



## *Fly & Drive*

# 9 Day Package for Greece Visiting Thessaloniki, Larissa, Meteora, Ioannina, Kastoria

**Arrival from Thessaloniki:** Daily all year

### Overview

Northern Greece vacation package begins from Thessaloniki the second largest city of Greece; a crossroad of civilizations, a place where the East and West meets, where great cultures and religions have been mixed.

Head to Vergina and the tomb Alexander the Great's father.

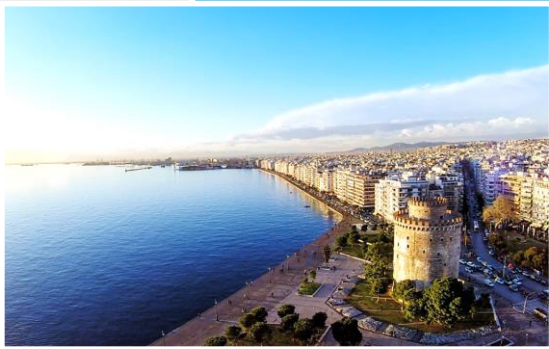
Continue to Larissa passing by Dion, the Ancient Sacred city of Macedonia, and its archeological park.

Next stop is UNESCO's World Heritage Site of Meteora; feel like you are suspending in the air of this holy place.

Pass through Metsovo's traditional architecture to arrive in Ioannina.

Visit the largest lake of Epirus; Lake Pamvotis and a cluster of 48 traditional picturesque villages called Zagorochochia.

Travel back to the Byzantine times in the town of Kastoria and enjoy a boat ride in Lake Orestiada.



### Inclusions

- 3 overnights hotel accommodation in Thessaloniki
- 1-night hotel accommodation in Larissa
- 1-night hotel accommodation in Kalambaka
- 2-nights hotel accommodation in Ioannina
- 1-night hotel accommodation in Kastoria
- Daily breakfast
- Car Rental

### Exclusions

- Any drinks during meal
- Accommodation tax payable on the spot
- Customary tips to your drivers, guides and escorts (optional)

**Coyote** transfers

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## Itinerary

### Day 1: THESSALONICA

Upon arrival in Thessaloniki you will meet the car rental company to pick up your car and drive to your hotel. Balance of the day at leisure.

### Day 2: THESSALONICA

Thessaloniki is the second largest city of Greece, built near the sea is a modern metropolis bearing the marks of its stormy history.

Visit the center of the city, **Aristotelous Square** the city's most central square boasting monumental mansions, **White Tower** is the city's landmark, **Palace of Galerius**, the **Ancient Agora**.



### Day 3: THESSALONICA / VERGINA / DION / LARISSA

Start your journey toward Vergina (78 km), the legendary burial site of the Macedonian kings. This site is considered a World Heritage Site, it is also known for the **Royal Tombs** and houses and the **tomb of King Philip II**, father of Alexander the Great. Continue driving until Dion (74 km from Vergina) which was the "sacred place" of the Macedonians. Since ancient times, a great altar was created for the worship of Zeus and his daughters, the Muses, in a unique environment, characterized by rich vegetation, tall trees, numerous springs and a navigable river. The last stretch is to Larissa (76 km from Dion), which is one of the main centers of agriculture.



### Day 4: LARISSA / METEORA

In the morning, departure to Kalambaka and visit Meteora which is one of the largest and most important complex of monasteries in Eastern Christianity, second only to Mount Athos.

Six monasteries are built on sandstone rock pillars.

**More than 20 monasteries were built, but nowadays there are only six:** Megálos meteoros (or Great Meteoro Monastery of Transfiguration), Varlaam, Agios Stephanos (St. Stephen), Agia Triada (Trinity), and St. Nicholas Anapausas Roussanou.



Region is considered a world heritage site by UNESCO.

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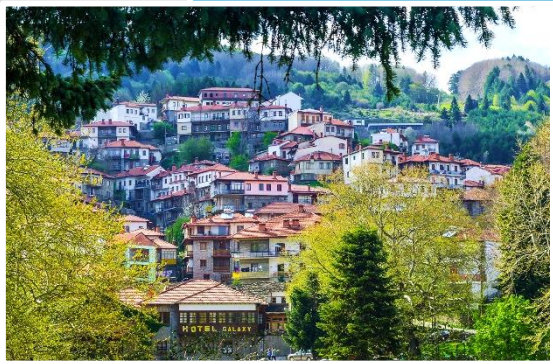




## Day 5: METEORA / IOANNINA

Morning departure to Ioannina, passing through the village of Metsovo (62 km), best known for its traditional architecture, churches, restored mansions and famous for its wine and cheese.

Arrival in Ioannina (50 km from Metsovo).



## Day 6: IOANNINA

Explore the city of Ioannina, rich in attractions and museums.

**Most notable attractions are: The Islet on Lake Pamvotis:** One of the most notable attractions of Ioannina is the islet on Lake Pamvotis.

The island is known as "Nissaki" (Νησάκι, the Greek word for "small island")

You can visit the monastery of Agios Panteleimon which has been transformed into a museum and where Ali Pasha spent the last days of his life waiting for a pardon from the Sultan.

National Archaeological Museum of Ioannina, Ioannina castle located in the city center, the Fethiye Mosque, whose final form was given by Ali Pasha in 1795.

Aslan Pasha Mosque and the historic center of Ioannina among others.

Also, visit the region called Zagorochoria, an area that contains about 45 villages, known for its traditional architecture.

Situated on Mount Pindos, these villages have not only humble huts of stone and slate, but also fortified mansions of the same material.

Many of them were turned into Guesthouses.





## Day 7: IOANNINA / KASTORIA

After breakfast, departure to Kastoria, a city known for its many Byzantine churches of the Ottoman era, its elegant mansions of the 17th and 18th century, the fur industry and trout.

Go for a boat ride on the lake Orestiada in the afternoon or evening.

## Day 8: KASTORIA / THESSALONICA

Morning at leisure mid-day departure to Thessalonica.

## Day 9: THESSALONICA / AIRPORT

According to your flight departure time you have to drive to Thessalonica airport to leave your car and return back home.



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