



Bridging Nations

IN THE HEART
OF THE MEDITERRANEAN



CORFU BRIDGE FESTIVAL > OCTOBER 24-28, 2024

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CORFU BRIDGE CLUB
 **KOAM**



CORFU BRIDGE CLUB

K O A M

Bridge in Corfu

The Corfu Bridge Club (K.O.A.M.) is an amateur sports association affiliated with the Hellenic Bridge Federation (EOM) and the General Secretariat of Sports. The club has approximately 110 members, with at least half regularly participating in twice-weekly competitions and special three-day events held at their venue in Lefkimmi, Corfu.

Founded in 1993 by Kostis Koutsakos, with assistance from George Poulimenos, K.O.A.M. has consistently ranked among the top provincial clubs in Greece since 1996, thanks to the strong performances of its athletes in national championships.

In 1995, with the generous sponsorship of George Rallis, K.O.A.M. organized its first three-day festival with 120 participants from across Greece, introducing them to the unique combination of bridge and holidays on Corfu's beautiful island.

In 1996, the club hosted an International Bridge Festival, attracting 400 players from around the world, all of whom left with the best impressions of Corfu.

In 2000, the Hellenic Bridge Federation recognized K.O.A.M.'s successes and activities by entrusting the club with organizing the first Regional Championship of Western Greece. This event saw participation from many Greek bridge champions and all K.O.A.M. members.

Corfu's athletes excel in bridge but lack opportunities for regular training with Greek and international champions due to the distance from Athens. These events are unique opportunities

for them to compete, and they rightly feel they should happen more frequently.

To honor the memory of its late President, Stamatis Arvanitakis, K.O.A.M. established an annual bridge tournament, the Stamatis Arvanitakis Cup, held every autumn around October 28th. These events have been consistently successful, with the 7th Cup in 2008 also serving as the Regional Championship of Western Greece, widely acclaimed for its excellence. The 8th Cup in 2009 took place at the Corfu Tennis Club, embodying the ideal of "a sound mind in a sound body." Much of the success of these events is due to the tangible support from the Ionian Islands Region, the Corfu Prefecture, the Municipality of Corfu, and private sponsors.

Join the Corfu Bridge Festival 2024! Experience top-tier competition, the enchanting beauty of Corfu, and the camaraderie of the bridge community. This event is not only a celebration of bridge but also a tribute to the spirit of the island and its people. Don't miss this unique opportunity to combine a passion for bridge with an unforgettable holiday.





At every event the speaker or the artist occupies centre stage.

The podium or stage is always in the centre.

Homer set his central hero, Odysseus, to narrate his story which came to us through the two classic epics the Iliad and the Odyssey, in Corfu.

Maybe because for Homer, Corfu was the centre of the then known world.
Of the Mediterranean.

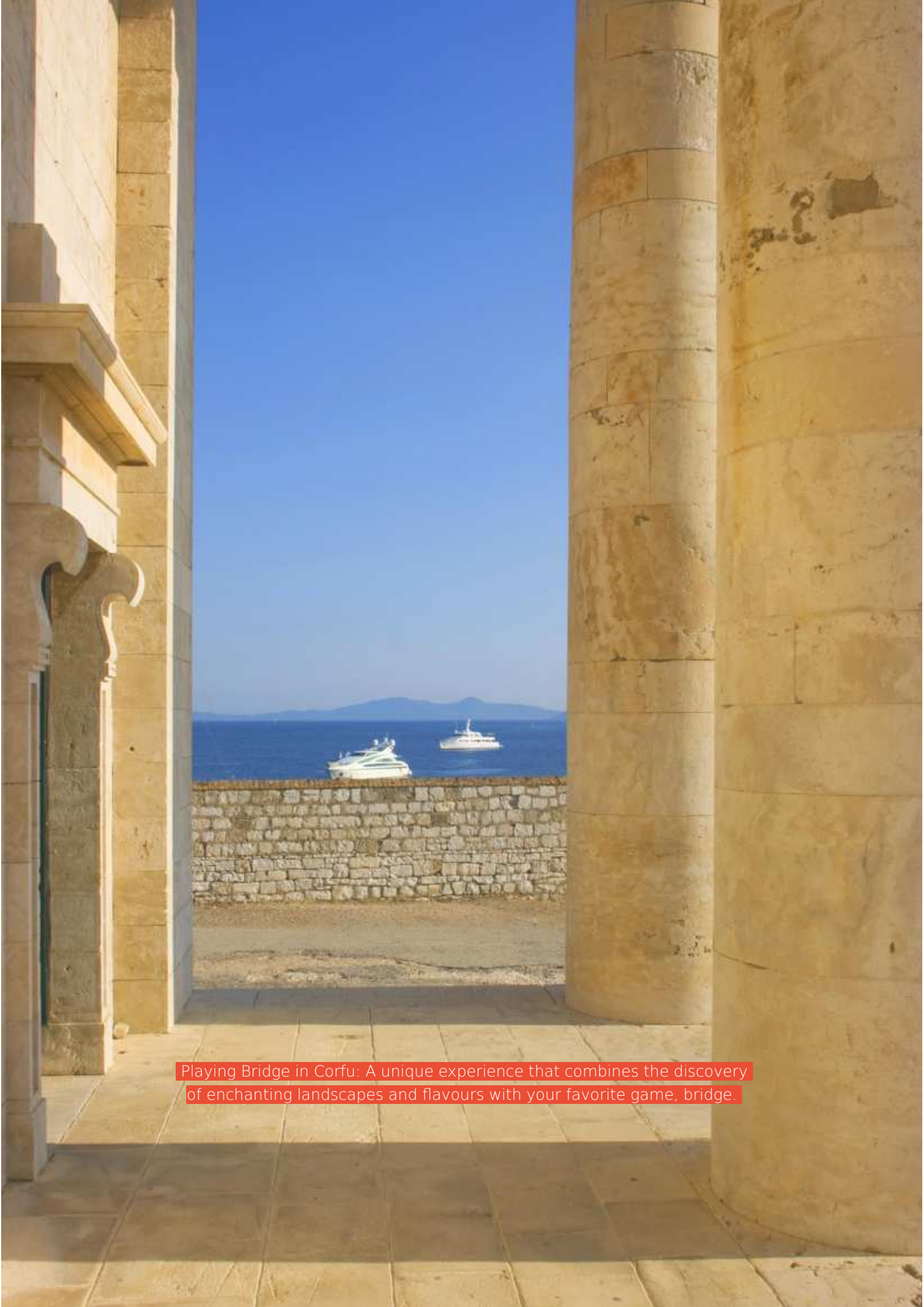
Where in the world is Corfu?

According to Thomas Gautier Pesquet, a French aerospace engineer, pilot, and European Space Agency astronaut, Corfu is in "Odysseus' neighbourhood" - "du côté de chez Ulysse".

Astronauts love to capture this area.

Chris Austin Hadfield, a great Canadian astronaut, engineer, fighter pilot and musician, Tweeted twice the same picture taken by him, which shows Corfu together with the coastline opposite, forming a heart.

Corfu is the heart of the Mediterranean.



Playing Bridge in Corfu: A unique experience that combines the discovery of enchanting landscapes and flavours with your favorite game, bridge.

Corfu Bridge Festival 2024

23rd Stamatis Arvanitakis Cup

Hosted by Corfu Bridge Club (K.O.A.M.)

Dates: October 24 > 28 2024

Venue: Corfu Holiday Palace, Kanoni, Corfu

The luxurious 5-star Corfu Holiday Palace offers stunning views of Pontikonisi and is located just 4 km from Corfu Town, 3.8 km from Ioannis Kapodistrias Airport, and 6.9 km from the port.

Participation Registration:

Register on the Hellenic Bridge Federation (EOM) website or contact Kostis Koutsakos at 6980821599 by Wednesday, October 23, 2024.

Tournament Schedule

Thursday, October 24

20:00 - Welcome Drink

21:00 - Teams Session 1

Friday, October 25

20:30 - Pairs Session 1

Saturday, October 26

18:00 - Pairs Session 2

Sunday, October 27

19:00 - Pairs Session 3

Awards Ceremony for Pairs

Monday, October 28

10:30 - Teams Session 2

Awards Ceremony for Teams

Participation Fees

Pairs Tournament: €30 per person (50% discount for youth and military)

Teams Tournament: €100 per team (10% discount for each youth or military member)

Note:

The Pairs 1-9 and 1-6 tournaments will be held separately if participation exceeds 10 pairs;

otherwise, they will be merged or stratified at the discretion of the directors. The Teams Tournament format (Swiss or Round Robin) will depend on the number of participants.

Late registrations after October 23 will be accepted only if they fit the tournament schedule.

Prizes

Top 3 pairs in each category

Top pair in each session across three categories

Top pair in the 1-11 category of the Open

Top Open pair from K.O.A.M. will receive the

Stamatis Arvanitakis Cup

Top 2 teams in each category

Directors

National Director: Miltos Koutougos

Certified Director: Tryfonas Papadopoulos

Join us for an unforgettable blend of competitive bridge and the beauty of Corfu!



Experiences Crossing the Bridge

During their stay in Corfu, bridgers will enjoy luxurious accommodations and thrilling excursions, including visits to fascinating points of interest.

Experience Luxury at Corfu Holiday Palace

Nestled gracefully on the tip of the cosmopolitan Kanoni peninsula, just 4 km from Corfu Town, the Corfu Holiday Palace is surrounded by lush pine trees, cypresses, fragrant herbs, vibrant flowers, and a charming private beach caressed by emerald waters. This five-star hotel offers impeccable services and unparalleled facilities, all with breathtaking views of the Ionian Sea, the iconic "Pontikonisi," and the quaint Monastery of the Virgin Mary of Vlacherna. Its prime location provides easy access to Corfu's important landmarks and stunning beaches.

Special Offer for Bridgers: Enjoy a single room for just €95 per night or a double room for €115 per night.



Free Guided Tours to the Most Important Museums of Corfu

The Corfu Bridge Club invites all its athletes to a unique experience, offering free guided tours to the most important museums and attractions of the enchanting island of Corfu. Discover the rich history and cultural heritage of the island through organized visits to museums that host invaluable treasures and exhibitions. Enjoy an unforgettable tour, while also savoring the unparalleled beauty of Corfu, creating memories that will last a lifetime. Don't miss the opportunity to combine your love for Bridge with a cultural getaway in the heart of the Ionian.



Street Food Festival

Culinary tour through the narrow streets of the old town. Visit and taste at **Lavranos DeliMeat**, where you will savor the famous Corfiot cold cuts nouboula and salado, at the **Olive House** of the **Governor company** for an introduction to therapeutic olive oil, at the traditional **Papageorgis** pastry shop, which celebrates 100 years of offering the island's best sweets, and at the **Lazaris Brand Store**, where you will sample impressive local drinks and sweets. Participation fee: €25



Corfiot Gastronomy Night

Enjoy a unique culinary journey through the history of Corfu. In the heart of the Jewish quarter, the chefs of Taverna Pergola open their grandmothers' recipe books to prepare, just for you, delicious dishes with flavors and aromas that will transport you to village kitchens and narrow streets. Savor Corfiot wine from the famous Kakotrygis variety and live traditional music. Participation fee: €22



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