

KONTOKALI, CORFU

POSILLIPO

Rising with symmetrical perfection from her secluded seafront gardens, Posillipo gazes out benevolently over the limpid waters of the Channel of Corfu, as she has done since the mid-18th century. This remarkable property is a champagne cocktail of old-world character, contemporary comfort, irresistible effervescence, and dream-like serenity. Delightful surprises are hidden around every corner, not least down by the magical sea gate, which opens out onto a nigh-private pebble and shingle beach.



PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING →

Service

Features

Inspiring seafront position

Direct beach access

Glorious views

Luxuriant gardens

History, charm and space

Easy walk to restaurants/spa

Nearby

THE THINKING TRAVELLER

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POSILLIPO

ABOUT THE VILLA

10 GUESTS 5 BEDROOMS 6 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Posillipo is spread over three floors.

The property has undergone a sensitive and loving conservation project, which has successfully, and in some cases ingeniously, brought its myriad Venetian, French and British architectural features back to their best. At the same time, contemporary comforts have been judiciously and subtly incorporated, giving this splendid 18th-century home a new lease of life.

The main entrance - a twin set of double doors - welcomes guests into a gracious reception room that typifies the style, décor and atmosphere of the house: high ceilings bring a light, airy feel, the original tiled floors add colour and a sprinkling of baroque élan, and antique furnishings and bibelots (including a decorative grand piano, a gilt-framed mirror, and a decorative console) are perfectly balanced by a pair of modern sink-in sofas.

Double doors to one side of this elegant space lead into the convivial dining room, whose circular table looks out to sea via a pair of picture windows. French doors lead out into the side gardens.

Both the living room and the dining room access a central hall, off which the rest of the ground floor accommodation flows. A door at the far end leads out onto the sea-view terraces, while to the left is an extraordinary bathroom, whose free-standing marble tub was once installed in the Achilleion Palace, the Corfiot summer residence of Elizabeth (Sisi), Empress of Austria. Overlooking the bay, this bathroom is perfect for those who like to bathe in style.

One final doorway in the hall leads into the bright, well-equipped kitchen, which boasts original stone-flagged flooring, an 18th-century wood-burning stove (onto which induction hobs have been gently superimposed), bespoke cabinetry, and access to a shady al fresco dining area.

An elegant staircase leads from the hallway up to the first floor landing, off which is:

- a wonderfully spacious suite with: a double bedroom looking out to sea; a spacious garden-view drawing room with solid wood floors, and beautifully upholstered rococo-style chairs and a sofa; and a beautifully finished shower room
- a second double bedroom with sea views and an en-suite shower room

The stairs continue up to the second floor, which is home to three more luminous double-twin bedrooms with immaculate en-suite shower rooms under the sloping, wood-beamed eaves of the house. Two of the bedrooms boast magnificent views out to sea, while the third one looks out into the verdant leafy gardens.

Outside: Posillipo's enviable seafront grounds extend for over an acre. Like the house itself, they are of a venerable age, beautifully looked after and much loved.

Crisscrossing white gravel paths create quadrants of lawn, hinting at a past formality, but since those 18th-century days, the gardens have grown organically to create a fragrant, colourful wonderland that is a joy to explore. Towering Italian stone pines create a shady parkland to one side of the house, while in other areas, cypresses, olives, fruit trees and bushy shrubs co-exist in a leafy embrace that creates a vibrantly verdant backdrop, Corfu's vivid, multi-green-hued hinterland in a microcosm.

Eco-friendly furniture dots the grounds, offering numerous options for relaxing and soaking up the dream-like atmosphere, but it is around the house itself that most al fresco life plays out. A shaded section of terrace outside the kitchen might become your favourite spot for breakfast, the dining area on the seafront terrace can't be beaten for convivial moonlit dinners to the sound of lapping waves, while the hidden gates in the protective walls that delimit the green from the blue have their own unique magic: a few steps and you're there on the nigh-private pebble and shingle beach. A few more and you're in the transparent waters of the Channel of Corfu, whose vitality is clear (for those who snorkel) from the fields of posidonia grass that populate the seabed nearby.

Last but not least, guests are welcome to pick fresh produce from the vegetable garden, and fresh eggs are available from the property's resident hens.

Posillipo and the Durrells

If Posillipo looks familiar to you, it's probably because you've seen it in the acclaimed TV series, The Durrells, starring Keeley Hawes, Josh O'Connor and Callum Woodhouse. Many of the show's most iconic scenes were filmed at Posillipo, which was the family's idyllic home.

CONSIDERATIONS

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →	
Amenities	
Accommodates (max)	10
Bedrooms	5
Flexible doubles/twins	5
Bathrooms	6
... of which en suite	5
Daily maid service ¹	✓
Garden gate beach/sea access	✓
Air conditioning	✓
Safe(s)	✓
Washing machine	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Microwave oven	✓
Sonos wireless music system	✓
Smart TV	✓
ADSL WI-FI Internet	✓
Barbecue	✓
Vegetable garden	✓
Private Parking	✓
Table tennis	✓
Sea views	✓
Walking distance to restaurant(s)	✓
Walking distance to shop(s)	✓
The Thinking Traveller local support	✓
¹ except on Sundays	
✓ = yes/present	
— = optional/on request	

PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING



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THINK ABOUT

Here is an indication of some of the extra costs you may have to consider for your trip. Please note that prices will vary depending on the villa you book, the third-party supplier(s) providing the service, and the period of your trip, as well as more market-driven circumstances (such as petrol and electricity prices):

Land transfers

- Corfu Airport to Corfu Port: €30 (4 people taxi), €55 (5 to 8 people minibus), €65 (9 to 12 people minibus)
- Corfu Airport to Corfu Town: €30 (4 people taxi), €55 (5 to 8 people minibus), €65 (9 to 12 people minibus)
- We can arrange car and minibus transfers from the airport to your villa. Prices depend on the number of passengers

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Posillipo is located in Sotiriotissa, Kontokali, about two thirds of the way up Corfu's east coast, near the bustling marina of Gouvia. There is a selection of tavernas, bars and shops within a 10 to 15-minute walk, so you can always leave the car behind if you want to go out for dinner or a drink.

Just a 10-minute drive south is gorgeous **Corfu Town**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with an excellent range of shops, restaurants, bars and nightlife and a fascinating and picturesque historic centre.

In terms of **beaches**, you may prefer to stay put and enjoy your own. If you did want to explore other options, however, there are plenty in the vicinity, including Kontokali, Gouvia, Spiaggia Bianca, Dassia and Ipsos.

Heading north up the coast, the lovely seaside villages of Kalami and Aghios Stefanos are within a 50-minute drive, as is the splendid beach of Avlaki and the town of Kassiopi.

And if you have children in your group, there are plenty of **activities for kids** nearby too.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY
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→

Distances

Corfu airport: 7.7km-4.8miles-15mins

Corfu Town: 6.1km-3.8miles-10mins

Nearest beach: right outside the villa
or: Kontokali - 7mins on foot; Gouvia -
2.3km-1.4miles-5mins; Spiaggia Bianca -
5.1km-3.2miles-10mins

Nearest restaurants and shops: in
Kontokali and Gouvia, several of which
are less than 10 minutes on foot

Boat hire: in nearby Gouvia, a few
minutes' drive

Kalami: 23km-14.5miles-40mins

Aghios Stefanos: 28km-17.5miles-
50mins

Kassiopi: 20km-18miles-50mins



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GALLERY



