

Ελληνική Δημοκρατία - Hellenic Republic - Greece





General facts about Greece

Capital City: Athens (~ 3.8 Million people)

Total Population: ~ 11 Million

Language: Greek

Currency: Euro (€) since 2002

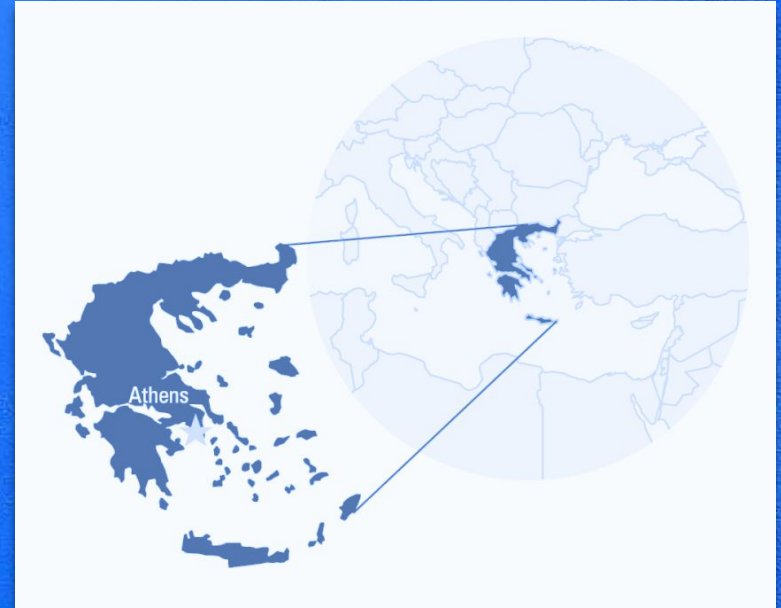
Neighbors: Albania, Turkey, Bulgaria, North Makedonia

Climate: Mediterranean: hot/dry summers, cold/wet winters

Highest Altitude: Mount Olympus (2,918 meters)

Natural Resources: iron ore, lignite, zinc, marble

Religion: 98% Greek Orthodox Christian



Interesting Facts About Greece

- *Greece is considered to be the birthplace of Western civilization and Democracy*
- *Greece has approximately 6000 islands, of which, 227 are permanently inhabited*
- *The Greek merchant shipping fleet, the largest worldwide, transports the majority of goods throughout the globe*
- *Greece is home to 18 UNESCO World Heritage Sites*
- *Greece celebrates many religious and national holidays, Easter being the most important*
- *Greece attracts upwards of 33 million tourists every year*
- *Greece is one of the top olive producers worldwide and is home to the highest variety of olives out of any other country*
- *Greece's national animal is the dolphin*

Did you know?? Fun facts about Greece!

- *The first Olympic games took place in 776 B.C.*
- *The city of Athens was named after the goddess Athena whose gift to the city was the olive tree*
- *Greece has 110 archaeological museums, the largest number in the world*
- *Military service is mandatory in Greece for all young male citizens*
- *Greek is considered one of the oldest languages in the world, ~4000 years old*
- *80% of the country is mountainous and has 13,780 klm of coastline, the longest in the Meditteranean and 11th in the world*
- *The flag has 9 blue and white stripes each one for each syllable of the phrase “Ελευθερία ή Θάνατος”, meaning ‘freedom or death!’, blue also symbolizes the sea and the cross our religion*
- *The Greek national anthem is the hymn to liberty*
- *The Greeks are quite superstitious, the ‘evil eye’ being amongst the most common. You will see jewelry and other ornaments in the shape of a big blue eye hanging*

Greek Food

Who hasn't heard of the famous Greek salad, feta cheese, gyro and tzatziki? What about mousaka, spanakopita, fresh fish, seafood and octopus? Wine, ouzo and greek coffee? Baklava, spoon sweets? Hundreds of dishes, influenced by both the West and East contribute and make Greek cuisine a delight!



Thessaloniki



ZAKYNTHOS ISLAND



NORTHERN GREECE



Pelion, central Greece



ANDROS ISLAND



Epirus, NW Greece









'Archaeological site of Delphi



Santorini island





Nafplion



Rio-Antirio Bridge



Athens



Mount Athos-'Holy Mountain' a peninsula with 20 monasteries

