

#### THESSALONIKI

Thessaloniki is the second largest city in Greece. It is located in Macedonia, in the north of the country. There are innumerable archaeological treasures that you can visit, as well as other attractions:

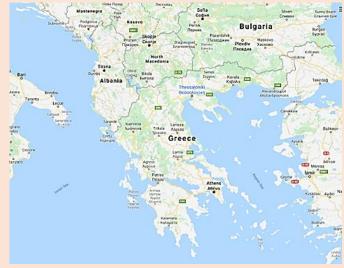
- The White Tower, the ancient castles, the tower of Trigonios and the Eptapyrgion
- The Holly Church of St. Demetrius and his crypt
- Numerous Byzantine Christian Churches
- The Vlatades Monastery
- The Monastir Synagogue
- The Archaeological and Byzantine Museum of the city
- The Center for the Dissemination of Sciences and the Museum of Technology «Noesis»
- The Concert Hall
- The waterfront, the Ladadika area, the Kapani market

It is a city full of activity, mainly due to its two major universities, the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the University of Macedonia, which host tens of thousands of students.

Thessaloniki was the European Youth Capital in 2014 and the European Capital of Culture in 1997. Fifteen of the city's monuments are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In 2013, Thessaloniki was listed as one of the 20 parts of the world to visit, according to National Geographic, and ranked 5th in Top 10 Best Cities for Fun in the Lonely Planet world.

Within a short distance of the city there are tourist destinations of international reputation for a variety of interests:

- \* Mount Athos in Halkidiki,
- \* The archaeological sites of Philippi, Vergina, Dion, Pella and Aigais
- \* Olympus mountain
- \* The Baths of Lagada and Pozar.
- \* The ski resorts 3-5 Pigadia (wells), Seli, Elatochori and Lailias
- \* The National Park of Axios's Delta and Kerkini Lake



- \* The waterfalls of Edessa
- \* The caves of Alistrati and Petralona and
- \* Mount Holomontas in Halkidiki, an area of exceptional natural beauty.

It is a unique opportunity to combine your scientific training with your entertainment.

https://thessaloniki.travel/

# **Travel Information**

# International Airport "Makedonia"



The airport of Thessaloniki is the International Airport "Makedonia", located 14 km from the city center. You will find a selection of airlines that fly to a wide range of European cities. Aegean Airlines, Ryanair, Air Berlin and Turkish Airlines are some of the airlines with the highest frequency in Thessaloniki Airport. You can get to the city of Thessaloniki by using the bus No 01 or a taxi.

For more information visit Thessaloniki Airport and OASTH (public transportation)

## Taxi service



Taxi service in Thessaloniki is plentiful and economic. Taxi companies operate 24-hour call centers, ready to receive your order or make an advance booking for you. As a rough guide a taxi within the city will cost approximately  $\leq$  5,00-12,00, a taxi to the airport will cost between  $\leq$  20,00-  $\leq$ 30,00. You can approximately calculate how much your taxi trip will cost, <u>here</u>.

## **Passport & Visa Policy**



Greece is a Member-State of the European Union and has ratified the Schengen Agreement. Citizens of countries that are not Member-States of the Schengen Agreement require a visa to enter Greece and the E.U. For information about passport and visa policy, please visit the <u>Hellenic Republic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</u> & the <u>Greek Diplomatic and Consular Missions</u> abroad.

## Currency

Greece uses the European Union currency: Euro. A currency converter is available here.

#### **Greece telephone code**

To call Greece, you will need to dial: International Access Code +30 plus regional code + number. Thessaloniki's regional number: 2310

## Shopping

Greece is the ideal place to shop for a wide variety of products, catering to anyone's tastes and needs. Prices are very reasonable in relation to product quality and visitors will be able to find something for every kind of budget. Big shops are open Monday to Friday from 09.00 until 21.00. On Saturdays, shops stay open from 09.00 until 15.00, while they are closed on Sundays. Kiosks may stay open until 22.00 or even later.

## **Cultural Route No 50**

Thessaloniki's public transportation operates the sightseeing bus No 50 cultural route. The bus makes 16 official stops from which you can explore 43 points of interest. http://oasth.gr/#en/cultural-route/



## **Useful telephone numbers**

-Ambulance Service: 166 -Duty Hospitals and Clinics: 1434 -Police: 100

# Aristotelous Square

It is one of the central squares of Thessaloniki



and a popular spot for tourists and locals, with many bars and cafes, a venue for political gatherings and a variety of artistic events. The French architect Ernest Hebrard, designed the square in 1917, immediately after the great fire that burned down the center of Thessaloniki. There have been many simplifications and modifications. It was finally formed in the 1960s.

## White Tower



It is a cylindrical stone tower, monument and museum, built by the Ottomans in the 15th century. It is the emblem of Thessaloniki.

## Upper Town

It has been characterized as a traditional settlement to be preserved and stands out for its



beauty. Tour is done without a car in narrow paved alleys, clearings and squares with tavernas, the Castles and the view of the city and Olympus.

#### Sculpture "Umbrellas"

The sculpture was placed in 1997 on the beach of Thessaloniki as part of the proclamation of the city as the European



Capital of Culture. It adorned the entrance to the 45th Venice Biennale.

#### **St. Demetrius Church**



St. Demetrius Church, patron saint of Thessaloniki. Important old Christian church of

the city dedicated to the Saint - Protector of the city. Its original construction dates back to the 4th century, as a small Christian church, while the final configuration took place in 629-634, like a five-aisled basilica with a transverse aisle. During the Ottoman period, the temple was converted into a mosque (1493-1912) and a considerable number of mosaics and frescoes were destroyed. During the fire of 1917 the building was completely destroyed. The restoration and restoration work that took place was extensive, and lasted several years.