

There was little doubt that we would stay in the “fancy marina” rather than on the town quay. The boat was still quite dirty in spite of Mick’s and my efforts at cleaning 3 years of grunge off the boat. To properly clean the boat we had to have freshwater and that was only available at the marina. Docking was not too expensive, about \$20 per night. The place was big, clean, and full of lots of charter boats. It was a base for at least 2 big name charter companies. There was a convenient mini-market catering to the boats and surprisingly, quite reasonable. It was here we were going to start our search for a small, reliable outboard, in good shape and at a reasonable price. We were to discover that all of the previous adjectives are mutually exclusive in this part of Greece.



Not exactly “Easy Rider” but we had fun

town until we found the main road south and stopped many places along the way to Sivota to admire the views. It was hot, but a breeze was blowing and added to the one made cruising along at 60 kph was a very pleasant ride for a couple of novice “bikers”.

After spending the day cleaning the boat and most everything in it, I could see that a transformation had been made. We had lunch at a nearby restaurant and dinner at another in town a short walk away, both were quite good. Over dinner we planned the next day, it was to be a working vacation. We would rent a scooter, and following a lead, try to track down a Britt who, it was rumored, had several used outboards sell. To find him we had to go to the southern tip of the island to a small town called Sivota and inquire after him; sounds like a fun day, and indeed it turned out that way. We buzzed about the



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Directions? Directions? We don't need no stinkin' directions





Looking south to the island of Ithaca

When we reached the southeastern tip of the Lefkas Island we stopped to look across the strait of Kefallinias and could see the island of Ithaca. We were not going to make it there this summer but it still tugged at us as we talked about reading the Odyssey in high school. Now, every other island in the Ionian also claims that they are the true location of ancient Ithaca, some are very persuasive, others a bit of a stretch. The other likely candidate was part of Cephalonia which was also visible just to the west.

As we followed the road to Sivota we could see below the coves and beautiful water of this part of the Mediterranean. This part of the Ionian has a bit more wind than the northern part so there were a lot more boats seeking refuge and even some of those out to sea had their sails up. It isn't too common even when there is wind to see charter boats sailing, it seems the motor is the preferred method of propulsion.



A closer look at Rouda anchorage, SE Lefkas

We arrived at Sivota, a charming well protected inlet on the south of Lefkas. Along one side were a few restaurants and a couple of homes but it was obvious that there was a lot of building going on nearby. There were a lot of charter boats from a small charter company lined up on the quayside. Mostly smaller, perhaps mid 30's in length, I don't think I would want much larger than that, otherwise you loose touch with the "feel" of the sea.

