

Eco Volunteering Vacation in Greece

Small group Holiday



Trip highlights:

Volunteer at a **Sea Turtle Rescue Centre** and make a difference by helping these seriously endangered creatures

- **Hiking & volunteering** of walking paths on a stunning Greek island
- **Visit the Acropolis** and other major attractions and have fun
- Experience Greek **culture & gastronomy** in beautiful Greece
- Connect with nature, local communities & like-minded volunteers

ABOUT THE HOLIDAY:

Volunteer in breath-taking Greece! Explore Athens and the Greek Island of Poros while you volunteer with sea turtles, clean beaches and maintain the historical walking trails with your peers. The holiday with 8-day duration starts and ends in Athens. .

The holiday is organized by Natural Greece & BeyondAthens.



ACCOMMODATION

Alexander Beach Hotel



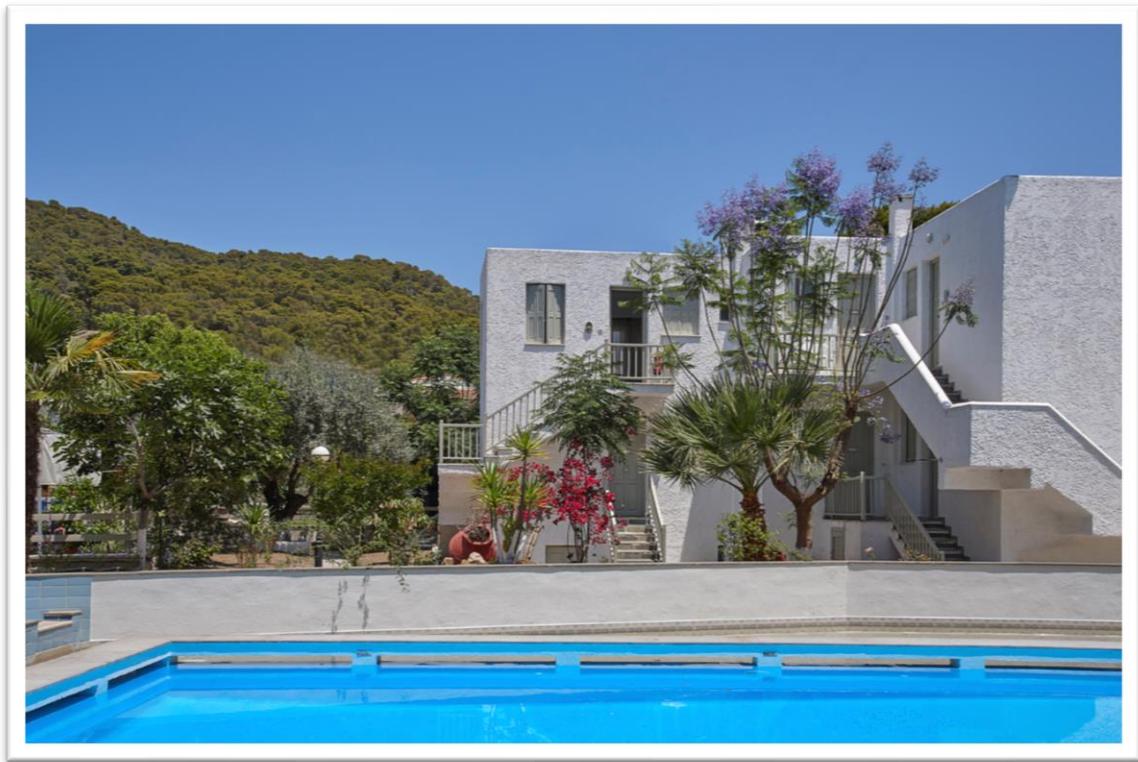
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<https://www.alexander-beach.gr>

Cascade Holiday Resort



Address: Askeli, Poros Island P.C. 18020

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<http://cascadehotel.gr/en/>

About the Sea turtles in Greece



Three Sea Turtle species can be regularly found in the Mediterranean (loggerheads - *Caretta caretta*, green turtles - *Chelonia mydas* and leatherbacks - *Dermochelys coriacea*). Of these three only the loggerhead sea turtle nests in Greece. Greece is a very important country for these species, many nest on its beaches. The most serious threats to loggerheads in the Mediterranean are tourist development of nesting beaches and incidental catch in fishing gear. Since 1983, the primary objective of ARCHELON, the

Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece has been to protect the sea turtles and their habitats in Greece through monitoring and research, developing and implementing management plans, habitat restoration, raising public awareness and rehabilitating sick and injured turtles.

www.archelon.gr

About Paths of Greece



Paths of Greece is a growing movement devoted to Design and Implementation of Walking and Bicycle Trail Networks in Greece. The implementation of such a trail network achieves a threefold aim:

- Economic development: growing numbers of visitors who willingly pay more money for higher quality services
- Environmental protection: The paths help to enhance local natural biodiversity by limiting negative human impact
- Social development: educational character of trail implementation by creating an understanding for the value of natural resources and their management.

Read more about their work: <http://pathsogreece.gr>

Day-to-day program (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)

Day 1 - Arrival -meet fellow travellers & welcome dinner (D)



Transfer to your hotel in the scenic "Athens Riviera" on the stunning coast south of Athens.

Meet your fellow travellers later that day and have a welcome dinner!

Briefing on program for next days.

Accommodation: Alexander Beach Hotel Anavyssos (coastal Athens)

Day 2 - Sea turtle volunteering & Athens visit (B, L)

Morning

Transfer to the Sea turtle Rescue centre. Introduction to the Mediterranean and Greek marine life and to the sea turtles and Archelon organization. Volunteering at the only Sea turtle rescue centre in Greece, located in the Southern suburbs of Athens (Glyfada). Operated by the NGO Archelon.

Activities may include:

- preparation and administration of food.
- operation of the sea water supply systems.
- carrying and cleaning the animals, as well as cleaning the facilities and equipment.
- Public Awareness like the running of exhibition area and providing information to visitors.
- Other duties such as basic maintenance activities as well as cleaning of surroundings and living quarters. Light lunch/ pic-nick included.

Afternoon

Athens walking tour including visit to Acropolis with all its magnificent monuments (Parthenon Temple, Temple of Athena Nike, Temple of Poseidon Erechtheum), visit Acropolis Museum and the Plaka district (all admissions included).

Accommodation: Alexander Beach Hotel Anavyssos (coastal Athens)

Day 3 -Sea turtle volunteering (B,L)

Morning

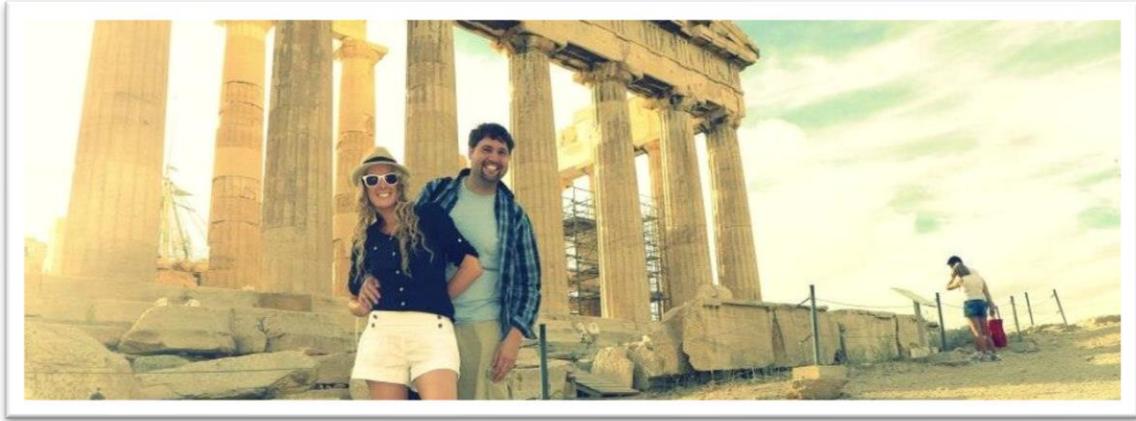
Volunteer at the only Sea turtle rescue centre in Greece, located in the Southern suburbs of Athens (Glyfada). Operated by the NGO Archelon.

Light lunch/ pic-nick

Afternoon & evening

Free

Accommodation: Alexander Beach Hotel Anavyssos (coastal Athens)



Day 4-Sea turtle volunteering & transfer to Poros Island (B,L)

Morning

Last morning to Volunteer at the Sea turtle rescue centre.

Light lunch/ pic nick

Afternoon & evening

Transportation (by private vehicle & short Ferry boat crossing) to Poros island (2.5 hrs. approx.)

Introduction to "Paths of Greece" projects and Poros island.

Accommodation: Cascade Holiday Resort, Askeli Poros Island

Day 5 – Poros Island (B,L)

Morning

Volunteer with "Paths of Greece". Clean, maintain the historical walking trails of scenic Poros Island! All equipment and tools will be provided by the experts.

Light lunch/ pic-nick

Afternoon and evening

Free -optional activities such as sea-kayaking, Greek cooking class and scuba-diving are available upon request. Or just swim and relax on one of its beaches. Poros town is nearby and here you buy souvenirs, shop, dine and stroll through its postcard perfect alleys.

Accommodation: Cascade Holiday Resort, Askeli Poros Island

Day 6 – Poros Island (B,L)

Morning

The group will volunteer with Paths of Greece, helping with cleaning/ maintenance of some of the footpaths of the island.

Light lunch/ pic-nick

Afternoon

The participants will engage in the cleaning of one of Poros' main beaches. For this action the

local community will also be involved and through this small initiative we will aim to re-establish the beach to a decent condition, raise awareness in the local community, municipality etc., and make a bold statement to claim the rights of the public to free and well-maintained beaches.

Accommodation: Cascade Holiday Resort, Askeli Poros Island

Day 7 -Poros Island & back to coastal Athens (B,L)

Morning

The group will volunteer with Paths of Greece, helping with cleaning/ maintenance of some of the footpaths of the island.

Light lunch/ pic nick

Afternoon

Transportation back to coastal Athens.

Accommodation: Alexander Beach Hotel Anavyssos (coastal Athens)

Day 8 – Departure (B)

Say goodbye to your friends. Transfer back to Athens airport.

Price:

€895 p.p. – based on double room occupancy

€200 p.p. – single room supplement

Includes:

- All land transfers including transfers from/ to Athens airport to/from Hotel on arrival and departure (fuel, driver, all road tolls, all taxes)
- English-speaking (other languages available upon request) local tour leader services
- B&B accommodation in hotel in South coast Athens
- B&B accommodation in family owned apartment hotel in Poros island
- All activities (included necessary gear and equipment) as described in the program
- All transportation & Ferry boat tickets for short cross-over
- Light lunches/ pic-nick lunches
- Welcome dinner
- One farewell gift/ memorabilia
- All applicable taxes and VAT

Excludes:

- Fee of 30 Euro p.p. for Archelon to cover volunteering at Sea Turtle Rescue Centre (to cover Administration and training costs****Fee of an ARCHELON leader who will be in charge of the group***An exclusive Volunteer t-shirt and ***being supporters of ARCHELON for one year)
- International flights
- Travel insurance
- Drinks & Dinners (apart from welcome dinner at day 1)-dinners available for <10 EURO p.p.

Note: there may be changes in the program, depending on some factors beyond our control such as weather conditions, road conditions, recovery of sea turtles, etc. For instance: we may do the Acropolis visit or beach clean-up on another day as planned. Or we may be lucky and go and release a healed Sea Turtle in the sea!!!

Weather conditions & what to bring along

The weather from mid-June until late August is usually hot with sunshine. Until early June and from early September the weather is cooler with a possibility of rain.

Make sure you bring along following:

- Durable and casual clothing for fieldwork (e.g. overalls and sweatshirts, shorts)
- Swimming suit, sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, insect repellent, rucksack
- Comfortable and cool clothes and shoes (especially in June, July, August)
- Waterproof and warm clothes and shoes, especially in spring and autumn
- Optionally camera, music, electronic equipment etc.

A first aid kit is available but you should bring with you any medicine you take or you may need, such as allergy medications.



Natural Greece

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