

Ons Verblijf in Livadi! (in Dutch & English)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **14-Aug-2013** Date of Stay: **Jul 2013**

(also in English below)



Janneke v.

Wij brachten veertien dagen door in dit fantastische huis aan de baai van Livadi.

Het huis om mee te beginnen is prachtig zoals de foto's laten zien. In het echt nog adembenemender! Praktisch gezien ontbreekt het je ook aan niets. Aan alles is gedacht zelfs de strandspullen zijn in het huis aanwezig. In de keuken vind je alles om heerlijk te koken en ook de badkamer is van alles voorzien. Er zijn verschillende terrassen die het mogelijk maken om in de schaduw of in de zon te zitten.

De twee heerlijke ligstoelen maken het mogelijk om liggend onder een olijfboom een dutje te doen of te lezen.

Er is ook Wifi in het huis dus mocht je het willen (of moeten) dan kan je in contact blijven met de buitenwereld.

De ligging van het huis is fantastisch vanuit het huis kan je lopend naar de baai van Livadi. De baai staat bekend om zijn ongerepteheid en het kristalheldere water. Nou dat klopt helemaal.

We hebben er heerlijk en in alle rust kunnen zwemmen. De baai wordt nauwelijks bezocht door toeristen.

De omgeving biedt veel mogelijkheden voor tochtjes. Er zijn ook wandelmogelijkheden maar dan is de temperatuur wel een bepalende factor. Er is een mooi klooster te bezoeken en prachtige bergdorpjes. Leonidio heeft veel groente- en fruitwinkels en is gezellig om een kop koffie te drinken. Trouwens alle baaitjes in de buurt hebben kleine restaurantjes waar het leuk eten is. Alles kleinschalig. Tyros heeft nog wat meer uitgaansmogelijkheden.

Wendy en Nigel de eigenaars van het huis zijn zeer behulpzaam zij zullen je van dienst zijn als je dat nodig hebt!

Wij zijn twee vrouwen van middelbare leeftijd maar het huis heeft veel ruimte en ook de tuin biedt veel mogelijkheden voor kinderen. Er zijn hangmatten, klimhutten en allerlei andere speelmogelijkheden in de olijfboomgaard.

Kortom: een aanrader waar vind je nog een ruim huis met eigen toegang tot een baai!

We spent fourteen days in this fantastic house.

The location is fantastic. You can walk to the beach at Livadi on a path right next to the house. The bay is unspoilt with crystal clear water and is hardly ever visited by tourists.

The area offers many possibilities for excursions. You can also go hiking when it's not too hot. Or you can visit a beautiful monastery and charming mountain villages.

We are two middle-aged women but the house has plenty of space and the garden is great for children with hammocks, tree houses and other playthings. It also has wifi.



Suzi S.

A very pretty and comfortable house

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **24-Jun-2013** Date of Stay: **May 2013**

When we suddenly sold our own Greek house and we learnt Wendy and Nigel's beautiful Greek cottage was available we were overjoyed. The quiet location, stunning sea and village views helped to mitigate the loss of our own hideaway in a way we had not thought possible. The two sea-facing terraces, accessed from the main rooms, the pretty garden with its adventure playground (which we refrained from using!) and the surrounding olive trees provide a really lovely setting. It is possible to walk down to Livadi seashore for a swim, or to relax on the beach, and to a choice of tavernas as well as walk further afield, although a car would be advisable and probably essential, especially to reach the shops and better beaches. It's characterful, attractively furnished huge sitting room with open plan well equipped kitchen dining area runs the full length of the house on the upper floor. On the ground floor two well furnished bedrooms with comfortable beds, generous wardrobes and chests of drawers mean there is plenty of room for all your possessions; a bathroom with toilet and washing machine and a smaller cloakroom with separate w.c and basin mean there are no bathroom queues! The house is so well equipped I think you would be hard pressed not to find everything you need to make your stay comfortable. Thank you Nigel and Wendy for providing clean and homely accommodation; at what was a stressful time for us, which completely suited our needs and helped us to relax.

Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Terrific house in a beautiful setting



5 out of 5

Review Submitted: **12-Jun-2013**

Date of Stay: **May 2013**

Maggie B.

A delightful, well-equipped house set in a peaceful, rural setting in the middle of an olive grove, but within easy access of beaches, tavernas, mountain villages and picturesque towns. We loved having breakfast on the upstairs terrace each morning looking out to the wonderful view of the bay.

We were four adults, but this is a perfect house for a family with young children. The owners have thoughtfully provided toys, shrimp nets, beach mats and beach towels. There is even a tire swing in the garden, plus they have extensive knowledge of the villages, beaches and places of interest which they share with guests. The house is well located for exploring the historical sites of Mystra, Monovasia, Epidaurus, Mycenae and Nafplio on day trips.

After arriving in the region straight from the noise and chaos of Istanbul we greatly appreciated the peace and quiet, deserted roads and fabulous mountain scenery. We loved watching the herds of goats with alpine bells round their necks go tinkling by! Nearby we visited the monastery of Elonas and the mountain village of Cosmos with its lovely square and tavernas under huge old shade trees.

The village of Plakas with its pebble beach was another favourite. There are several fish restaurants there - our favourite was The Dolphins, where Tomas the owner will give you an enthusiastic welcome! I should mention that when we had problems with our rental car company, Wendy, one of the owners, came to our rescue with her fluent Greek and helped translate. Highly recommended.



A very successful holiday!



5 out of 5

Review Submitted: **15-Jun-2012**

Date of Stay: **Jun 2012**

Nichola A.

We had a most enjoyable week in the house. It suited us perfectly with the beach nearby and then the trips to various places of interest. And the people were so nice everywhere.

For our sons the highlight was our trip to Momevasia and the walk to the top, with the amazing views. We then went on to Sparta and the nearby Byzantine town of Mystra.

At one point, we saw 2 very large tortoises, so there was great excitement. We had to stop and take photos and try to make sure they weren't flattened by a car! And I loved all of the wild flowers which of course are often garden flowers here in Ireland.

When we were in Athens we took the open top bus around the city and down to Pireaus which we thought was great value.

Overall, our holiday was a great success and the house certainly lived up to the reviews. Great wifi too! I was the only one without phone/laptop for the internet but it was nice for the boys to keep in touch with their pals via Facebook and to put up the daily photos!



David S.
Gig Harbor WA

Just as nice as it looks in the photos!



5 out of 5

Review Submitted: **29-May-2012**

Date of Stay: **May 2012**

We spent a week here after the hubbub of Athens and Santorini. Those areas were wonderful and fun in their own ways, but it was great to get here and spend time just hanging out in lovely surroundings. The house is very well-equipped, and Nigel and Wendy are helpful and informative. Markets, bakeries, and tavernas are not far away. I don't think you'll find a nicer place for anywhere near the price asked for this one.



Jane B.

Peaceful, beautiful location, and great house



5 out of 5

Review Submitted: **21-Apr-2012**

Date of Stay: **Mar 2012**

We stayed here for 2 weeks with our teenage boys, and had a wonderful holiday. The location is every bit as beautiful and isolated as the pictures show, and the house is comfortable and very well equipped. Even had nets for the rock pools, and bat and ball for the beach. We were blessed with wonderful sunny weather most days and so enjoyed all the spring flowers, and the fantastic local oranges- never had better oranges. The local beach is pebbly but fine, and there are lots of archeological sights within a couple of hours drive. The owners could not have been more helpful, and Wendy even took us for a great walk in the hills. It is a lovely unspoilt area of Greece, and you could not ask for a better holiday home.



Jolie T.

Perfect base for a winter break



5 out of 5

Review Submitted: **03-Mar-2012**

Date of Stay: **Feb 2012**

Nigel and Wendy's house was the perfect base for our holiday in Greece. With three children (6 years, 4 year, and 7 months) we were looking for some place spacious and comfortable, and in a beautiful setting. This was it!

We had a combination of days at home--walking, playing and collecting stones on the beach; playing on the swings, ladders and tree houses in the olive grove; and just playing inside--and day trips to some of the ancient sites (Mycenae, Monemvasia) as well as other local beaches (such as Plaka).

Our stay was in mid-February, when the weather ranged from cold and stormy to mild and sunny. The house was comfortable through all of it.

Having rented other holiday homes in the past, we were also impressed by the level of attention to detail here: the kitchen seemed to have every utensil we needed, there were lots of extra towels and extra sheets, there was wood and kindling and matches for the fireplace, the loungers outside were perfectly positioned to pick up the afternoon sun... It really felt like a home away from home (just a bit bigger and more beautiful). We would gladly have stayed even longer!

Here's hoping we'll find a chance to come and stay again some day!



Great local food and places to visit



5 out of 5

Review Submitted: **22-Dec-2011**

Date of Stay: **Sep 2011**

We really enjoyed our stay in Livadi and were very sorry to leave.

Nigel and Wendy have a lovely holiday home which made for a very relaxing holiday. We returned to the UK feeling thoroughly rejuvenated. Overall, we found the food in the local restaurants to be excellent and were pleasantly surprised by the variety of cooked meals and all the tasty starters. On one day, we went to the mountain village of Kastanitsa and had a meal at Anna's Taverna which was superb. And twice we ate at the Delphini Taverna by the harbour in Plaka. We later decided that this was our favourite restaurant. We had some great times during our stay including the mountain walk which Wendy took us on and day trips to Epidavros and Mycenae.



ROBIN
BRISTOL

A PERFECT PLACE FOR OUR LATE SPRING HOLIDAY!

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **06-Jun-2011** Date of Stay: **May 2011**

My wife and I (57 and 53), our two sons (25 and 21) and one girlfriend (30) stayed here from May 28th to June 5th in 2011 and really loved the house, garden and the whole area. It was very restful with lovely views, lots of bird-song, the scents of wild herbs etc. The house was great - the owners have thought of everything right down to beach towels, fly swatters, cool bags, beach games and they even lent us their lap-top with excellent wifi connection! We could not have wished for a better base for our holiday and benefited fully from the surrounding beaches and tavernas. It is very comfortable with excellent furniture, facilities and equipment - I can recommend the place unreservedly! We are family from Bristol in the UK.

Recommended for: Age 55+, Pet-friendly, Sightseeing, Families with Teenagers, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

Helpful votes: **1/1** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Yifat
Israel

A real home-away-from home (only more beautiful)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **26-Apr-2011** Date of Stay: **Apr 2011**

Our spring-vacation at Nigel and Wendy's house in Livadi can best be described as perfect. The area is wonderful: a 10 minutes walk between olive trees, wild flowers and lemon groves brings you down to the placid beach of Livadi, where you can rest and swam, or take a short but stunning walk on the narrow village road to the neighboring beaches and villages.

If you choose to spend a more active day, and still do not feel like getting in the car - you can walk up the mountain to the near by village of Melena, and enjoy either a short local walk or a longer hike in the mountains, with amazing sea-views, local agricultural grounds, and a huge variety of flowers and trees.

A short drive will take you to more villages and tiny charming beaches, monestaries and (last but not least) good Taverna's. Wendy and Nigel were very helpful with every kind of information that led us to special experiences, way off the beaten track. The house itself combines good taste, comfort (down to the little details), and truly gorgeous views. We found the surroundings safe and quiet, so our energetic boys spent a lot of time playing independently outside, leaving us to enjoy reading or just staring quietly at Livadi bay, either from the balcony upstairs or in the shade of the stone arches outside our bedroom. After long days of exploring the beautiful surroundings we enjoyed quiet family dinners (the cheeses, fruits and vegetables in the near by supermarkets at Tyros are great!) cooked in the well equipped kitchen, sitting out on the balcony, with the lights of Livadi and the dark sea in front.

Wendy and Nigel were much more than "just" owners: they were helpful in every way - whenever we needed advice as to interesting sights or hikes, recommendations for good Taverna's, some extra equipment... you name it. Their kind hospitality was an important part of our experience.

We will certainly return - the eight days we spent here are far from enough!

Recommended for: Age 55+, Girls Getaway, Families with Teenagers, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

Helpful votes: **1/1** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Di & Paul
Bristol

A beautiful house in a beautiful area

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **18-Sep-2010** Date of Stay: **Sep 2010**

This lovely house is comfortable, light and airy, beautifully furnished and exceptionally well equipped. Everything, down to the coffee mugs and dinner plates, is attractive and good quality. The view from the large balcony is stunning by day, and by night we could see the Milky Way and look for shooting stars. The surrounding area is Greece as it used to be 20 years ago, complete with donkeys and herds of goats holding up the traffic (of which there isn't a lot). We absolutely love Leonidio, a small and sleepy town that rewards exploration. There's a dimly lit grocery store with a huge antique coffee grinder and a friendly welcome as well as tempting local produce. Don't miss the wonderful pizzeria where the walls are hung with a mass of antique implements, and where the wood-fired pizzas are so huge you'll get box to take home the leftovers. The mountain scenery is breathtaking, especially the drive up to Kosmas; and finally the local beaches are beautiful, quiet and clean. We really cannot fault this house or the area.

Recommended for: Age 55+, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

Helpful votes: **5/5** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Lynn & Gosta
Athens, Greece

Greece as it should be (but isn't always)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **06-Sep-2010** Date of Stay: **Jul 2010**

A remarkably untouched area of great natural beauty which managed to take our breath away despite having lived half our lives in Greece. Sparkling sea, spectacular green mountain ranges, amazing orange cliffs, a monastery seemingly hanging from a mountaintop, the history-packed village of Leonidio, good and reasonably-priced food - the list goes on.

The house itself is beautifully light and airy, well-designed and extremely well-equipped. A lot of thought has clearly gone into the addition of many small extra touches which make such a difference.

The view from the balcony is gorgeous, particularly at night when the moon is full and floods the bay of Livadi below with light. A great spot to while away part (or all) of the evening

And many thanks to Wendy and Nigel for their welcome, and all the information they provided on the area, and the possible trips to take. We're tempted to go back during the winter to do some serious walking along the many trails.

Recommended for: Age 55+, Pet-friendly, Girls Getaway, Sightseeing, Families with Teenagers, Romantic Getaway

Helpful votes: **2/2** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Caroline M.
Oxfordshire, UK

Unspoilt Greek Getaway

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **26-Aug-2010** Date of Stay: **Aug 2010**

This is a fantastic part of Greece. Very picturesque and incredibly friendly. We've travelled to many parts of mainland Greece and the islands over the years and it was heartening to find the unspoilt Greece still exists here.

The description of the property is exactly what you find. It was clean, well maintained, on it's own plot of land so it is very quiet with a stunning view of Livadi bay from the balcony but also a short drive from the main road (not busy at all).

There are many beaches near by, many virtually empty (in August!) all excellent and great for families as the water is crystal clear. Our children spent the entire time snorkelling and searching for hermit crabs. (Nigel has a very good supply of beach stuff - sun umbrella, beach mats, beach towels, nets, snorkels, mini boogie boards all were a useful addition.)

Nigel was on hand for our 2-week stay to recommend local Greek music/dancing events as well as informing us about the boat that leaves weekly to Spetses & Hydra (which we took and thoroughly recommend.) Very good to have some local knowledge on-hand.

We particularly liked Tyros, 10 minutes away, for it's relaxed easy going feel both daytime and evening with beachside cafes for our morning frappes and well priced tavernas, not to mention the morning arrival of the local bakery van, fruit and vegetable and fish vans selling their wares!

Would recommend to families for a spring/summer break for its superb weather, friendly locals, well priced food & drinks and very quiet beaches.

Recommended for: Age 55+, Sightseeing, Families with Young Children

Helpful votes: **5/5** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Claude
Winterthur,
Switzerland

Romantic getaway

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **04-Jul-2010** Date of Stay: **Jun 2010**

It was exactly what we were hoping to find; a quiet, romantic getaway, original, in a beautiful landscape and also close to the seashore and to interesting historical sites.

There is an easy access to the house from the nearby road, but nonetheless you do not hear cars or other noises. Instead you find yourself rediscover the sounds of birds, crickets or simply the rustling of the leaves of the olive trees that surround the house.

The house offers splendid views to the sea and is only in a short distance to beautiful villages in the neighborhood. Famous historical sites are waiting for you within a one or two hours drive. There are many possibilities that allow you to hike and discover the mountainous outback. Or you just stroll in one of the small villages, sit in a bar, talk to the friendly local residents and watch the fishermen. Frankly, there is more to see and explore than a 14 weeks holiday makes it possible.

The house is very clean, comfortable and offers all you need for a perfect vacation. The owners are very nice and pleasant and do not hesitate to help you in any way - compliments!

We felt very comfortable and enjoyed the stay throughout. We fully recommend the location and the house and thank the owners for their kind hospitality!

Recommended for: Age 55+, Tourists without a Car, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

Helpful votes: **2/2** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Susan + Stefano
Venice, Italy

Gateway to Arcadia!

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **17-May-2010** Date of Stay: **May 2010**

Staying in this house helped us to discover this very beautiful part of Greece, Arcadia, which previously we only knew through Greek poetry and mythology. We appreciated the thoroughness of the details that made the house so pleasant and comfortable to live in and the simple but tasteful way the house was furnished. Nigel & Wendy were very kind and helped to make our stay enjoyable. The nearby beach at Livadi was lovely!

Recommended for: Age 55+, Pet-friendly, Sightseeing, Families with Teenagers, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway



Max and Janet
Sydney, NSW,
Australia

Bliss by the sea

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **01-May-2010** Date of Stay: **Jun 2009**

We stayed in the house in Livadi for six days in June 2009. It was fantastic. The house is a genuine Greek stone house, looks beautiful and Mediterranean, with all the modcons: very comfortable beds, bathrooms, hot showers, kitchen with all necessary appliances and equipment and a balcony to die for. We spent most evenings around sunset relaxing on the balcony, sipping wine and watching the changing light over the water...magnificent.

We love walking, eating, swimming and sight seeing, and this place is fantastically situated for these pursuits. There were a couple of great local tavernas to try and many more a short drive away. The hills behind Livadi are full of walks which take you through little country villages with winding, cobbled streets and village squares. There are some beautiful and historic towns nearby including Nafplion and Leonidia. If you travel a little farther there's Sparta and Monemvasia.

Nigel and Wendy were very helpful in answering all questions and offering great advice about places to go, tavernas to try and suggesting excellent walking trails.

We will return!

Recommended for: Age 55+, Adventure Seekers, Girls Getaway, Sightseeing, Families with Teenagers, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

Helpful votes: **1/1** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Andy & Gabi
Athens

Early Spring break in Livadi

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **09-Mar-2010** Date of Stay: **Mar 2010**

The house was a great base for exploring this part of the Peloponnese. The surrounding coastline is fabulous and - even in early March - looked very inviting for a swim! Wish it had been just a bit warmer!

Leonidio is a short drive away but is an interesting town at the foot of a gorge and surrounded by orange cliffs. At the top of the gorge are mountain villages and monasteries with great views back out over the gorge or Saronic gulf.

The house itself is well-equipped with a lovely upstairs living/dining room with a balcony which is a great place to enjoy a sunny breakfast or a star-drenched sky at night. The garden is great, especially the hammocks which are the perfect for having a glass of wine and listening to the waves breaking gently on the beach below.

Nigel and Wendy are happy to share advice on places to visit and/or eat - either in person or via the maps and guides left in the lounge.

Overall, it felt like Greece ought to - beautiful, friendly and pulling you to return!

Recommended for: Age 55+, Sightseeing, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

Helpful votes: **2/2** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Karin & Georg
Germany

Highly recommendable getaway in greece!



5 out of 5

Review Submitted: **26-Aug-2009**

Date of Stay: **Jul 2009**

We had a wonderful stay at the house which was very comfortable and well equipped

Lovely and quiet property and a nice and almost private beach in short distance.

We very much enjoyed the privacy. The view from the balcony is really unbeatable.

The owners Nigel and Wendy were always very kind and helpfull. Particularly in tips where to go and what to do.

Looking forward to coming back soon.

Recommended for: Pet-friendly, Sightseeing, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

Helpful votes: **4/4** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



themightysven
Athens, Greece

A Quiet, Beautiful, Relaxing Getaway



5 out of 5

Review Submitted: **18-Aug-2009**

Date of Stay: **Aug 2009**

We stayed for a week, which felt like much longer in the best possible way. Our two young children (5 and 3) adored the climbing ladders, hammocks, and swing in the olive grove. The layout of the house is lovely, with the bedrooms downstairs to take advantage of the cool and the "great room" upstairs combining open kitchen and living room. We walked to the beach from the house, as advertised, but found a wonderful almost private beach better suited to the children a short and scenic five-minute's drive down the road. The house was clean, well appointed, spacious, comfortable. The area is lovely and was quite unpopulated tourist-wise considering that we arrived during the busiest part of the summer season. Nigel provides excellent advise about things to do and see, tavernas, etc. Coming from Athens, we look forward to staying in the house in the spring and fall to take advantage of the opportunities for hiking, etc. We were very very happy with our stay.

Recommended for: Age 55+, Adventure Seekers, Families with Young Children

Helpful votes: **3/3** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)



Diane+Hugh
UK

A wonderful property in a beautiful location.



5 out of 5

Review Submitted: **24-Jun-2009**

Date of Stay: **Jun 2009**

This is a wonderful property in a beautiful location. The house is very comfortable and well equipped. We loved the area and found it a wonderful place to relax or go for walks. We even had the experience of walking along a track and being stopped by a man who presented us with a bottle of wine and on another occasion a lady gave us a cucumber - what wonderful hospitality.

We greatly appreciated being met by the owners and the wealth of information and thought they have given to ensuring that people have a good time at their house.

Recommended for: Age 55+, Adventure Seekers, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

Helpful votes: **2/2** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)

Antoinette & family
Holland

A wonderful private holiday home

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **12-May-2009** Date of Stay: **May 2009**

Wonderful house! Lots of privacy including a private path to an almost private beach. We very much enjoyed the quiet and the beautiful view. Just an hour drive from Nafplio. Highly recommendable!

Recommended for: Age 55+, Families with Teenagers, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)

Joost, Dominique
and kids
Malden,

Authentic, idyllic and natural

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **11-May-2009** Date of Stay: **Apr 2009**

If you are eager to discover Greece and feel, touch and see Greek, don't hesitate and book this house. Nearby you will find all the right ingredients for your stay: walk in 10 minutes to a quiet beach, visit unspoilt mountain villages like Pera Melena en Pragmateftis or meet friendly Greek people on your way to lovely whitewashed chapels. Just around the corner. And when you return to 'your' house, these nice experiences will be kept, sitting on the balcony or in the olive garden. You will have a wonderful time in Greece.

Recommended for: Adventure Seekers, Sightseeing, Families with Young Children, Romantic Getaway

1txgrl
Germany

Beautiful...

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **09-Apr-2009** Date of Stay: **Apr 2009**

We had a very enjoyable stay at the house. The beach area is very scenic, loved climbing out on the rocks. The view from the house is unbeatable, watching the sun rise in the morning was a highlight. We ate at the taverna(Menelaus) in the village and had one of the best meals all trip.

Helpful votes: **2/2** Did you find this review helpful? [Yes](#) [No](#)

Olive trees, sea and mountains

Mad Hatter
Athens, Greece

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 Review Submitted: **08-Apr-2009** Date of Stay: **Mar 2009**

The first thing to say, after a weekend spent in this house, is that everything the website says about it is true. I was impressed by the quality of the furniture and equipment (sofas, chairs, dining table and chairs, comfortable beds, very nice plates, mugs, bathroom accessories, etc.) – unusual in a rented holiday house. We had not presented a shopping list, but we found small but adequate supplies of salt, pepper, sugar, tea, instant coffee and some other basics. I think the reason why you don't always find these in rented houses in Greece is that the cleaners take them home at the end of each let, but since the owners are looking after the house themselves they won't do that.

You may be a bit taken aback to find that the front door leads straight into the bedroom and bathroom floor, but the design is absolutely right. It means that the living room and good-sized balcony – where you'll be spending your time when you're not asleep – have a great view over the tops of the olive trees.

One good point we think the owners could have made more of is the seclusion. "A quiet hillside" is right. The main road (not a particularly busy one) is only a minute's drive away, but it might almost not be there. All you are aware of are the olive trees round about and the view over the little village and the sea. A car is pretty well essential.

I am no expert on birds but I love hoopoes, and I saw one on each of my days there.

I would certainly recommend this place for a family holiday.