

**ΝΙΝΑ ΜΩΡΑΙΤΗ**

**ΓΕΛ ΣΧΗΜΑΤΑΡΙΟΥ**

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**ΕΡΕΥΝΗΤΙΚΗ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑ**

**ΥΠ.ΚΑΘΗΓΗΤΗΣ:**

**ΚΑΦΟΥΝΗ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΑ**

# IKARIA



Located between Samos and Mykonos, Ikaria (or Icaria) is one of the largest islands in the eastern Aegean Sea! It has an elongated shape in a NE-SW direction. Its name is derived from the Greek myth of Icarus and Daedalus.

Ikaria has a rich historical and cultural heritage, kept vibrant throughout the centuries. The Ikarian dialect, the traditional architecture of buildings and the archeological findings testify to the island's unique history. Many nations tried to seize the island but always faced strong resistance by its people.

All the island has a wild natural beauty, which attracts visitors of all ages from all over the world! It is a mountainous island with green valleys leading to the sea and to exotic beaches adding to its charming atmosphere. Ikaria has rich vegetation, biodiversity and an abundance of water. Many rare kinds of flora and fauna live there. Its climate is characterised as Mediterranean, with strong winds, even during the summer. The geological and geomorphological characteristics make Ikaria a unique geotope.

Time never passes in Ikaria! The island of longevity! Ikaria is one of the few places in the world where people live above the age of 90! You have to come to Ikaria, live like the locals and discover their secrets for living long.

Ikarians now engage in tourism, agriculture and fishing. The main agricultural products are the famous red wine 'Pramnios oinos', tsipouro liquor, olive oil, honey by small bushes and local sweets. There are also many secret recipes to learn from Ikarian gastronomy and food to taste, all handmade by locals.

An important characteristic of Ikaria are its famous village festivals (fairs), where people dance all day long the local dance named 'Ikariotikos' and enjoy red wine and boiled goat ('raskos').



## Villages that march to a different drummer, wild landscapes and the secret of long life

Icarus, the impetuous son of Daedalus who disobeyed his father and flew too close to the sun, aptly gave his name to this rocky island in the North Aegean. Things are done differently here. No one is ever in a hurry, which might account for incredibly long life spans, and in some places the normal day/night cycle is completely turned on its head. The island itself is a study in contrasts and the unexpected.

High, bare, rocky mountains alternate with green slopes, flowing streams and beaches that could have been imported from the South Seas. Ikarians have a legendary capacity for fun, food, mirth, music and drink. Are you ready for something completely different? Come to Ikaria. It is an island-phenomenon unlike anywhere else in Greece, or the world.

# What to do in Ikaria

## Village fairs

Every village takes advantage of some saint's day to hold a fair involving music, dancing, tons of food and tanker-loads of wine and raki. They often last all day and all night but even the oldest don't flag. If you're at all interested in local traditions and people, you've got to experience one or more. Luckily some of the largest are in August; at Christos in Rahes on the 6th, Langadas, Monokambi and Akamatra on the 15th, Karavostamo on the 17th and Maratho on the 27th.



## **Christos**

If you thought the rest of Ikaria ran more slowly than elsewhere, prepare for the logical conclusion( or maybe that's logic turned on its head) in Christos. Here the baker is the only one awake and working during the day. All the other shops, including banks, open at night when the village comes to life. The origins of this topsy-turvy schedule may lie in the fact that everyone was working in the fields during the day so it made sense for the shops to open after dark.

## **Nas, Artemis' beach**

A large stream cascades down the slope and meanders into the Aegean, watering plants and trees that provide shade to a host of laid-back young people. The scattered remains of an ancient temple to Artemis Tauropolou lie where it flows into the sea. Two of the aspects of Artemis worshiped here were nature's seminal power and its impact on the landscape.

## **The beaches of Mesahti and Seychelles**

Two beaches as different from each other as they could be, yet both incredibly special. Mesahti is huge and golden, ideal for water sports, sand castles, refreshing drinks and the soothing sound of the waves while your soul drinks in the blue horizon.

A small beautiful beach, reached after a good ten-minute hike, Seychelles is as exotic as its name would suggest. White rocks, boulders and cliffs combine with translucent blues to magic up the stuff of dreams. It's a good idea to bring supplies of your own, as only occasionally does a small boat come by hawking "something to eat, something to drink".



# Images of Ikaria



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# IKARIA

**Ikaria** is waiting for visitors to learn, have fun and become one with the locals!

Travel to Ikaria, feel at home!

