

Unlock the mysteries of the Sporades – the Aegean’s hidden jewels

Once a refuge for pirates, known variously as Satan’s Islands, Demon Islands, Thieves’ Dens and the islands of the Magnesians, the Northern Sporades – literally meaning ‘scattered’ – with their dramatic changes from island to island, strange geological forms and historical remains, are among Greece’s most delightful secrets. For *These Scattered Isles* Kóstas Mavríkis, in the company of those who live or used to live on these islands, has extensively explored the lesser Northern Sporades photographing every trace of ancient habitations which have given rise to countless legends and traditions. Piecing together these legends, the historical evidence and the written texts, Mavríkis has produced a multi-faceted image of the islands of Alónnisos, Peristéra, Kirá Panayá, Yoúra, Pipéri, Psathoúra and Skántzoura and many other smaller islands.

Thousands of ships of all epochs today lie on the sea-bed of the Sporades, constituting perhaps the most important collection of wrecks in the world, not only for their sheer number but also because of their significance and antiquity. From the time men first set sail with primitive log boats to today’s high-technology ships, these islands have served as an important junction, stopping place and refuge. All these wrecks, preserved from human greed and natural disasters, still lie on the sea-bed, ready to deliver their secrets to those who care to look.

Originally published in Greek, *These Scattered Isles* is the product of the author’s passionate curiosity to explore the islands and all that they represent, while bearing the fruits of his extraordinarily detailed research. Now translated into English by Anthony Hirst, with additional research by both Mavríkis and Hirst and a wealth of new illustrations, this book cannot fail to delight and enchant you.



The author making the first dive to the classical wreck at Pethaménos, 1984.

Front cover photo: The Old Village (Palió Chorió) on Alónnisos. Courtesy of Thomas Vestrum



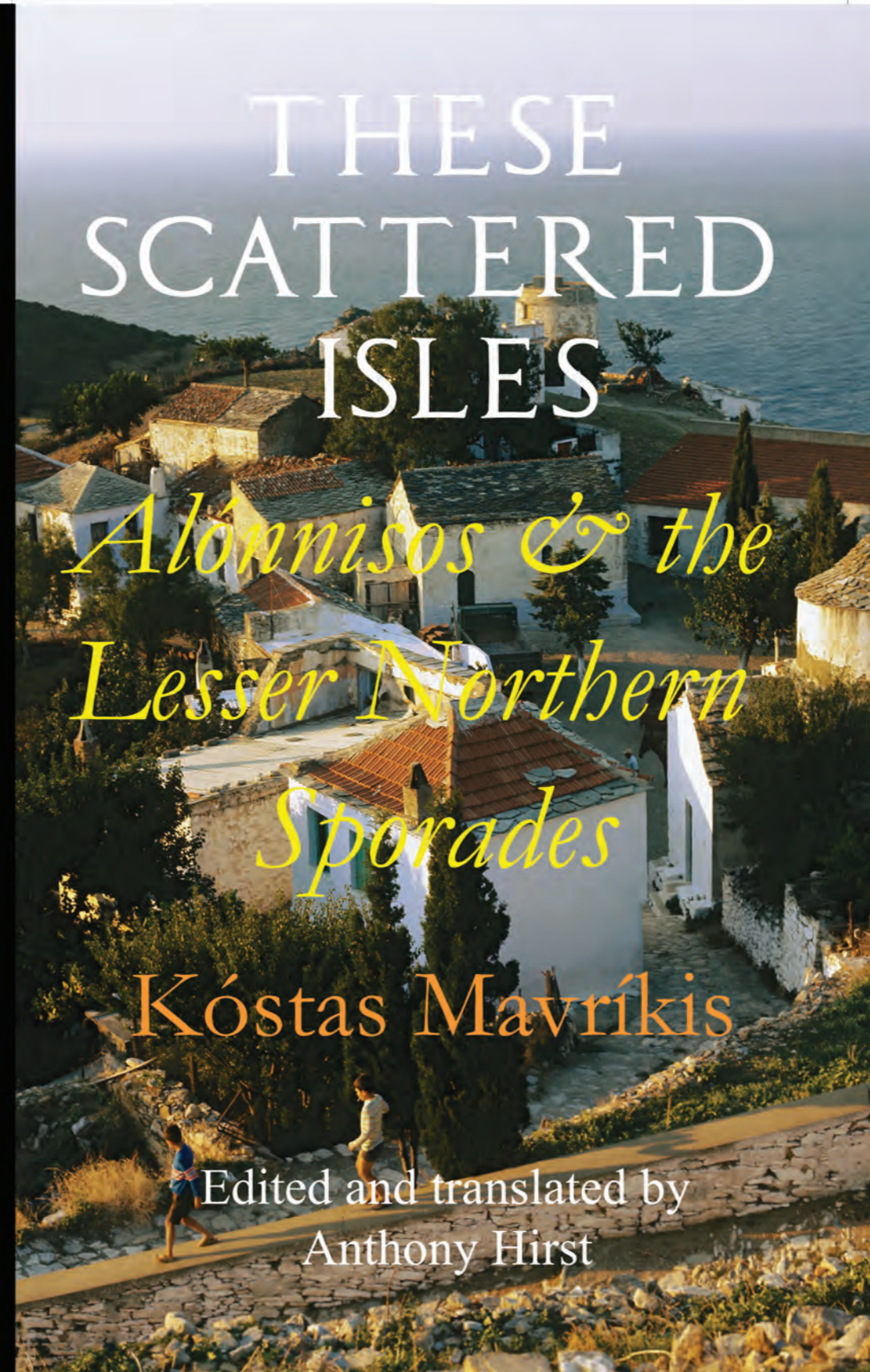
Kóstas Mavríkis

THESE SCATTERED ISLES

OXFORD
MARITIME
RESEARCH

5.50 x 8.50
216 mm x 140 mm

1.247
31.67mm



5.50 x 8.50
216 mm x 140 mm

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