



eaglespalace

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Eagles Palace Excursions Proposals

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MOUNT ATHOS REPUBLIC

The last prong of Halkidiki (Athos Peninsula) is the most beautiful of all three. Civilization has not intruded into the Holy Mountain, which is inhabited solely by monks. This magnificent peninsula has been the sole province of men dedicated to the worship of God and the Virgin for well over a thousand years.

Nowadays the number of functioning monasteries has dwindled to 20 with a population of approximately 1,700 brethren. Surrounded by an incalculable wealth of ecclesiastical treasure, rare icons and libraries stocked with precious manuscripts, they live simply according to a strict regime of prayer and labor untouched by modern frivolities.

Athos, a monument of international cultural heritage, is not only a real museum of the Byzantine art, but a living center of the Christian Orthodox religion. More and more people are visiting "Agion Oros" for spiritual, religious and scientific interests. Since women are not allowed in (due to tradition), and even men need special permission to enter, an easy way to admire and experience Athos, is by taking a day boat cruise along the coast from Eagles Palace.

DAILY CRUISE WITH THE HOTELS MOTOR SAILING BOAT

The hotels sailing boat can be hired privately and make daily trips like:

- * a cruise along the coast of the unique Mount Athos republic. This will give you the opportunity to admire a lot of the famous monasteries of Mount Athos or
- * a day cruise to the near Robinson island and the beautiful island of Ammouliani with a stop to visit the village of Ammouliani and / or to swim in the very clear waters of Karagatsi bay or
- * a daily cruise to the second finger of Halkidiki peninsula and the small enchanting island Vourvourou can also be arranged. This will give you the opportunity to see parts of Halkidiki accessible only by the sea....
- * Or even a romantic sunset cruise around the near islands...with champagne and relaxing music admiring the views of the islands feeling the sea breeze!

Alternatively, we could propose to you also a cruise with a motor boat (without skipper) or speed boats (with skipper) to discover the near area.

AMOULIANI ISLAND

The beautiful island of Ammouliani has an extent of 4,5 km.

There are lots of hills and small valleys on the island which have blended in with the olive trees and low vegetation.

The coasts present a variety of small shaped creeks with splendid sandy beaches. The beaches that one can enjoy are: Alikes, Megali Ammos, Ai Giorgis, Karagatsi, Faka, Tsaska, Nisakia and many more but not less beautiful.

VILLAGE OF OURANOUPOLIS

Today Ouranoupolis is considered to be one of the most important resorts in northern Halkidiki and it is just 1 ½ km away from Eagles Palace. In the souvenir shops you may find famous handmade carpets with Byzantine drawings, goat hair rugs, Byzantine icons or jewels made with natural raw materials.

You may also find local products such as oil, wine, honey, raki (tsipouro), oregano and various teas. In the evenings you may dine in one of the picturesque taverns, taste the fresh fish and enjoy carefree moments. One might also be lucky and be in the area when cultural events and religious holidays take place.

For those who love nature, there are lots of walking paths through the olive and pine hills.

THE CASTLE OF PROSPHORIYOU IN OURANOUPOULIS

At the year 1018 there was already one dependency of the monastery of Vatopedi with the name "Prosporon", which during the centuries was getting bigger. At the year 1940 the castle provides a small security to the dependency of Vatopedi against many dangers, mostly against pirate attacks. The castle and the rest of the buildings of the community were inhabited by immigrants at the year 1924 and they remained there until their houses were rebuilt. Today the Byzantine tower is a property of the Ministry of Culture and has an exhibition with Byzantine antiquities and icons.

MONASTERY OF ZIGOU

The ruins of the once Mount Athos monastery lay just before the border of Mount Athos, just 2 km outside of Ouranoupolis. First actual reference concerning the foundation of the monastery dates back to 996 BC and claim that it was dedicated to the Prophet Elias. It is a unique sample of Mount Athos Architecture.

Follow the archaeological promenade which used monks, pilgrims and travelers through the ages. Relive the same experience by studying the tower of Ouranoupolis and by living the experience of the oldest monastery of Mount Athos "Zygos" and by touching the borders of Mount Athos.

TOUR TO THE ARISTOTLE'S PARK AT STAGIRA AND ARNAIA

The historic village of Stagira, birthplace of Aristoteles, is located one hour away at a height of 500 meters approximately. Here you will find Aristotle's Park in the forest area just in the entrance of the village with a breathtaking panoramic view of the whole gulf. The statue stands majestically in the center of the park and exhibits with simple instructions show the phenomena of nature as the great philosopher once taught – all dedicated to his work called "the Natural". Next stop is at Arnea town, where you will have time for shopping or for a visit to the popular museum.

VILLAGE OF IERISSOS

The village of Ierissos is very famous for its delicious fish and the traditional wooden hand made ships and boats. The shipyards, called "Karnagia", are the typical characteristic of Ierissos.

They have been here for centuries due to the fact that most of the chief occupations were connected to the sea in general. It is a tradition passed on from father to son. The boats are made from pinewood and the same technique has been used for many centuries now.

There are three shipyards still in operation and the boats, which are made here travel the seas all over Greece.

GLEBE OF MONASTERY HILANDARI

If you want to have a taste of monks' life of Mount Athos, come with us to the glebe of monastery Hiliandari (Serbian monastery in Mount Athos) in a beautiful landscape next to Ierissos town. The church, the lake with the bridge and the kiosk complete the peaceful scenery, under the shadow of Mount Athos.

CULTURAL CENTER IN IERISSOS

The Cultural Centre hosts the unique in Greece 3D theatre which shows stereoscopic videos. The Centre hosts, also, an exhibition hall and a congress hall.

TOUR TO A FARM

Tour to the Farm Platanorema (only 20 min. away from hotel) for an amazing experience in a unique place with beautiful nature, where you can see the lake with the ducks, the turkeys, the chickens, the wild boars, the goats and other animals. In this beautiful surrounding you can enjoy also your lunch, or a coffee at the property's restaurant.

PRIVATE EXCURSIONS WITH TAXI

Tour to Vergina

Vergina, a village in Imathia, is 12 km from Veroia, 75 km from Thessaloniki. It has enjoyed worldwide renown in the past few decades, owing to the discovery there of the ancient city of Aigai, the ancient capital of the Macedonian kings, and its cemetery. Of particular note are the tombs of the royal dynasty, most notably King Philip II and a young prince who is identified as Alexander IV, and a cist grave. The royal tombs were discovered in 1977-8 by the archaeologist Manolis Andronikos.

Excursion Kavala – The Philippos – Cavern of Alistratis

Kavala is the second biggest city of northern Greece after Thessaloniki. It was founded the 7th century under the name Neapolis and is considered one of the more beautiful cities of Greece. The town is amphitheatrically built and has 80.000 residents.

Very interesting to visit is the archaeological museum, the walls with the aqueduct and the home of Mohament Ali. We will visit the Philippi, which were founded in the 4th century from Filippus, the 2nd King of Macedonia and father of Great Alexander. Sight seeing tour to Acropolis, the ancient market, the small chapel where Lydia – the first Christian- were baptized from apostle Pavlos, The cave of Alistratis which we can visit on our return is one of the biggest and important caverns in Greece. The stalagmites and stalactites testify 2.000.000 years existence.

City of Thessaloniki

Thessaloniki, the city of "Thermaikou" - the most beautiful and one of the most important cities of Macedonia! Her history begins 2300 years ago... The city was named by the sister of Great Alexander. After the city tour, we would propose to you to visit the museums, the churches or the archaeological areas. For shopping we propose Tsimiski Avenue, where you will can find all international brands.

The cave of Petralona

The cave of Petralona "embellished" with stalagmites and stalactites is located in the west foot of the Katsika (Goat) mountain and in an altitude of about 300 meters from the level of sea. It was found in 1959 by an inhabitant of Petralona and it became well known all over the world in 1960, when the skull of Arhanthropos was found. Researches proved that the Arhanthropos is about 700.000 years old, and this makes him the "oldest" European.