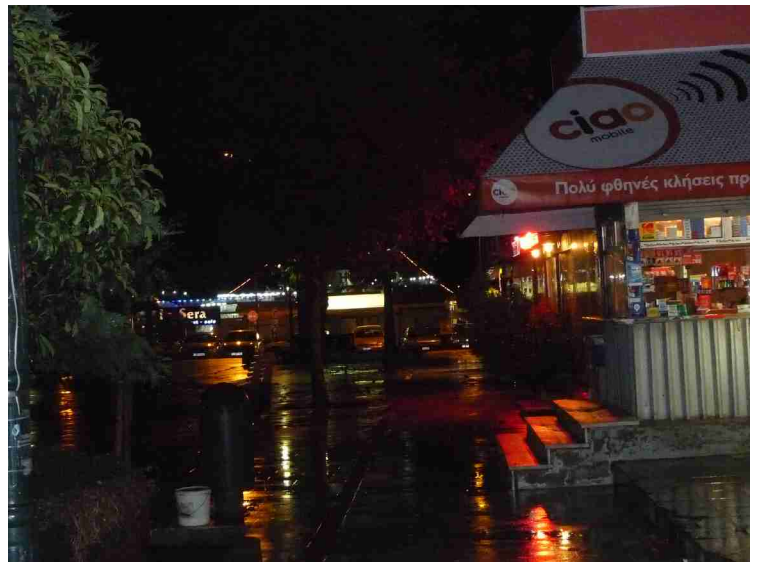
Kjell is taking off his wet trainers.



After that we needed something to eat. We went to a restaurant that was right beside the hotel. They had good food and good Greek wine.



The garlic is hanging here, scaring evil spirits away.



When outside again it had stopped raining, but it was still quite wet all over.

The 4th of November



We were up early and were at the quay in good time for bying tickets. Kjell followed the tradition and asked for two tickets to Samos. It is an island a quite different place in Greece, so they just shook their head and giggled. With help of Anne Berit we got tickets to Andros.



Here we are onboard. We were early so there came more passengers later.



Right now there were plenty of space.



Here is the boat, Penelope A.

When we arrived at Andros, we had arranged that the hotelowner should get us on the quay in Gavrio, which is the ferry port of Andros. He was waiting for us, and we were driven to Batsi where the hotel, Bella Vista lies.



It looks like this on a picture, which we found on Internet.



The first thing we found out when unpacking, was that the rain from the day before had seeped into Anne Berit's suitcase, so she had to dry most of the cloths. Here they are hanging.



This is the view from our terrace.



Afterwards we went to the supermarket right beside and bought some food.



On the way Kjell discovered a cat lying right outside, so he had to talk a while with it.



After that we went to the baker and bought some fresh bread. This is a part of the boat harbour.



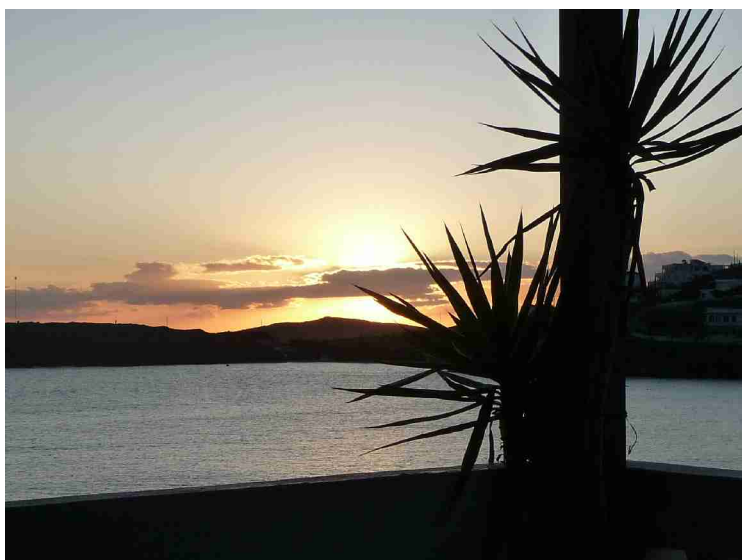
What is Kjell looking for?



He is watching a navy vessel, which anchored in the bay.



It was good and warm in the afternoon, about 20 centigrades, and we could sit in just the shorts.



The sun went down at about 17.30. Here we can see it from our terrace.

The 5th of November

Still nice weather in the morning, 21 centigrades. We had breakfast at the terrace and then we went for a walk in the neighbourhood and took some photographs of the vegetation.



Today the navy vessel had turned a bit with the wind.



Fig trees



Pomegranate



Lime



Oranges



Lemons



Here we are at the beach just outside the hotel. Kjell is studying the map of Andros.



Street picture



Olive



Well



Lemons



Bamboo



Wall



Another wall



Palm



More walls



A picture of us



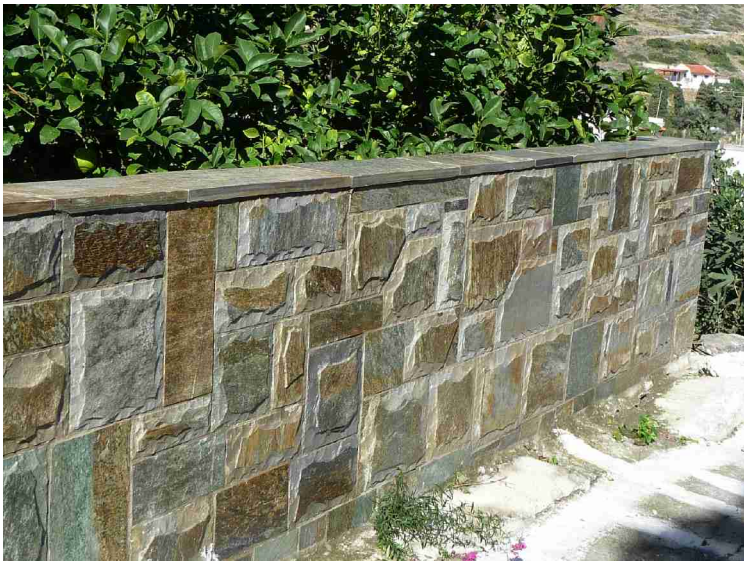
Wall with water tap



A snail on a wall



A church right beside the hotel



Another type of wall



Tree



More trees



One more snail



The cat wants in



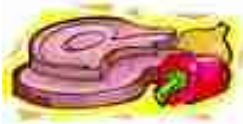
Nice espalier



View



Steps from the square



We compared the prices in the shop. Many people tells us that it is so cheap to live here in the south, but the price level is about as in Norway.



Later we were sitting at the terrasse solving cross word puzzles. We could look at a guy who was swimming in the bay. He was swimming back and forth for over half an hour, so the temperature in the water had to be quite good.

Now we are sitting, looking at helicopters, which are flying to and from the navy vessel, training in landing in the dark.

The 6th of November



Today we woke up to 20.5 centigrades outside, so in Norway we had called it a tropical night. We had breakfast at the terrace to the sound of the gulls and the beat of the waves at the beach.



Here is the breakfast table



After breakfast we walked along the beach to the headland where the navy vessel was anchored. On the way we passed a small chapel.



A couple of pictures from the headland in direction of Batsi



Here we look north in direction of Gavrio



When we had reached the tip of the headland we had to open a wine bottle



Here we are on the way back and can see some hotels up in the mountain side



This is a sheltered little cove



Here we see the chapel again



There is still flowering her



Cones



Berries



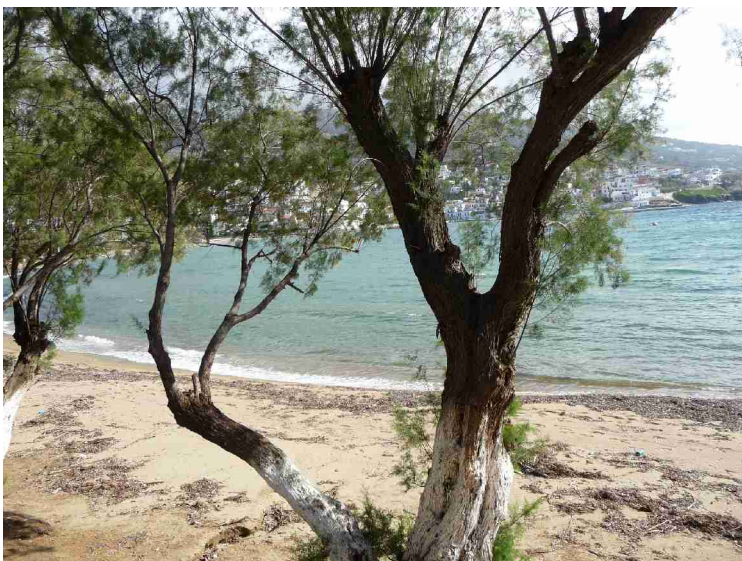
Anne Berit came along too



More views in direction Batsi



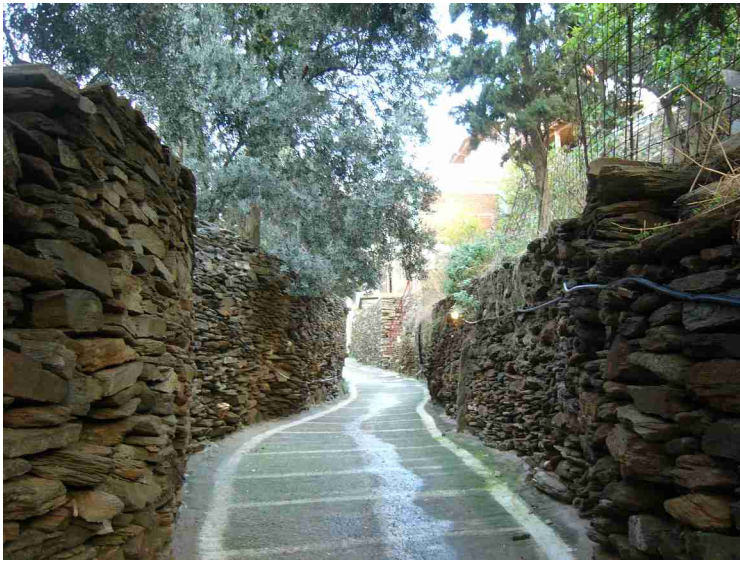
View from the road



Here we are back at the beach.
Back on the terrace we saw that the temperature was as high as 25 centigrades.



After sitting on the terrace for a while we went for a walk up in the city above the hotel. Here is a nice wall with flowers on it.



After having been high up, we found a narrow passageway leading back to the city.



There have been done a lot of work on this passageway. There have been made a lot of stairs and a lot of water channels to get rid of the rainwater.



When we were back at the harbour we had a couple of beers at a taverna. Afterwards we went to the supermarket to buy ingredients for the supper, vegetables with cod.



Here are a couple of shells, which we found on the beach



Kjell have cognac and coffe with a cigar