



Parga

**The Nymph of
Epirus**



The island of the film “Le Grand Bleu”

The Municipality of Parga has the opportunity to develop alternative forms of tourism in order to adapt to the new demand of tourism but also to cope with the competitiveness with other municipalities. The development of alternative forms of tourism is linked to the protection of the local culture as well as the cultural and natural environment of the place. Therefore, the most important goal is to reposition the tourism product that is being developed in the area. Finally, archeological / cultural and hiking tourism are the types of alternative forms of tourism that are developing to a significant degree and must continue to be enriched and maintained.

Venetian Castle of Parga

It is located on a fortified hill, at the entrance of the port of the city and the adjacent huge beach of Valtos. The castle was destroyed and rebuilt several times each time it was occupied by an invader. What survives today is the fortress built by the Venetians in the 16th century, with the additions made by Ali Pasha when he bought Parga from the English. Every hour of the day the view of Parga from the castle is magical





Valtos Beach

It is the largest beach of Parga. It is located below the hill where the castle of Parga is built. Its waters are clear and calm and it is covered with sand and pebbles. There are restaurants, cafes and hotels around the beach. Also, the beach is suitable for water sports.

Bay of Saint John

Located 5 km from Parga. The beach is small and hidden in nature. Its waters are calm and crystal clear. In the center of the bay the visitor will see the source of fresh water gushing in the center of the bay.



The island of Panagia



It is located right in front of the port of Parga and is a popular attraction for visitors to the area. The visitor can visit the island by boat and explore it. The most characteristic is the small church of Panagia, from where the island got its name. It is drowned in green creating a very beautiful backdrop.



The castle of Ali Pasha



It is located on a hill between the villages of Anthousa and Agia, about five kilometers northwest of Parga. The castle was built in 1814 by Ali Pasha of Ioannina, with the aim of being its base during the siege of Parga. The castle is in good condition and is an important attraction for visitors. Access to the castle is possible by train, which starts from the beach of Parga.





Acheron River

Located 2 km from the main road Glyki-Parga. It has many springs while it crosses the prefecture of Preveza, Ioannina and Thesprotia and reaches 52 km. In ancient times it was believed that it was the last place before the souls of the dead ended up in the kingdom of Hades. Acheron attracts a large number of visitors because the place is a beautiful natural spectacle and crossing the river, comes in direct contact with nature which causes peace of mind and relieves stress. Also, an important player to attract tourists are the various activities available (hiking, rafting, kayaking, horseback riding, etc.)

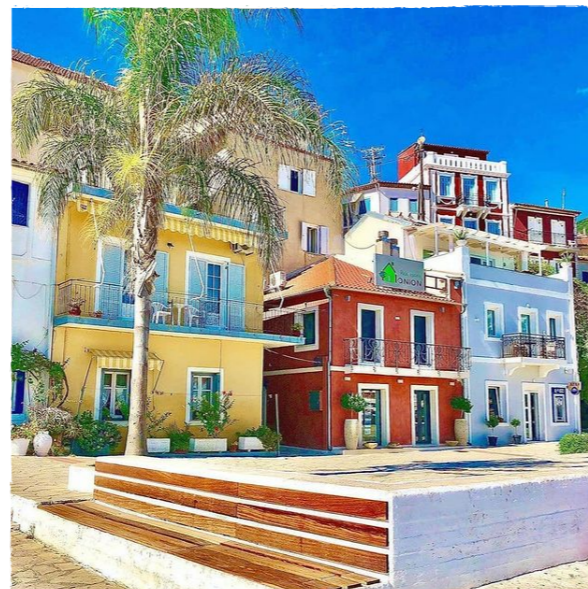


Lychnos Beach



It is located 4 km away from Parga in a beautiful natural environment and its sandy beach is considered one of the most beautiful in Parga. This sandy beach that consists of sand and pebbles and has clear and deep waters. It is accessible by car, motorbike, bicycle and boat. It can also be visited by those who like walking through small, old streets that pass through the olive groves. The beach is suitable for water sports such as water skiing, parasailing, diving, fishing, jet skiing, wind surfing. Also, 5 minutes away from the beach is the cave of Aphrodite which can be reached using the pedal boat.

Architecture of Parga: Of great interest is the local folk architecture which is naturally influenced by the Ionian with two- and three-storey houses, wooden balconies and tiled roofs.



Acheron Necromancer

It is built on a smooth hill, near the village of Mesopotamos and is considered the oldest necromancer. The necromancer was considered the most important sanctuary built in honor of Hades and was the entrance to the kingdom of the Underworld



Holy Monastery of Panagia of Vlacherna:



It is located in the area of Baltos of Parga, on a hill. It is a Byzantine monastery built before the 12th century in one of the most beautiful locations in the area. The bell tower is the only one that has survived, as the monastery has been destroyed.



Ecclesiastical Museum of Parga: Located in the city center, right next to the parish church of Saint Nikolaos. Although small in size, the museum has a rich collection of ecclesiastical relics. The visitor can admire, among other things, two Gospels of the 17th century, portable icons of invaluable value such as the Virgin of Vlacherna, the Virgin of Hodegetria and the Virgin Mary, as well as the 300-year-old banner of Parga, made of purple silk, painted by on both sides and with visible marks from the bullets of the Turks

Traditional events

Every year during the summer season a series of cultural events take place in the Municipality of Parga, the "PARGINA", which include theatrical performances, music nights, painting exhibitions, etc. and are addressed to people of all ages. The culmination of the events, the "CANARY", have a dual character in Parga, religious and historical. On the evening of the 14th of August, a popular festival takes place on the island of Panagia, located in front of the port of Parga, where people are transported there by boats.



Almost Everything

Hiking Tourism

Parga is a destination suitable for hikers as the Venetian olive grove, the imposing hills around the area, the shores and the route on the river Acheron are suitable for hiking. It is no coincidence that the British journalist Lance Hilton wrote his book entitled "Walks in Parga" which mentions several trips to Parga. In recent years in Greece hiking tourism is experiencing steady growth. One of the main advantages of hiking is the long stay of visitors in one place and not just a daily visit.

Archaeological / Cultural Tourism

There are many and remarkable monuments and sights in Parga, which are of important archaeological character. The most important of these is the Venetian castle which is located north of the port and is a pole of attraction for a large number of tourists. Also, the castle of Ali Pasha, which is located a little further north, attracts as many visitors of archaeological and cultural character. In general, archeological tourism is an alternative form of tourism that in recent years has experienced significant growth worldwide, as, on the one hand, it contributes to the international promotion of the cultural heritage of a place and, on the other hand, gives it a significant comparative advantage over other tourist destinations.

Adventure Tourism

The municipality of Parga has the advantage of being close to the river Acheron which is considered by most visitors but also by locals as a "paradise of alternative tourism". The river is ideal for alternative activities such as river trekking, kayaking, rafting and canoeing. Near the river there are companies that specialize in these activities and offer the appropriate equipment for the safety of the visitor. For beginners, a guide is included to guide them. Also, the area of Acheron contains suitable trails for horse riding which allows the visitor to enjoy his route in nature.

Diving Tourism

Parga is a real diving paradise. The calm waters are ideal for beginners and also provide cave and wreck diving. Diving spots in Parga are an important attraction for divers as you create the desire to discover the hidden secrets of the seabed. There are also specialized diving companies in the area, which offer equipment and proper guidance to divers. In general, diving tourism is developing rapidly abroad and in Greece. It concerns a fairly large group of people which consists of tourists with a common interest, exploring the seabed. It is a very high quality form of tourism because it attracts mostly people of higher educational level but also of higher income.

Religious / Cultural Tourism

The most important religious monuments of Parga include the church of Agios (Saint) Nikolaos, patron saint, and the churches of Agios (Saint) Apostolos, Agia (Saint) Eleni and Agios (Saint) Athanasios. Lovers of religious tourism are attracted by the Byzantine monastery of Panagia ton Vlacherna, at Cape Heladio (Keladio), and the chapel of Agios

Sostis, built in a rock crevice, on the homonymous beach. Also, every year on the 15th of August, cultural events take place, the Pargina and the Canarias, which have a religious character. Greece is considered one of the most popular destinations in terms of its religious character because it contains a large number of churches, monasteries and religious events. The visitor is given the opportunity to visit them but also to participate in the traditional religious celebrations.

Sea / Sports Tourism

The municipality of Parga contains a large number of beaches where it can engage in maritime activities. Guests can go jet skiing, sailing, pedal boating, speedboat tours, surfing, paragliding, crazy sofa and banana. In general, Greece has the geomorphology, the appropriate climatic conditions, the infrastructure and the demand that allow the development of maritime tourism. The proper development and promotion of this alternative form of tourism has the potential to offer a significant economic result.

Wedding Tourism

The island of Panagia, just opposite Parga, was for years a classic wedding destination and still remains today. With its careful promotion it has the potential to be an important attraction for tourists wishing to get married abroad. In recent years there is great interest from couples from all over the world to get married in Greece. Tourist couples want to get married in the traditional Greek way, with local food, music.

Wellness tourism

The goal of wellness tourism is the mental health and peace of the visitors, the self-improvement and the reduction of stress and anxiety that prevail worldwide. Parga contains isolated natural landscapes in the surrounding area but also in the river Acheron, which are suitable for psychic therapies, such as yoga, massage and all kinds of meditation.



Accessibility

Air Access: The air port of Aktio is 65 km from Parga and has air connections to several cities in Europe. Also, the State Airport of Ioannina "King Pyrros" is 100 km from Parga and has an air connection with the airport of Athens. From the airport of Ioannina the visitor can reach Parga via the Egnatia Odos. In addition, Corfu State Airport "Ioannis Kapodistrias" has air connections from around the world and is 1 hour by boat to reach Igoumenitsa. Igoumenitsa is located 45 km away from Parga. From the airports the visitor can reach Parga by rental means of transport, taxi or bus.

Road Access: Parga is 33 km from the exit "Vasilikos" of Egnatia Odos and 10 km from the exit of the provincial network Athens - Igoumenitsa.

Ferry access: The port of Igoumenitsa is located 45 km from Parga. The port of Igoumenitsa has connections with Corfu, Ancona, Venice, Bari and Brindisi.

Municipal unit of Parga

Tel +3026843 60300

+30 26843 60200

info@dimospargas.gr

