

MEDITERRANEAN

SIGGY AND HEATHER | TRIP AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN | SATURDAY, 11 MAY 2013

Pilion

I woke very early this morning to see the sun rise over Mt Athos. It was worth it. The place was tranquil and only one fisherman stood sentinel on the beach. It was a "Bear Gully" moment - our family will know what that means.

The aim today was to travel about 300 kms south to another peninsula - the Pilion. It was recommended because of its rugged beauty and its isolated settlements. The sunny day made the journey pass enjoyably. We traveled through large scale farming country initially. Olive groves were everywhere. After more broad acreage farms we went around the Mt Olympus National Park where the mountains towered over us and the snow covered peaks looked really impressive.

What was not impressive was the tolls that we had to pay. It was about \$36 for a 100 km stretch of road. The Greeks have to increase their coffers somehow, I suppose.

After arriving on the peninsula, we headed for a caravan park that our Dutch friend, Patricia recommended - Camping Sikia. It is one of best we have been in on this trip - clean, tidy and with beautiful views. We both even went in for a swim and then out to tea at the local restaurant. The meal was not fabulous but the location was. We were right on the water.

As the evening was coming to a close we bumped into a young Australian couple on a site near us. They were on their honeymoon for 3 months and also traveling around Europe in a motorhome. Their motorhome was much larger than ours.

We figured that the stress of driving such a large vehicle would soon sort out if they were meant for each other. They seemed to be coping very well and had similar experiences to us.



Too Much Information

I am amazed that people in Greece and Turkey don't suffer from bad knees (maybe they do but we don't see the national figures). If you have ever had to squat down in the bushes you will know what I mean.

Squatting appears to be the preferred option here. Very few of our type of toilet are available.

Now let's get to the next part. Wiping. Many toilets have a bidet "thingy" to squirt water up your privates but you still need paper to

dry your "you know what". Don't you?

Trouble is, over here there is NO toilet paper in any toilet. You have to take your own. That's fine, but even if you do you are confronted with the sign - DON'T THROW TOILET PAPER DOWN THE TOILET. Apparently sewerage systems here cannot cope with toilet paper. So what to do with the toilet paper? Put it in a bin NEXT to the toilet. Revolting.

