

Ristorante Invidia (www.ristorante invidia.it) in Pecorini are a must.

Details B&B doubles are from £60 a night (00 39 090 988 9956, lacannahotel.it). From Catania (easyjet.com) the ferry takes 2hr 20min and costs from £36 return (siremar.it)

### Greece

### 11 Alonissos off Skiathos

Lovely Skiathos in the Sporades Islands was a key location for the 2008 film *Mamma Mia!* but this verdant gem to the north is even more beautiful. It has picturesque sugar-cube villages, such as the fishing harbour of Votsi, and is part of the largest national marine park in Europe. Go kayaking, canoeing, hiking

Eight days' half board from £629 per person

or cycling, or spot monk seals on a boat trip. Stay at the Ikion Eco, a boutique hotel with airy rooms and balconies.

Details B&B doubles are from €85 per night (00 30 24240 66360, ikion.com). Fly to Skiathos (thomascookairlines. com) then take the hydrofoil from €22 return (aegeanflyingdolphins.gr)

# **12 Astypalaia** the Dodecanese

You'll find one of the most picturesque towns in Greece at Chora, the capital of Astypalaia, where the Dodecanese meet the Cyclades. Designed to deter marauding pirates, it offers panoramic views of the Aegean. There are also ancient sights, magnificent mosaics and a very good archaeological museum. For such a remote, little-visited island, the Pylaia Hotel is surprisingly chic, with minimalist rooms, a spa and a seafood restaurant with a terrace that looks on to the island's ruined Venetian castle. Details B&B doubles are from €86 per night (00 30 22430 61070 pylaiahotel.gr). Take the ferry from Athens from €56 return (www.bluestarferries.com)

## 13 Thassos off Thrace

Greece's most northern island lies off the seaport city of Kavala. The scenery

do get is miles of pristine beach — but be warned, Donoussa's remoteness makes it a nudists' favourite. The bohemian Makares Apartments opened last summer and have studios with idyllic sea views.

Details Room-only doubles are from €35 per night (00 30 22850.79079, makaresdonoussa.gr). Take the ferry from Athens from €55 return (www.bluestarferries.com)

### 15 Schinoussa off Naxos

A favourite of the vachting crowd, this Cyclades island has one tiny village, which makes it all the more surprising that there's a fabulous hotel. Archipelagos has five bungalows built from sandy-coloured stone that seem to blend in with their surrounds. Just off the island's best beach, Tsigouri, it also has a pool and a terrace with sea views, while the village is a short walk away. Details Room-only doubles are from €70 per night (00 30 69809 82990, schinoussa.com). Take the ferry from Athens from €55 return

(www.bluestarferries.com)