

ICORIA 2024 suggested activities

Museums

Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki (<https://www.amth.gr/en>)



The Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki is one of the largest museums in Greece and the central museum of northern Greece. All visitors are welcome to experience its unique collections of ancient artefacts as well as its rich and extrovert cultural activities.

OPENING HOURS

Every day 9:00-16:00

ADMISSION FEE

General: 8 Euros

Reduced*: 4 Euros

Museum of Byzantine Culture (<https://www.mbp.gr/en>)



Museum of Byzantine Culture
Thessaloniki

Opening hours

EVERY DAY & SATURDAY & SUNDAY

08:00 – 20:00

1st April – 31st October

General admission: 6 euros

Reduced: 3 euros

1st November – 31st March

general admission: 3 euros

White Tower of Thessaloniki (<https://www.lpth.gr/indexeg.php>)

The White Tower was built in the fifteenth century after the fall of Thessaloniki to the Ottomans in 1430. At its location there had been an older tower belonging to Thessaloniki's Byzantine fortifications, where the eastern wall met the sea wall. The Tower was the eastern end of the sea wall; there was another at the western end, and a third in between.

OPENING HOURS

Every day: 08:30- 15:30

ADMISSION FEE

General: 3Euros

Reduced*: 2 Euros

Jewish Museum of Thessaloniki (<https://www.aejm.org/members/jewish-museum-of-thessaloniki/>)



The Jewish Museum of Thessaloniki has been established in 2001, in an old commercial arcade which belongs to the Jewish Community of Thessaloniki and has been renovated by funds of the Organization Thessaloniki Cultural Capital of Europe 1997.

Opening Hours

Monday - Friday: 09:00-14:00
Wednesday: 09:00-14:00 και 17:00-20:00
Sunday: 10:00-14:00
ADMISSION FEE
General: 8 Euros
Reduced*: 3 Euros

War Museum (<https://warmuseum.gr/our-war-museums/thessaloniki-war-museum/contact-information/>)

Being in the heart of the city's urban environment and hosted in a historic building of the early 20th century, the War Museum of Thessaloniki has had active presence since the first year of its operation in 2000. It hosts nine permanent exhibitions with over 10,000 historical relics and heirlooms and is a comprehensive museum of modern Greek history and culture. Visitors have the chance to see a vivid representation of modern Greek history, starting from the pre-Independence War period through to the late 20th century.

Opening Hours
SUMMER OPENING
Tuesday - Saturday: 9:00 - 19:00
Sunday: 9:00 - 17:00
Monday: 11:00 - 16:00

ADMISSION FEE

General Admission 4€
Reduced Admission 2€
Monday 2€

MOMus – Museum of Contemporary Arts (<https://momus.gr/en/museum/museum-contemporary-art#museum>)



MOMus-Museum of Contemporary Art- Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art and State Museum of Contemporary Art Collections (formerly: Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art) is charged with promoting contemporary art and the study of art movements in Greece and abroad through the preservation and promotion of its achievements, mostly in the visual arts. It manages the Iolas, Xydis and Apergis collections, all collections, and contemporary artworks of the Foundation of the “Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art”, the contemporary art collections of the State Museum of Contemporary Art and the collection of sculptures of the Foundation “Alex Mylona Museum of Contemporary Art”. This department organizes the Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art and can also assign the creation of new artworks.

ADMISSION FEE

General Admission: 6 Euros

Reduced Admission: 3 Euros

Wine Tasting

1. **Ktima Gerovassileiou** (<https://www.grovassiliou.gr/>)

On the slopes of Epanomi, a few kilometres from the city of Thessaloniki, a meticulously tended vineyard surrounds the modern winery, where the renowned Ktima Gerovassiliou wines are produced.



Opening Hours

Monday, Thursday, Friday: 10:00-16:00

Wednesday: 13:00-19:00

Saturday, Sunday : 11:00-17:00

Closed on Tuesdays

General admission: 5 Euros

Concessions: 2.50 Euros

Free admission: Children under 18, museologists, students of schools/colleges related to the field of vine and wine.

2. Domaine Florian (<https://www.domaineflorian.com/>)

Just a few kilometers away from the city center, situated on one of the three hills at the east side of Thessaloniki, with a panoramic view overlooking Thermaikos gulf up to Mount Olympus, our winery, upon request, offers a unique wine experience for all wine lovers out there. Family run, boutique winery dedicated to high quality and authentic wine making with emphasis on ecological sustainability.

3. Kechris Winery (<https://www.kechris.gr/en/>)

KECHRIS Winery & Distillery is a modern family business that specializes in the vinification of high-quality retsina, keeping up a century-long tradition in the production of wines and traditional liqueurs, which are unique in their type. By drawing inspiration from the family tradition and by applying the most modern winemaking techniques, KECHRIS produces white and red wines, and liqueurs.

Visits take place Monday or Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., by appointment.

Packages:

FRIENDS OF WINE: 60€ for 1–6-people, 9€ each extra person/1 hour, 90€ for 1-6 people, 13€ each extra person/1 hour and 15'

RETSINA EXPERIENCE: 80€ for 1-6 people, 10€ each extra person/2 hours

4. Ktima Kir-Yianni (<https://kiryianni.gr/>)

The Kyr-Giannis estate was founded in 1897, by Giannis Boutaris, one of the prominent personalities of the Greek winemaking. The winery and the Kyr-Giannis estate are located in Giannakochori, Naoussa, covering an area of over 560 acres. The Xinomavro, Syrah, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon varieties are grown there. The climate of the area as well as the soil rich in nutrients, create the ideal conditions for the cultivation of grapes.

Visits at Ktima Kir-Yianni are available by appointment.

Tuesday to Sunday 11:00 – 20:00

5. Porto Carras Estate (<https://www.portocarras.com/porto-carras/domaine/?>)

The Porto Carras estate is located in the beautiful Sithonia of Halkidiki and is the largest organic vineyard in Greece and one of the largest in Europe. The vineyard cultivates many varieties of white wine such as Assyrtiko, Malagouzia and Sauvignon Blanc, but also famous varieties of red grapes such as Limnio, the oldest variety that exists and has been cultivated since the time of Aristotle. Porto Carras is the epitome of wine tourism as it offers its guests the opportunity not only to take a tour of it, but also to stay in the

elegant and comfortable hotel located within its property, the Meliton Hotel. The estate of Porto Carras, as well as the hotel complex located in it have a long tradition dating back to 1965, resulting in the impeccable organization and service of its guests.

Wine tasting sessions are held daily throughout the year at Melissanthi Wine Tasting Room. To best plan your visit, you can contact the Winery at (+30) 2375077437. You may also enjoy an unforgettable tour of the vineyard grounds, offering panoramic Aegean sea views over the Sithonia peninsula, the vast vineyards across the Meliton slopes and the continuous picturesque coves framing Porto Carras.

City Activities

1. **Have a memorable dining experience at the modern OTE Tower**

Built in 1966 the OTE Tower, a 76-meter high building towering over central Thessaloniki was previously used for television and communications in the 60s-70s, until receiving a renovation in 2005. With its incredible sights of the city and water, and its rotating feature making it stand out from any other modern attraction in the city, make sure to stop by for a memorable dining experience, where you'll get the best 360-degree views of the city, paired with a 5-star meal.

2. **Plan a cinematic evening at an outdoor cinema.**

Check out Summer Cinema Ellinis, creating a shady and fresh ambiance tucked into a lush garden away from the traffic of the city, dressed in the true Greek colors of blue and white.

Featuring a great variety of movies is Open Air Cinema Apollo, also situated in the heart of the city, surrounded by lush greenery, apartment buildings, and is known for its remarkably great sound system and movie-watching experience.

Lastly, Open Air Cinema Natalie is a crowd favorite, featuring newly released movies and for its prime location, right beside the well-known Umbrella art display. It's the perfect plan for a romantic dinner and a movie date with your partner.

3. **Visit the historical and cultural monuments of Thessaloniki with OASTHs "CULTURAL" ROUTE No 50**

The bus departs from the White Tower for a 50-minute tour around the city's main historical and cultural monuments. The "Route to the History of Thessaloniki" stops very close to many of the historical monuments, that have built up the city's history through the ages, from ancient, Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine times until today.

6. **Day Cruise: A day in Thessaloniki from another point**

Sail away into the deep blue waters of the Thermaic Gulf, explore hidden treasures in an abandoned shipwreck and indulge in a traditional Greek lunch on this exhilarating cruise through Thessaloniki.

7. **Ano Poli: Timeless Charm at the Upper Town**

Stroll through the narrow streets of Ano Poli, the Upper Town, and step back in time to the medieval era. This well-preserved neighborhood is like a living museum, with its

traditional houses, old churches, and ancient ruins. As you walk uphill, the picturesque views of the city and the Thermaic Gulf will leave you spellbound.

8. Kapani Market: A Culinary Adventure

Foodies, rejoice! Kapani Market is a paradise of flavors, aromas, and colors. Explore the bustling market, where local vendors sell fresh fruits, vegetables, spices, and delicacies. Sample a variety of olives, cheeses, and cured meats for an authentic taste of Thessaloniki's gastronomic heritage.

As your Thessaloniki adventure comes to an end, you'll realize that the city is much more than just a travel destination; It's an experience that touches your soul. From its rich history to its warm hospitality, Thessaloniki leaves an indelible mark on every traveler's heart.

Short distance trips (1-2 hours from the city)

1. Take a day trip to Halkidiki: Beach Bliss and Beyond

Just a short drive from Thessaloniki, Halkidiki offers some of the most beautiful beaches in Greece. Explore the three peninsulas – Cassandra, Sithonia, and Athos – each with its unique charm. Whether you seek adventure, tranquility, or spiritual reflection, Halkidiki has it all.

2. Mount Olympus: A Mythical Adventure.

Embark on an unforgettable day trip to Mount Olympus, home of the ancient Greek gods. Hike through lush forests, gushing streams, and serene landscapes. Even if you don't reach the summit, the journey itself is a transformative experience amidst the mythical aura of the mountain.

3. Vergina: Uncovering Ancient Treasures

History buffs will be captivated by a day trip to Vergina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the ancient royal tombs and archaeological remains that belong to the ancient kingdom of Macedon, including the tomb of King Philip II, father of Alexander the Great. Visit the museum accompanied by an experienced licensed tour guide and learn everything about the history and myths of Macedonia.

4. Edessa: The City of Waterfalls

Known as the City of Waterfalls, Edessa is a picturesque town famous for its cascading waterfalls and lush greenery. Take a scenic stroll along the riverbanks and marvel at the beauty of nature. Don't forget to taste the local cherries, which Edessa is renowned for.

5. Meteora-Kastraki (<https://visitmeteora.travel>)

Kastraki (meaning 'small castle') is a small, peaceful village that from afar looks like an eagle's nest at the bottom of the gigantic rocks of Meteora. The whole settlement rests

literally among the giant cliffs and it was first established back in the 16th century. It is a pole of natural beauty and Tourism, very distinct in the wider region of Meteora, included in the list of [Cultural Heritage Sites of UNESCO](#).

6. Kavala Ammolofoi (<https://www.visitkavala.gr/en/sightseeing/ammolofoi/>)

West of Peramos you will find the exotic beaches of Ammolofoi. The fine white sand in combination with the clear waters will enchant you! This is the busiest place, especially for the young of Eastern Macedonia, whose weekend parties last late into the night! Of course, if you seek more quiet corners, then you will easily discover them! You can get here by taking the long distance bus as far as Nea Peramos and from there walk or take a taxi. During the summer period the bus continues for Ammolofoi.

Schedule your holiday in the nearby islands of North Aegean

Thasos (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/north-aegean-islands/thasos/>)

With its rich history and archaeological remains, wonderful beaches, variety of activities to do and friendly people, Thasos has become one of those islands holidaymakers return to year after year. It is also very popular with the Greeks because of the good food, the high-standardised services provided and the very intriguing mixture of the modern and the traditional.



Giola beach in Thasos

Samothrace – the island of the Great Gods (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/north-aegean-islands/samothrace/>)

Home to one of the highest mountain ranges in the Aegean Samothrace is an unspoiled and majestic Greek island where nature is still in its wilder forms. Visit its clear streams of cascading waterfalls and rock pools for swimming and enjoy the green landscapes even in late summer.

There is evidence of human activity on the rich with archaeological treasures island since the Neolithic times. But it's the Kaviria Mysteries – religious event of great importance, equal to that of the Eleusinian Mysteries - that brought the island's fame to the top. The grandeur of the archaeological prominence of Samothrace stretches over the 50-square-kilometres site of Palaiopolis, at 6,5km from the port of Kamariotissa.



Samothrace

Mount Athos – A historic place of worship on the third leg of Halkidiki (<https://athos-cruises.gr/>)

The cruise to Mount Athos departs from Ouranoupolis twice a day with the “Captain Fotis” boat of 300 seats. Daily from the 1st of April until the 31st of October and at 10:30 (Morning Cruise 1a) and 14:00 (Noon Cruise 1b). The afternoon cruise to Mount Athos is available from the 15th of May until the 15th of October. The duration of the cruise to Mount Athos is three hours.



North Aegean (Limnos, Lesbos, Chios, Samos, Fournoi, Ikarria)

Limnos - An island of sheer beauty (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/north-aegean-islands/limnos/>)

Limnos is a beautiful North Aegean Sea island, which was shaped by volcanic eruptions in the distant past. It is a place with a centuries-old history, and a popular holiday destination that will capture your heart - the perfect place to chill out. You will see imposing rock formations, peculiar volcanic landscapes, rolling green hills, extensive plots of fertile land, huge sand dunes, and wetlands brimming with life. The winding shoreline stretches and curves for 259km, shaping the island's sheltered coves, picturesque little harbours, and golden sandy beaches washed by crystal-clear waters. The beauty of this diverse uneven landscape is quite impressive.

The island is home to archaeological sites, fortresses, traditional villages, hospitable locals, and a particular & delicious cuisine among the best in the Aegean Sea, with products which have been famous ever since antiquity, such as wine, honey, cheese, fresh fish & seafood dishes: for all the above reasons Limnos Island will surely rank high on your list of favourite holiday destinations.

Lesvos A Tapestry of Natural Wonders and Cultural Riches
(<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/north-aegean-islands/lesvos/>)

The magnificent island of Lesvos is the third largest of the country. Enjoy the mild mediterranean climate, the rich flora and fauna, the springs, the olive groves, the petrified forest, the picturesque traditional villages, the delicious local products (such as ouzo and olive oil) and the island's subsequent architecture to the 19th century industrial development.

Throughout the ages, Lesvos contribution to the arts is priceless. During antiquity and contemporary times, prominent members of the arts and politics, were born on this particular island. You might have heard of some of them: Sappho (poet), Alcaeus (poet), Arion (poet and musician), Terpander (poet), Theophrastos (philosopher), Pittacus of Mytilene (statesman and sage), Theophilos (painter), Elias Venezis (novelist), Stratis Myrivilis (writer), and the nobelist Odysseas Elytis (poet, essayist).



Lesvos

Samos - The island of Hera and Pythagoras (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/north-aegean-islands/samos/>)

Samos has an outstanding natural landscape, beautiful beaches, fine wine and monuments of sizable cultural significance. Kings, Priests and men of letters had the utmost respect for this island as the sanctuaries and the philosophical societies were considered the spiritual centre in the Mediterranean world. Natives to Samos' are the Mythical Goddess Hera, the philosopher Epicurus, the astronomer Aristarchus and the great mathematician Pythagoras.

You have two UNESCO monuments to visit: the fortified ancient city of Pythagoreion and the ancient Temple of Hera, Heraion of Samos. Don't miss the pleasant cultural events and music festivals during the summer months and get acquainted with the island's history by wandering around the historic village of Vathy.



Samos

Chios (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/north-aegean-islands/chios/>)

Much as Chios is famous for its mastic, it is not the only "magic" one can find on this island. Alongside its rich history starting from the Neolithic Age and including adventures with Saracene pirates and the Turks during the Greek Revolution, Chios also claims to be the birthplace of Homer. It was certainly the birthplace of eminent Greek politicians and writers such as Adamantios Korais, Emmanouil Roidis and Alexandre Mavrokordatos.



Town of Chios

Ikaria – (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/north-aegean-islands/ikaria/>)

Besides the island's sandy beaches, running waters, mountains and green hillsides its name, Ikaria, is intertwined with Greek mythology and Ikarus. The thermal springs on the island are renowned for their chemical composition. The unparalleled local lifestyle, along with the one of a kind work-rest schedule, the famous festivals and traditional dances, the local customs, are just some of the reasons why you should explore this impressive destination. Enjoy its beautiful gorges. Swim in the crystal clear waters. Savour fresh fish and sip fragrant wine, while you let yourselves become an Ikarian, as they are connoisseurs of the secrets for longevity!



Ikaria

Fourni - An archipelago away from the crowds (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/north-aegean-islands/fourni/>)

An ideal base for pirates in the Middle Ages, due to the hundreds of small fjords and hidden beaches where their ships could be concealed, Fourni were once called “Corseoi Islands”, after corsairs, i.e. pirates.

There are ancient finds scattered throughout the island dating back to the Ionians, Classical and Hellenistic times. The Cyclopean wall with traces of an Acropolis on the Hill of Ai Giorgis, the

ruins of the ancient temple at Kamari and the remains of homes on the sea bed, the shrine to Poseidon at Agia Triada in Chrysomilia, the ancient quarry at Petrokopio.

As a matter of fact, Fournoi is not just one island, but a formation of small ones, of which only two are inhabited: Fournoi and Thymaina. Islands of fishermen and beekeepers, they provide visitors with all basic comforts.



Fournoi

Psara - The island of glorious past & pristine beauty

(<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/north-aegean-islands/psara/>)

Travel guides describe the island as “a dot in the sea, far away from established tourism destinations” – but that is only half true, because on this dot shrewd travellers from around the world discover – or, better yet, create – their own personal paradise, with the materials offered by the untamed nature of the Aegean Sea.

The people of Psara are, first and foremost, proud of their glorious past. The revolutionary flag of 1821 – white and red, with a cross and an anchor wrapped by a serpent – welcomes visitors at the harbour, reminding them that the history of this island is interwoven with the history of its untamed soul.



Psara

Sporades (Skiathos, Skopelos, Alonissos, and Skyros)

Skiathos- (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/sporades/skiathos/>)



Skiathos, the most cosmopolitan island in the Northern Sporades, is truly a paradise on earth, with lush pine forests and crystal-clear azure waters. The island is picturesque, unspoilt and blessed with more than 60 beautifully crystal-clear waters and beaches. The most famous is Koukounaries, which is considered as the third most beautiful beach in the Mediterranean. When you add in its bustling nightlife, it is only natural

that the island attracts thousands of young visitors every year!

Skopelos (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/sporades/skopelos/>)

Skopelos' strongest card is its jaw dropping beaches with pine trees touching its turquoise waters as well as its fascinating local cuisine. If you've been to the island, you'd know that no one can resist their strifti (twisted phyllo dough) cheese pie, renowned throughout the country. The island enjoyed international acclaim when Hollywood producers chose it to shoot the famous movie "Mamma Mia!", establishing it as a holiday destination for travelers coming from around the world.



Skopelos

Alonissos (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/sporades/alonnisos/>)

Blessed with rugged natural landscapes, and surrounded by small islands scattered around the archipelagos, Alonnisos is an island ideal for those you want to unwind and enjoy leisure walks surrounded by pine forests, olive groves and orchards. The island is the most remote of the Northern Sporades island group, and home to the National Marine Park of Northern Sporades, a refuge for rare seabirds, dolphins and the Mediterranean monk seal, *monachus monachus*.



Alonnisos

Skyros (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/sporades/skyros/>)

Several myths of Greek Mythology referring to legendary heroes such as Lykomedes, Theseus, Achilles and Neoptolemus, are connected with the island of Skyros. A plethora of conquerors left behind their traces over the centuries, which is perfectly illustrated on the island's traditions, customs and architecture. Whether you are an action lover or desperate for carefree moments under the sun, Skyros has a unique experience to offer to each one of you!



Skyros

Ionian Sea

Parga (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/blog/travel-tips/719/time-stands-still-parga-greece/>)

Parga is an idyllic village that lazily lounges on a hill overseeing the Ionian Sea. Its 4000 residents are lorded over by the Castle of Parga. On a clear day you can see the island of Corfu. While away sipping cappuccinos and savoring wines on the sea side cafes. Days could slip by as you absorb the sounds and smells of this village.



Syvota – The Ionian fjord (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/mainland/epirus/syvota/>)

Blue and green, representative of Thesprotia's Prefecture, is the main reason why Syvota is considered as one of the most exotic destinations within Greece; lacy shores, luscious green islets, long sheltered beaches with crystal clear waters and secret coves, are just some of the settlement's characteristics that nature has open handedly offered. It is the perfect stop for sailors of the Ionian archipelago, nevertheless it is a must destination for all.



Corfu (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/ionian-islands/corfu/>)

With the passage of time the island of Corfu may have changed, but any traveler can still feel the spirit of a distant glorious past. Its rich multi-cultural heritage, its historic monuments, its stunning natural landscape, its crystal clear seas, and its excellent weather all year round explain why Corfu is one of the most cosmopolitan Mediterranean destinations weaving a powerful spell on its visitors.



Lefkada (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/islands/ionian-islands/lefkada/>)

Lefkada (Lefkas) lies shimmering like an emerald jewel in the clear, turquoise Ionian seas off the western coast off Greece. Dotted with tranquil, romantic villages, with a wealth of history and some of the most beautiful beaches in the world.



Paxos (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/blog/travel-tips/926/a-holiday-in-paxos/>)

The islands of Paxos and Antipaxos are beautifully isolated Ionian destinations situated via a 2 hour boat ride from Corfu. Serenity and relaxation are the keywords here – as soon as I arrived at the ‘main’ port of Gaios I was struck by how laid back the area seemed compared the libidinous party atmosphere of Corfu and Kavos.



Kefalonia (<https://www.visitgreece.gr/blog/travel-tips/960/must-see-kefalonia/>)

The [Greek Island](#) of [Kefalonia](#) is less well known than its counterparts [Crete](#) and [Corfu](#), but it is no less beautiful or alluring. This is the island that provided the setting to *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* and the 2001 film adaptation brought this gorgeous isle to the masses, inspiring many a visitor. We've rounded up the destinations not to be missed whilst holidaying in Kefalonia to ensure that you make the most out of a visit.

