

# OLD PERITHIA

A HERITAGE PROTECTED SITE IN  
AN AREA OF NATURAL BEAUTY

## Our Heritage

The island of Corfu is well known for its Venetian architecture, French and British influences, beautiful beaches, turquoise seas, an abundance of flora and fauna, traditional tavernas and a wonderful sense of hospitality wherever you go. But to many, Old Perithia, Corfu's oldest village, remains something of an enigma.

## Old Perithia (Paleá Períthia)

The historic village of Old Perithia is situated in the prosperous northeast corner of the island, just below Mount Pantokrator, the island's highest mountain. It is the oldest permanently inhabited settlement in Corfu, dating back to the 14th Century. It was once a hideaway from Pirate attacks with exceptional vantage points, from where you could see, but not be seen from the sea.

'Suspended in time' Old Perithia continues to be an enchanting discovery for visitors from all over the world. There are just 130 houses, in what was once the wealthiest village on the island, some of which have now fallen into ruins. Once upon a time the villagers, farmers and craftsmen plied their trades to the local communities and further afield. The mountains were covered with flocks of sheep and goats, as well as vineyards and terraces with wheat and corn. The fertile soil is also perfect for fruit trees such as cherry, fig, pear, apple and almond, all of which can still be found today.

## Warmth & Friendliness

It was only 50 years ago that the village was still completely intact, with oil lamps burning in the windows and laughter and music echoing between the old stone houses, churches and kafeneions, both day and night. The friendliness amongst the 1000 or so villagers, established Old Perithia as one of most atmospheric villages on the island.

As soon as you enter the village today, with its cobbled streets and ancient houses, you will quickly discover why it continues to hold a special place in the hearts of visitors and Corfiots alike.

# HOW TO BOOK

Simply contact us at The Merchant's House by phone or email and request dates and number of nights you wish to stay. We will check availability and call you back to confirm your reservation and arrange your booking.

The Merchant's House offers either a 2 or 3-day weekend (Friday-Sunday) a 3 or 4-day week (Monday-Thursday) or weekly stays. Located in the distinctive northeast of the island, many of the best beaches are just 20 minutes drive away.

Car hire is highly recommended during your stay. Our service includes someone to accompany you to Perithia from the airport. Alternatively, we can arrange a transfer.

## The Merchant's House, Old Perithia

UK +44 203 490 9928 (All Year Round)

GR: +30 26630 98444 (April - October)

stay@merchantshousecorfu.com

www.merchantshousecorfu.com

Rates: [www.merchantshousecorfu.com/rates-2.html](http://www.merchantshousecorfu.com/rates-2.html)

## 'THE TOWN & COUNTRY ESCAPE' BELLA VENEZIA HOTEL & THE MERCHANTS HOUSE

To book please quote, 'Town & Country Escape' and let us know your preferred dates at the Bella Venezia Hotel in Corfu town and at The Merchants House in Old Perithia.

Whether you start or finish your stay in town, this combination offers a perfect chance to experience the real Corfu, discovering the architecture and sights of Corfu town, its bustling cafés and restaurants, as well as the hidden rural charms and romance of the oldest village on the island, Old Perithia.

If you wish to add a few days by the beach as part of your stay, we would be happy to make a recommendation and reservation on your behalf.



THE MERCHANT'S HOUSE

Old Perithia, Corfu's oldest village



## THE MERCHANT'S HOUSE

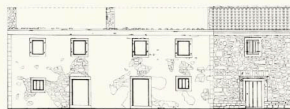


**"TO ΕΜΠΟΙΚΟΝ"**  
**BOUTIQUE BED & BREAKFAST**  
Old Perithia  
'Corfu's Oldest Village'



*"The one place where time  
doesn't fly."* ZVI





## THE MERCHANT'S HOUSE



The Merchant's House Boutique B&B in Old Perithia is located near the top of Corfu's oldest village, in a protected heritage site and an area of natural beauty. Considered to be one of the finest restorations on the island and awarded a category 'A' four star rating, the house brings together the homeliness of a B&B and the luxury and service of a four star hotel.

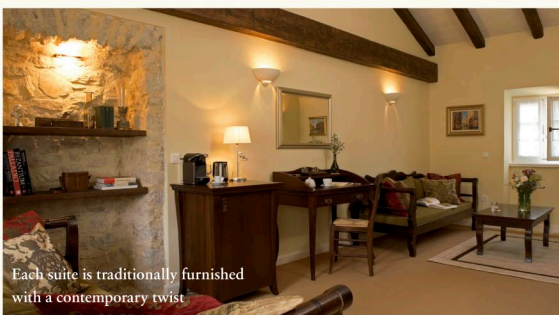
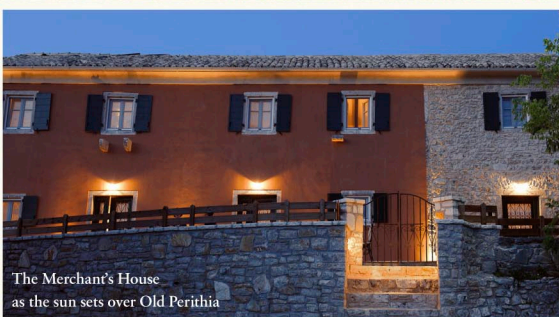
The Merchant's House once consisted of three traditional houses, which have been restored as six individual suites, rebuilt entirely by hand by local craftsmen. The suites sit side by side with a small path at the rear, a walled garden in front, and stone steps leading to a cobbled road winding down to the village square. There are beguiling views across the countryside up to the highest mountains on the island and down to the Ionian Sea below. Historic documents show that the village of Old Perithia (Paleá Períthia) and its ancient churches date back to the 14th century.

In the past, the upstairs rooms of The Merchant's House were used as living quarters, with a stable or local trades in the rooms below. The old stone houses were handed down through generations of local families until the 1960s, when they were gradually abandoned. Nowadays, there's a convivial buzz about the place during the day, which continues in the evening with a gentle hum of the nearby tavernas, until beneath the soft glow of the stars the village drifts gently to sleep.

Reflecting the Venetian, French and British influences on the island, the suites blend centuries of tradition with a contemporary standard of comfort and decoration. Each one has its own separate entrance, hand-made furniture, lavish furnishings, antiques and paintings, comfy beds, power showers, Gilchrist & Soames toiletries, Nespresso machines and all the techy stuff that's required. Breakfast is included on the terrace of the friendly nearby taverna.

The Merchant's House also has an acre of land for guests to stroll around, including a historic 'look out tower' all of which are situated in what is considered to be the most peaceful spot on the island.

"...of perhaps more interest to readers, Paleá Períthia's boutique accommodation, the Merchant's House Suites open in spring 2012." Marc Dubin, The Telegraph "Travel" Saturday, February 4th, 2012



## 'TOWN & COUNTRY ESCAPE'

### EXPERIENCE THE BEST OF CORFU

Do you love a mix of culture, countryside and sea? With the Corfu 'Town & Country Escape' you can combine them all to suit your taste. If a week is too short and a fortnight too long, just combine any number of days in the Bella Venezia Hotel with a stay in The Merchant's House. Whatever combination you choose, the Corfu 'Town & Country Escape' offers an ideal solution.

Relax in the Bella Venezia on arrival, and explore the charming, bustling town of Corfu with its many sights, bars and restaurants. Then move up-country to Old Perithia and spend time in The Merchant's House, the first boutique B&B in Corfu's oldest village.

The historic Merchant's House, nestles beneath Mount Pantokrator, the highest mountain in the north east of Corfu. Here you can explore an unspoiled and relatively unknown part of the island from this ancient village, set midst beautiful countryside, with magnificent views of the mountains. Four tavernas, all within walking distance, serve fresh local specialities. Sun drenched beaches and azure blue seas are just a 20-minute drive away.

### Bella Venezia Hotel

Bella Venezia is one of the island's premier hotels. Its reputation is based on the impeccable service offered by its long serving staff as well as its fine amenities. Your stay here can be perfectly combined with a few days at The Merchant's House in Corfu's historic village of Old Perithia.

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