LEFKADA 13. - 20. MAI 2013





<u>Lefkada</u> or Lefkas lies in <u>the Ionian Sea</u> on the west coast of Greece and south of Corfu. It is the fourth largest island in the Ionian islands and has approx. 20,000 inhabitants.

The main town and seat of the municipality is Lefkada, the same name as the island. It has about 8000 inhabitants. The city is located on the north side of the island, about 20 minutes from the international airport Aktio. A 50 meter long bridge is connecting the island with the mainland.

Lefkada means white and is named from the white cliffs that plunge into the sea at the island's southern tip. The landscape is varied and large rocks separates the island from north to south. On the east coast the olive groves goes down to the shore and on the west coast limestone cliffs are plunging directly into the sea.

The island has been subjected to earthquake a few times, including in 1825 and 1948. The last time was in 2003. It is a lush and mountainous island. There is grown much olives, lentils and wine.

The myth of the poet Sappho's suicide at Lefkada is related to other myths that have connected the island to the ancient love goddess Aphrodite and to Homer's Odysseus, the hero in the epic Odyssey. It has also been suggested by local tourism officials that several passages in the Odyssey point to Lefkada as a possible model for Homer's Ithaca.

The island has been occupied by the Corinthians, Romans, Venetians, Britons and Turks. The reason that the island was so sought after was its location between the Roman Empire and the Ottoman Empire.

Lefkas history as a tourist island began in 1962, when Aristotle Onassis bought the island of Skorpios outside Nidri. Onassis used Skorpios as a resort.



We traveled with <u>Apollo</u>, and we had booked at a hotel called <u>Captain Stavros</u>. It is located on the outskirts of a small town called <u>Nidri</u>.

This is from the pool area.





How it looked when we arrived. It was clouds and rain that day.

We ate a light lunch in the cafeteria. Kjell had a pizza and Anne Berit had a salad.





At the reception there was a large aquarium.



Many fine fishes.



In the neighborhood there were many fine flowering plants.



A tavern with many plants.

From the apartment we saw across the bay that runs inland on the island at Nidri.



From the balcony we looked straight down at the pool.



It cleared up eventually.



The view from the front door to the northwest. Here we look towards the waterfalls, that we went to one of the days.

The top to the right is called Rachi and is 673m high.



The view from the front door to the south-west.

The top to the left is called Polemiko and is 621m high.

The highest peak on the right is 1038m high.





A house with lots of flowers around.

Down at the harbor there are many boats.



The boats and restaurants are lined up.



A hearty cup of capuccino.





Nice flower. Old wagon.



This is the ferry that goes to the nearest island of Meganissi.



One of the restaurants along the harbor.



We ate at this restaurant, El Greco.



One of the restaurant cats.



Anne Berit had a chicken dish, Chicken Mandouri, which was very good.



Kjell had a steak which was also good.





Here we are.

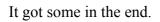
The waiter who took the picture of us had to have the name of the restaurant.





This cat wonder if he gets some food.







Kjell wants a cigar after the good food.





These cats also got a little food leftovers.



We were at the same restaurant the next night too. Then we had Greek coffee and sambuca after the food.



Cheerful guests.



Hmmm...



View from our balcony at night.



One day we decided to hike up to the waterfalls located slightly inland.

We took a picture of this restaurant in passing.

Another restaurant with a lot of flowers.



Here we come to the beach.



View back along the harbor promenade.



Decorated brick wall.



A supermarket.





A picket fence Lemons.





Olive tree. A gate in the fence.





Old olive tree that is powerful cropped.

It grows new branches.



Here we go across a bridge that spans the river. It is completely dry at this time.



Another trunk of an olive tree.



This donkey was up on a wall at the gate of a house.



A large olive grove.



This is shaped like a foxglove.



Further up there is little water in the river.



Still more water.



It is also beginning to be much more rugged. We have entered the gorge here.



The path gets narrower.



A stone with a sign on. We did not understand what is written.



The only thing we knew was the year, 1975.



A small restaurant before we get into the narrowest path.



Across the road from the restaurant there is a roadside both for locally produced goods, including honey.



This sign stands at the start of the narrow path. It excludes government liability for any mishaps along the way.



Here's path. There are railings on the side here.



It goes up and down.



Quite lush vegetation along the brook.



A large grasshopper.





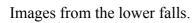
A frog that made very strong sound.













Here we glimpse the upper waterfall.



The gorge before we get to the upper waterfall



This is the waterfall.



The dam under the rapids.



When we got back down to the restaurant we needed some refreshment.



The cat ate potato chips.



Further down the valley, there was another restaurant.



Good beer.



View across the street. The restaurant had these localities too.



This rooster has incredibly long tail.



The church in Nidri.



When we got back to Nidri we had to have some lunch.



The name of the restaurant.