

KEFALONIA 20. - 27. SEPTEMBER



[Kefallinia](#), also known as Cephallenia, Cephallonia, Kefalonia or Kefallonia, is the largest of [The Ionian islands](#) in Greece with an area of 688,8 km².

The island got its name from the mythological hero Kefalos, who came to the island as a fugitive from Athens and chased away the original inhabitants who were called Tafhians.

Towns and villages was usually built on high peaks to prevent attacks from pirates in the Ionian Sea.

In 1864 Kefalonia became a part of Greece together with the other Ionian islands.

During WWII the island was occupied by Germany and Italy.

When the war ended in Europe in 1945, there were still a conflict in Kefalonia because of the Greek civil war. Peace came at last to the island in 1949.

Four earthquakes hit the island in August 1953. As a result of these practically all the houses in the island were destroyed.

The whole island rose 60 cm up from the sea as a result of the earthquake, and it is still so much higher today. That can be seen by the water marks on the cliffs around the coast.

It is estimated that about 100 000 of 125 000 inhabitants moved from the island after the earthquake.



This is the second Greek island we are visiting this year. We like Greece so good that we try to visit two Greek islands every year. This time we went with [StarTour](#) to Kefalonia. As usual we parked the car at [Dalen Parkering](#). Most of the charter flights leaves at disadvantageous times, we think. Now the flight departed from [Gardermoen](#) early in the evening and was arriving at the airport at Kefalonia around midnight. Thereafter there was bus travel of about one hour to [Skala](#), where we should stay.

The apartment hotel, which we stayed at is called [Mi Abeli](#).



The front of the hotel.



There is also a good restaurant belonging to the hotel.



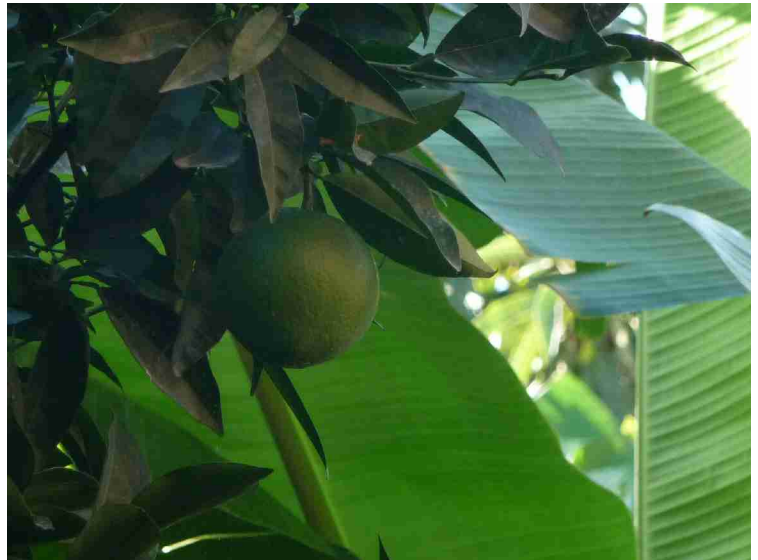
Here we we are looking into the restaurant.



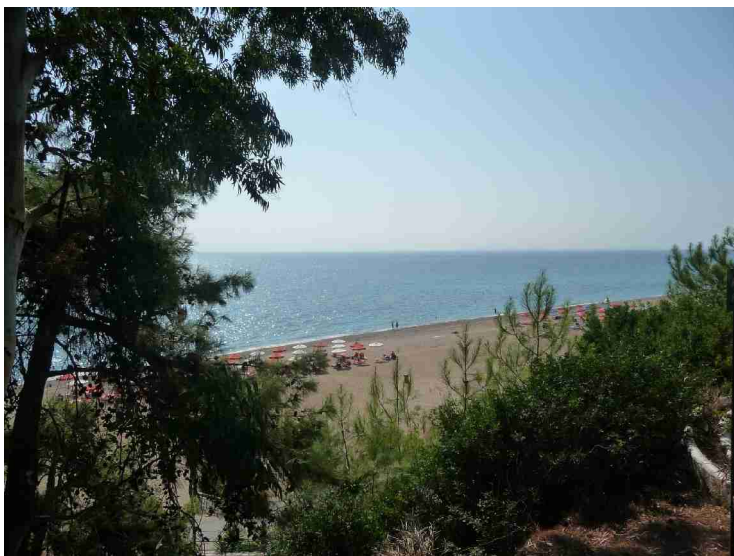
We hat an apartment on the backside of the hotel. The view from there looked like this. Banana palm.



Lemon or orange tree. We are not sure.



A lemon?



The beach is right below the hotel.



There is a tree cluster between the town and the beach that lies some meters below.



The first houses above the beach.



There are made stairs from the main street down to the beach. There is also a beach bar down there.



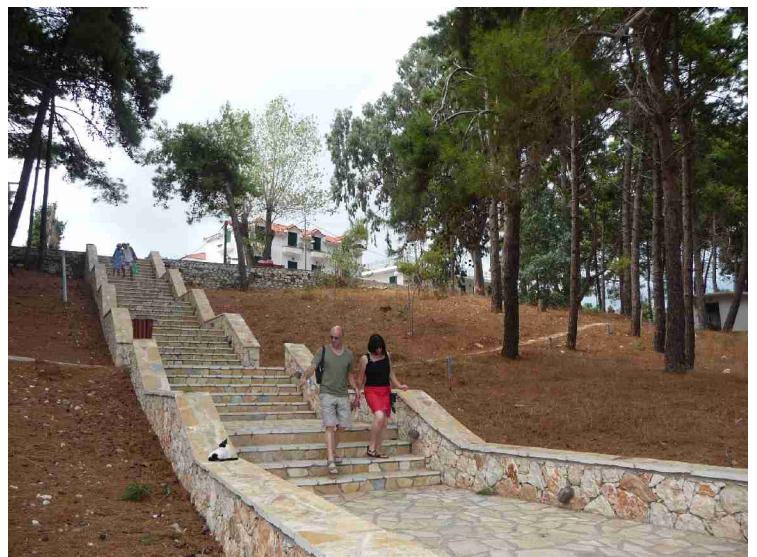
The beach is rewarded a blue flag.



Here we can see the stairs from below.



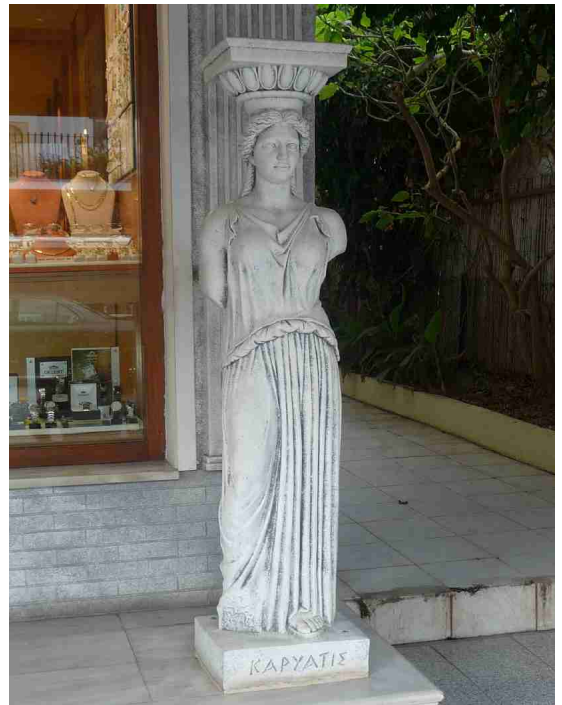
Kjell has found a cat to chat with here as well.



It is good exercise to go up and down here a few times.



There are many restaurants along the main street.



A statue outside a jewellery's shop.



The church.



The school.



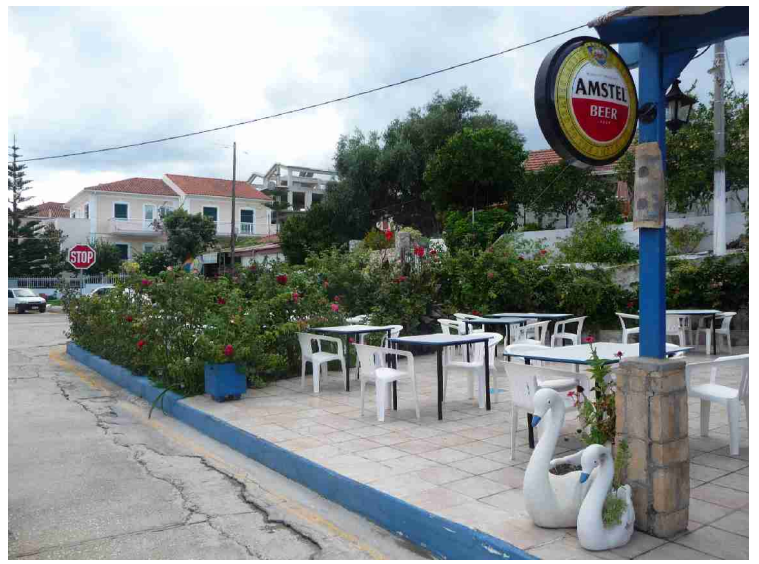
The church steeple and a small parc.



Another restaurant.



Restaurant.



Restaurant.



There are nice plantings everywhere.



Newly built houses in the outskirts. Many different pastel colors on the houses. Here is not much white and blue as there is else in Greece.



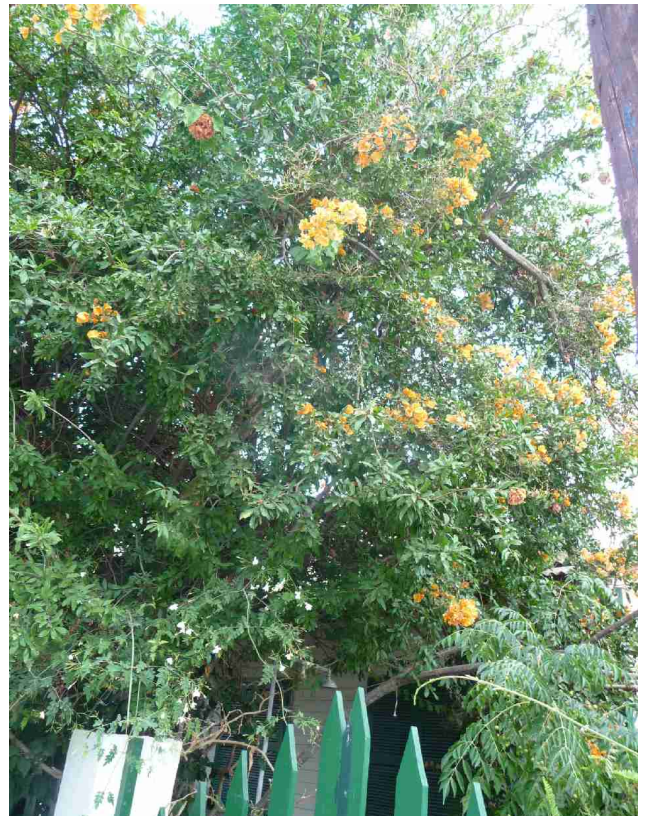
Flowering plants are growing everywhere.





Pine with cones.

Kjell wants grapes.



These.



We like these bushes very much.



This is a restaurant where one of the waiters is dancing Zorba's dance and gets some of the guests to dance along with him.



The waiter was not dancing this evening. Kjell is felling sorry.



A nice picture on one of the walls in the restaurant.



Evening picture from the main street.



The main street in daylight. We are looking in direction of the beach.

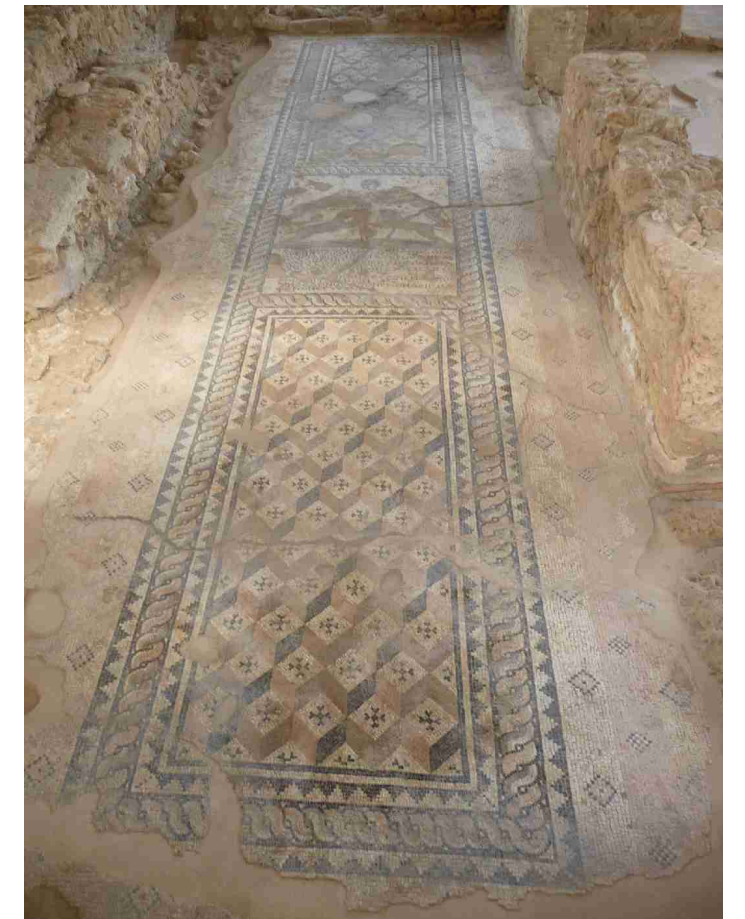
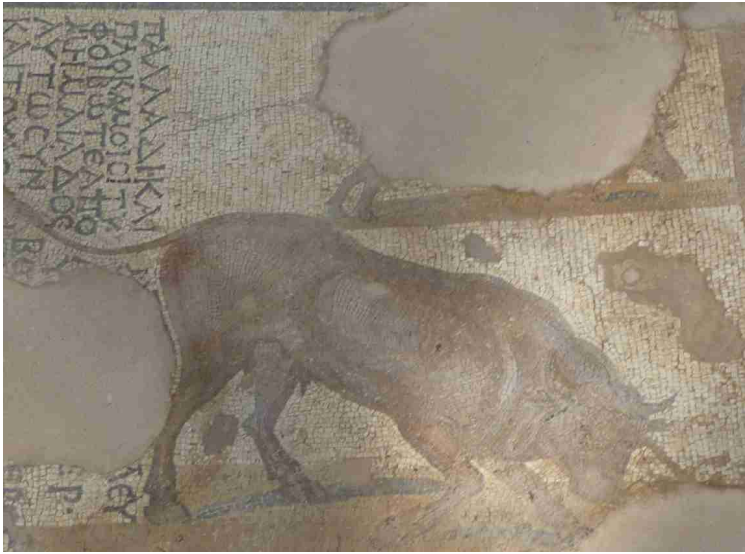


This is a Chinese restaurant where we had dinner.

An old Roman villa.

The villa was found by chance in 1944. Excavations started in 1957. The villa had 6 rooms. It belonged to a wealthy Roman who lived 300 AD. Many of the mosaic pictures are well preserved. The villa was probably destroyed by fire about 500 years AD. Later there was built a church over parts of the house, but that is gone now. It was destroyed by fire about 1000 AD. There is built a big roof over the area to preserve the mosaic. Below some of the mosaic in the floor can be seen.







Here we are walking up the slopes above Skala. Before the earthquake in 1953 Skala was high up in the mountain side, but it was quite destroyed during the earthquake. After the earthquake it was decided to rebuild the town down by the sea where it is now. We had no precise description about where the old ruins where, and when we had walked quite far without seeing them, we asked about the direction, but they didn't understand English and we didn't understand Greek, so we turned around when we reached the top of a ridge.



No sign of many ruins.



This house was probably destroyed during the earthquake.



We had a look at this goats before we turned around.



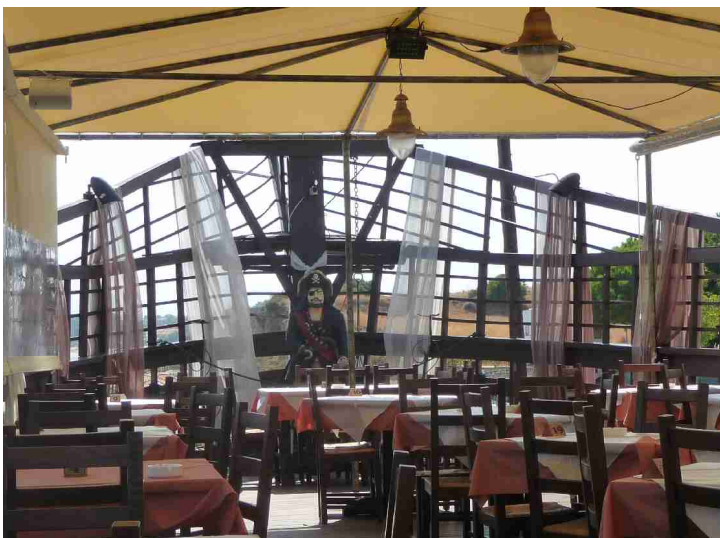
Back in the new Skala.



Original restaurant sign.



One day we went along the beach, further north towards Poros to have a look at the ruins of an old Greek temple.



Here we had a break to have some food.



We are the only guests, but we got a good omelet.



The restaurant and the kitchen lies across the main road.



The view further north along the coast, which is mainly rocky.



When we had finished the meal we found out that we would take a taxi the rest of the road, because it was quite hot to walk. The waiter phoned for a taxi for us.



Here is the rest of the temple beside a little church. The temple is from 600BC and it is dedicated to the god Appollon.



The church, Aghios Giorgios. It was rebuilt after the earthquake with some of the stone from the temple.



There is not much left of the temple.



What is showing best are these three Doric columns.



Right beside is a small marina.



The marina seen from the other side.



View north.



View further north.



View further south.

GO TO PART 2