

Stunning location, no 'access all areas' – the true story of Greek island moving

Hiring stubborn donkeys, difficult access, dangerous winds, unreliable ferry schedules and tiny dirt roads – it's all in a day's work for Celebrity International Movers when it relocates clients to and from some of the beautiful Greek islands.

'They are the most enchanting locations in the world, so it is no wonder many Greeks and foreigners buy homes there,' said Kathy Chrisovergis, managing director, who comes from the Cycladic island of Paros.

She knows just how hard her team works to get goods safely moved. 'Each island is unique in its beauty, but also unique in its challenges.'

Homes are often found in tiny villages where there are no proper roads or convenient parking. Chrisovergis says it is not unusual for packers to walk uphill and down carrying boxes of fragile items. Sometimes, the movers can barely squeeze through the *sokakia*, or narrow paths, of a village.

Planning an island move often has specific considerations. Vehicles aren't allowed on Spetses and Hydra. Even some that do, like Santorini, often have homes built on magnificent cliffs that are only accessible by foot. That's when a team of donkeys must be hired to help complete the job – but that can be a challenge in itself.

'A Greek donkey can be very stubborn. One we hired was carrying a piano and he absolutely refused to budge,' said Yannis Aliferis, move manager. 'We managed to get him to moving in the end.'

During winter, ferries don't run as often to and from the islands, which can affect tight time



Donkey power is often summoned to make an island move



Santorini - a magnificent island, but much is only accessible by foot

schedules. In the summer, harsh *meltemi* winds hit the islands and boats can be cancelled at a moment's notice.

'We are up for any challenge. We have the experience which enables us to find the safest and best way to get the job done.'

'Over the past 28 years, we've worked with clients who move to and from all types of locations in the islands,' said Chrisovergis.

'The best part is when clients thank us. They appreciate our professionalism and care which, in the end, enables them to live their dream of having a home on Greece's gorgeous islands.'