



BEST FOR TEENAGERS

THE PELIGONI CLUB ZAKYNTHOS

Twitchy teens want fun-filled, adrenalin-fuelled days and freedom at night; parents want a stress-free family holiday before they all properly grow up and flee. This is the happy compromise. A rustic, open-air club (driftwood signposting, white-painted furniture) surrounded by olive trees with a two-room spa, swimming pool and bamboo-shaded restaurant where everyone gathers for ruthless games of backgammon. The idea is simple: Peligoni sorts out your villa or hotel (such as the lovely Nobelos, run by Fotini – don't miss her incredible home-made ice cream) and then you spend your days at The Club, sunbathing on the series of platforms clinging to the rocks that lead down to the sea, each decked out with huge loungers, umbrellas and large cushions. While there's no sandy beach, the crystal clear sea is what it's all about – pick up the bill for the watersports package, which means unlimited tuition for sailing and windsurfing (motorised antics are extra). Most land-based activities are geared towards over-eights, who can make pizzas in the outdoor oven, play in tennis tournaments or – and this is a real highlight – take a three-hour, parent-free boat trip to Alykes village to spend pocket-money on a costume for the weekly fancy-dress party night.

Staff are young, tanned university students; many spent their own holidays here. The food is aimed at big numbers but with no buffet in sight. Feast on Greek salads, red mullet with Mediterranean vegetables and serious puddings (deconstructed cheesecake with roast peaches) It's all very laid-back: twice a week there is a hog roast and a BBQ where the parents all sit together and children are split off into different age groups to be with their friends. Go snorkelling in the blue caves near Shipwreck Beach, and be sure to head into Agios Nikolaos village on the next-door bay with its loved-by-locals taverna and Greek music filling the air. **BOOK IT** Peligoni (+44 20 8740 3001; www.peligoni.com) offers seven nights at Nobelos from £2,043, based on two adults and two children sharing, including membership to The Club, all watersports and sailing



BEST FOR GOOD VALUE FUN

SKIATHOS PRINCESS SKIATHOS

This is a family affair, and owner Vicky Santikos recently brought in daughter Katerina and son Konstantinos to help run the show. Along with creating a series of Californian-style, calorie-controlled meal plans, Katerina has injected the place with boho-glamour. But while rooms are spacious and comfortable, air conditioning units are prone to drips and TV channels are fuzzy (forget CBeebies). On the plus side, many of them have spectacular views across the hotel's grassy lawns that lead directly to the beach. And what a beach. Agia Paraskevi is one of the best on the island. It's a spotless crescent of golden sand sprinkled with rustic straw shades, and has exceptionally safe swimming. Wade 15 metres out and the tide line will only be nudging your hips, and there's nothing but gently rippling sand underfoot. The island of Skiathos is small and intensely green. A network of hiking trails crisscross the shoreline and excursions to an inland dog shelter can be arranged, where children can take puppies for walks. Older kids can enjoy the inflatables and motorised watersports for hire at the public end of the beach. And little adventurers aged seven-plus can try their hand at the new craze, YogaAqua. **BOOK IT** Sovereign Luxury Travel (+44 843 770 4526; www.sovereign.com) offers seven nights from £2,525, based on two adults and two children sharing a family room, including breakfast, flights and transfers