

Our bridge holiday in Kos
by
Pat Beacon and Margaret Allen

At 3.00 am on a murky October night we set out for Kos and at 1.00 pm local time we were being handed delicious sweet pastries by the Greek guide at the airport in a temperature of 29 degrees.

The Caravia Hotel was set amidst beautiful gardens and swimming pools and was only a short stroll through the gardens to the Marmari Beach.

Our group of 56 came from all parts of the UK and included some very good players. Ken and Barbara hosted the holiday with Ken directing, both encouraging a relaxed and friendly approach to the game (not always an easy task). We played every evening and for the really keen players there were morning seminars and afternoon bridge, although in view of the weather no one wanted to play in the afternoons. Barbara was faced with a few scoring problems when presented with a computer with instructions in Greek and a printer whose mysteries took time to unravel. However, all was quickly sorted.

We made several trips. Kos town was most attractive, rebuilt by the Italians after an earthquake in 1933. The castle and museum were well worth a visit and many ancient sites have been preserved.

On our coach trip round the island we visited Aesklepion, the site and remains of Hippocrates' hospital dating back to the second century BC. and afterwards we drove through the central high hills and villages. Unforgettable was island hopping in a Pirate Ship.

Lazing round the pool, soaking up the sunshine, happy to be missing the gales back home, was just lovely.

There was an old woman in Koz
Whose bidding was just a bit iffy.
She played, underbidding merrily
Until told to bid up by the boss
"Be bold. If you wish to get to the top
This meekness really must stop".
T'was fun while it lasted, but sorry to say
The result was near a terrible flop!
Anon

Ed's Note. Apologies to Anon for the slight amendments, and they did come 8th in the Championship Pairs.