

PRODUCTION GUIDE GREECE

ALL ABOUT FILMING IN GREECE

PRODUCTIONS FILMED IN GREECE

TESTIMONIALS

FUNDING & INCENTIVES

LOCATIONS

ALL ABOUT GREECE

GREEK INDUSTRY GUIDE

Let us guide you

HELLENIC
FILM COMMISSION

SPRING 2022 EDITION

GREEK FILM CENTRE

FUNDING
SUPPORTING
PROMOTING
greek cinema

FACILITATING
filmmaking in greece



www.gfc.gr

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HELLENIC
FILM COMMISSION

CORFU ISLAND CROWNED

BEST EUROPEAN FILM

LOCATION OF 2018 BY EUFCN.

CANDIDACY BY THE

HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION.



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INTRODUCTION



Welcome to Greece.

We encourage you to take a closer look at the country with the friendliest light in the world.

Blessed with the Mediterranean climate, stunning locations versatile both in terms of landscapes as well as in architecture, qualified industry with devoted local talent and a 40% cash rebate, Greece is definitely a spotlight filming destination in the south-east of Europe.

In these unprecedented times, the country has coped with the pandemic efficiently and has gained praise worldwide for the collaboration between government, health experts and population.

Filming continues under new government COVID-19 related protocols and procedures

and according to the country's epidemiological data (for more info please visit our website).

You can find and film everything here (see pp. 34-49): ancient monuments, medieval old towns, castles, picturesque traditional villages, unique islands in the Aegean and the Ionian Sea, amazing beaches, forests, snow-capped mountains, hot springs, canyons, even volcanoes with film friendly craters -where else can you find that?

PRODUCTION GUIDE GREECE aims to guide you through all aspects of filming in Greece providing information on the funding opportunities and incentives, the Greek Industry Guide, Locations and Filming Permits, as well as useful facts & figures about Greece.

Last but not least, a number of testimonials by producers and actors (pp. 10-24), particularly of those shooting during the pandemic, will give you an insight on the experiences they've had while filming in Greece.

Looking forward to welcoming you in Greece. Starting on next page with the services offered by the HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION of the GREEK FILM CENTRE.

Let us guide you.



HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION

Let us guide you

The HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION (HFC) is a directorate of the GREEK FILM CENTRE (GFC) which is supervised by the Ministry of Culture and Sports and subsidized by the state. The principal aim of the HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION is to promote and develop Greece as a filming destination for international film and TV productions.

Your primary contact point when filming in Greece, the HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION supports international audiovisual productions planning to film in Greece as an intermediary in providing information, advice and guidance, free of charge.

The HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION is a member of the European Film Commissions Network (EUFCN) and of the Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI).

Main services:

- Connecting foreign producers with the Greek Industry Guide
- Providing guidance regarding filming permits

- and incentives
- Promoting locations, crew and facilities to national and international events
- Collaborating with ministries and public bodies
- Networking with local authorities
- Organizing training for talent development
- Providing **FILMING FACILITATION LETTER** (online application form) addressed to competent authorities
- Providing the **CERTIFICATE** (online application form) by the GFC (see p. 51) to productions **applying for filming permits in archaeological sites** to the authorities of the Ministry of Culture and Sports
- Providing the **Location Scouting Support Program** (online application form) (see pp. 26-27)



Tate Aráez Guzmán (left), Head Location Manager for GAME OF THRONES in Spain and **Yorgo Stathopoulos** (middle), Location Manager with extensive experience in the United States (THE TWO FACES OF JANUARY), talking about **Locations – The importance of location**

management in an emerging film destination, at an Open Discussion organized by the HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center in Athens in November 2018



From left to right: **Alison A. Taylor**, 2nd Vice President LMGI, **Dan Connolly**, Board member LMGI and **JJ Levine**, 1st Vice President LMGI exploring the creative role of the location professionals in the filmmaking process. **Location Management Workshop** co-organized by the

Hellenic Film Commission of the Greek Film Centre and the 10th Aegean Film Festival, within the framework of the Location Greece Conference, in July 2021, at the Anargyrios and Korgialeneio School on the island of Spetses.

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TRAINING DAY:

HOW DOES A FILM OFFICE ESTABLISH ITSELF IN THE MARKETPLACE?

The Training Day: How Does a Film Office Establish Itself in the Marketplace? organized by the Hellenic Film Commission of the Greek Film Centre in collaboration with the European Film Commissions Network (EUFCN) at the 62nd Thessaloniki International Film Festival (09.11.2021) have attended representatives from the Film Offices of the Region of Central Macedonia, Region of West Macedonia, Region of East Macedonia and Thrace, Region of Epirus, Region of Ionian Islands, Region of Crete, as well as film producers, line producers, location managers, film experts.

Various issues that are closely connected and related with the daily work of film offices have been discussed.

“We all have something to learn and something to teach”, remarked Mikael Svensson EUFCN Co-President, Head

of Southern Sweden Film Commission, along with praising the organization of the event, the Greek hospitality and, of course, the Greek food.

«Initiatives by institutions like this one are very important for the filmmakers in Greece», stated Markos Holevas, president of the Board of Directors of the Greek Film Centre, while Athena Kartalou-Aduku, the General Director of the Greek Film Centre noted *«It is really important to see people from all around Greece wanting to become better”*.

The event was realized with the support of Athens Film Office.

Speakers:

Alexandra Luetkens: Discussing First steps for a newly established film office – creating film friendly communities.

Carlota Guerrero: Discussing Keeping up with the daily workflow- how to collect the

right data.

Mikael Svensson and Adrian A. Mitchell: Discussing How to attract and deal with foreign and Hollywood productions in your region (the case of the Nordic countries)

Sara Hernandez: Discussing Good Practices for promotional film commissions and regional film offices- EUFCN Location Award Competition.

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PRODUCTIONS FILMED IN GREECE (selected)

Coming Soon - Films (production year: 2021)

CRIMES OF THE FUTURE

by David Cronenberg

RISE (also known as
GREEK FREAK)

by Akin Omotoso

THE ENFORCER

by Richard Hughes

THE TRIANGLE OF SADNESS

by Ruben Östlund

THE EXPENDABLES 4

by Scott Waugh

Coming Soon - High-end TV series (production year: 2021)

KNIVES OUT 2

by Rian Johnson

JACK RYAN season 3

TEHRAN season 2

by Daniel Syrkin

Films

THE LOST DAUGHTER

by Maggie Gyllenhaal (2021)

BECKETT

by Ferdinando Cito Filomarino (2021)

DAUGHTERS

by Nana Neul (2020)

DO NOT HESITATE

by Shariff Korver (2020)

LOVING VINCENT (2018)

by Dorota Kobiela, Hugh Welchman

IN THE FADE (2018)

by Fatih Akin

TIGER ZINDA HAI (2017)

by Ali Abbas Zafar

High-end TV Series

TEHRAN season 1

THE LITTLE DRUMMER GIRL
(2019)

THE DURRELLS (2016 - 2019)

International Classics / Big Hits

THE TWO FACES OF JANUARY
(2014)

BEFORE MIDNIGHT (2013)

MAMMA MIA! (2008)

LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER:
THE CRADLE OF LIFE (2003)

CAPTAIN CORELLI'S MANDOLIN
(2001)

SHIRLEY VALENTINE (1989)

LE GRAND BLEU (1988)

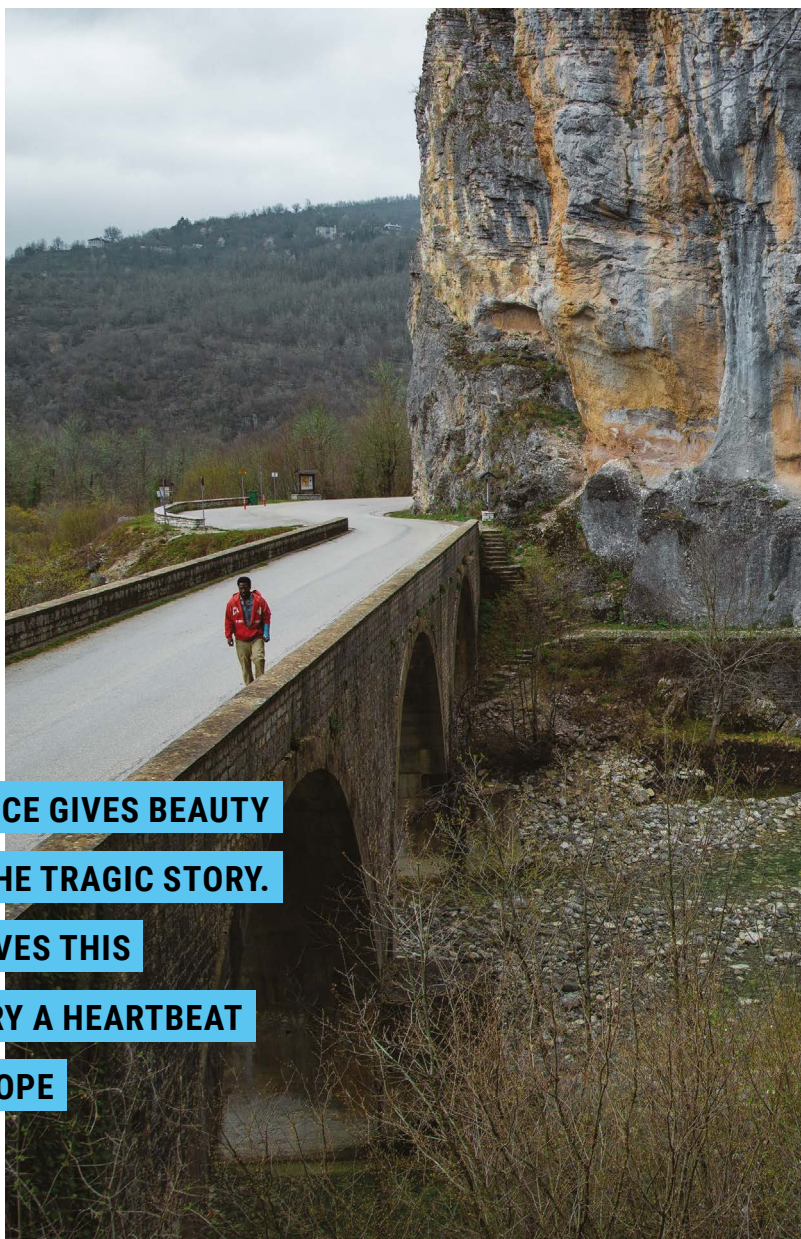
FOR YOUR EYES ONLY (1981)

ZORBA THE GREEK (1964)

THE GUNS OF NAVARONE (1961)

BOY ON A DOLPHIN (1957)





GREECE GIVES BEAUTY

TO THE TRAGIC STORY.

IT GIVES THIS

STORY A HEARTBEAT

OF HOPE

Beckett

directed by Ferdinando Cito Filomarino

Filming Locations: Athens, Epirus, Vikos Gorge

Services: Faliro House Productions

“Greece is so geographical rich that it perfectly hosted a story that needed to express the non-stop journey with a perpetual change in landscape, from mountains and dramatic canyons, through rivers, to a dense urban jungle. It’s a country that also makes it easy to see the beauty in the backdrop. You see how gorgeous the countryside is, like the Vikos Gorge and these towns, the mountains

of Tsepevolos. Being able to put these characters in that sort of space, I think, in a film like this, it just makes it more dimensional. It gives beauty to the tragic story. It almost gives this story a heartbeat of hope, even within the most dark, dire, frantic, and desperate situations”.

**FERDINANDO CITO
FILOMARINO,
Director**

The Triangle of Sadness

directed by Ruben Östlund

Filming Locations: Evia island (Hiliadou)
and the Peloponnese (Katakolo)

Co-Producer: Heretic

GREECE HAS
BEEN ONE OF THESE
EXPERIENCES
THAT MAKES ME
LOVE FILMMAKING
EVEN MORE



“The shooting was fantastic and I’m really not exaggerating. For me, Greece has been one of these experiences that makes me love filmmaking even more. The crew were experienced and engaged. The locals were friendly and making anything we asked for possible. The locations in Hiliadou, Evia are completely unique. We were lucky with the weather and we were so, so lucky with the covid

craziness. To manage the shoot in these times, with a material that I’m more than satisfied with really doubles my pleasure. A big thanks to Heretic and the Hellenic Film Commission”.

RUBEN ÖSTLUND,
Director

Daughters

directed by Nana Neul

Filming Locations: Amorgos island (Cyclades)

Co-Producer: Heretic



**SOMETIMES
IT FEELS LIKE
SHOOTING IN
PARADISE**

“Organizing arrivals for cast and crew from Germany, Italy and Athens to a Cycladic island in June 2020 was a challenge. However, our Greek co-producers and crew did a wonderful job and the island of Amorgos has welcomed us very warmly. Our Greek actors are wonderful. I couldn't imagine

the depth of character they're building. I'm so happy to work with them. We are in love with Greece. Sometimes it feels like shooting in paradise”.

BETTINA BROKEMPER
(Heimatfilm), **Producer**



**IN GREECE WE WANT
TO LOOK AT DEMOCRACY,
GREEK MYTHOLOGY,
GREEK PHILOSOPHY,
THE POLITICS
OF MODERN GREECE**

The Trip to Greece

directed by Michael Winterbottom

Filming Locations: Ancient Agora/Athens, Delphi, Epidaurus, Hydra island, Caves of Diros, Pylos, Limeni, Patra, Ancient Stagira, Lesvos island, Ithaka island, Chalkidiki, Pelion, Kavala

Services: Fixer in Greece

“We discussed where we would go after Spain and Italy and Greece came up because of the obvious very rich Greek mythology and philosophy.

But, also because of modern politics there’s another dynamic now. In Greece we want to look at Democracy, Greek mythology, Greek philosophy, the politics of modern Greece -which is interesting in regards to Europe -, and also Britain’s relationship to Europe.

We ask big questions, but also the simple questions in life in relation to the big questions.

And we eat real food in the restaurants, from very high-end menu to simple restaurants; it’s an exploration of the culinary side of Greece”.

STEVE COOGAN, Lead Actor

“Spending a month in Greece was the most magical experience and we saw so much of it! The beauty and variety of the landscape, the food, the incredible cultural heritage and the wonderful crystal-clear seas. I’ll never forget my time there”.

ROB BRYDON, Lead Actor



**ALL PEOPLE
ON MYKONOS HAVE
BEEN FRIENDLY
AND COOPERATIVE,
SUPPORTIVE, FLEXIBLE,
ACCOMMODATING**

Greed

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directed by Michael Winterbottom

Filming Locations: Mykonos island, Delos island

“When shooting abroad we want to find people who are accommodating. Filming is something unusual, it’s not a normal thing. You are telling a story but your requests are often not the normal requests the public or the tourists would make.

Sometimes the things you would be asking for would might be breaking the rules, so we need people to be pragmatic and exercise a kind of flexibility. And we have found this in Greece.

The experience of shooting GREED in Greece has been very good, all people on Mykonos have been friendly and cooperative, supportive, flexible, accommodating. The hotel staff are like family now”.

STEVE COOGAN,
Lead Actor

Mediterráneo

directed by Marcel Barrena

Filming Locations: Lavrion, Grammatiko, Dikastika, Varnava (regions around Athens, in Attica)

Co-Producer: Heretic

IT WAS

A PLEASURE AND

A FULL THROTTLE

EXPERIENCE



“Shooting “Mediterráneo” in Greece was the first and last option to make this movie come true. I needed the environment, the beaches, the language, the faces, the soul of the Greek day by day reality. And it was a pleasure and a full throttle experience. It was a very complex process, with a lot of extras, refugees, and in a middle of a world pandemic (and some hurricanes). But in Greece I felt secure.”

MARCEL BARRENA, Director

“Mediterráneo was a challenge for everyone involved: a film with many exteriors, lots of action on the sea and a mixed cast and crew from Spain and Greece. The interpersonal understanding and harmony on the team was peak. The technical level that we found corresponds perfectly to European standards and the infinite variety of landscapes and locations that Greece offers was key for us to be able to adapt and successfully deal with changes in weather patterns».

TONO FOLGUERA, Producer

Do not Hesitate

directed by Shariff Korver

Filming Locations: Crete

Co-Producer: Heretic



**VERY MUCH LOOKING
FORWARD TO COME
BACK TO GREECE WITH
A NEW PROJECT**

“We did not expect to find such great and suitable locations in Greece not to say in Europe for our project. Due to Heretic and their team the shoot went beyond our expectations. Very much looking forward to come back to Greece with a new project”.

**LEONITINE PETIT,
CEO Lemming Films**



**GREECE, AS THE
BIRTHPLACE OF
WESTERN DRAMA,
OFFERS FILMMAKERS
A CANVAS OF UNIQUE
RESONANCE**

The Little Drummer Girl

directed by Park Chan-wook

Filming Locations: Acropolis/Athens, Temple of Poseidon/Sounio, Kinetta, Elefsina (used as Lebanon), Nikaia/Athens (used as Israel), Plaka/Athens (used as Rome)

Services: Faliro House Productions

“It has been an incredible experience to film THE LITTLE DRUMMER GIRL in the very locations described in John le Carré’s book. The immense privilege of shooting at such historically and culturally important places such as the Acropolis or Temple of Poseidon cannot be understated. Greece, as the birthplace of Western drama, offers filmmakers a canvas of unique resonance and, for me, it is the perfect place to tell the story of Charlie (Pugh)”.

PARK CHAN-WOOK, Director

“The variety and scope of filming locations available in Greece has made it the perfect place in which to bring THE LITTLE DRUMMER GIRL to life. We were able to shoot not only extraordinary scenes set

in Greece, but scenes set in the Lebanon, Israel, Yugoslavia (as it then was) and Rome as well. The stunning locations we were able to choose would have justified coming to Greece under almost any circumstances, but on top of that, the generous support of numerous arms of government, and the highly-talented crew and support team at our wonderful partners Faliro House, has made the shoot one to remember and repeat”.

SIMON CORNWELL, Executive Producer and The Ink Factory co-CEO

“It was just extraordinary. You could tell that for everyone this would be one of the most memorable nights of their life”.

ALEXANDER SKARSGÅRD, Lead Actor



CORFU ISLAND CROWNED

BEST EUROPEAN FILM

LOCATION OF 2018

BY EUROPEAN FILM

COMMISSIONS NETWORK

(EUFCN), IN COLLABORATION

WITH CINEUROPA.

CANDIDACY BY THE HELLENIC

FILM COMMISSION

The Durrells

(Season 4)

written by Simon Nye

Filming Locations: Corfu island

Services: Avion Films

“To be able to film in the location so loved by Gerald Durrell and his millions of fans made a huge difference to the success of the show.

We have been hugely impressed by the willingness, hard work and skill of the Greek crew and have made a lot of friends for life.

The locations are beautiful and if not easy to service then every effort is made to help facilitate filming in a sensitive and thoughtful manner.

We adore filming in Corfu and Greece”.

SALLY WOODWARD GENTLE,
Executive Producer

“Shooting THE DURRELLS in Corfu has been a total joy from start to finish. We have all fallen in love with the island; it’s stunning landscapes, the beauty of the architecture the friendliness of it’s people.

More than that the experience of a mixed crew of British, Athenian and Corfiot film technicians working together has made for a very harmonious, dare I say it, European shooting experience”.

CHRISTOPHER HALL,
Producer



Tiger Zinda Hai

starring Salman Khan and Katrina Kaif

Filming Locations: Naxos island

Services: Film Greece

**I WOULDN'T BE
SURPRISED IF GREECE
BENEFITS FROM
WORD-OF-MOUTH
ACROSS INDIA**



“Like many Bollywood films, a big part of TIGER ZINDA HAI’s appeal is its song-and-dance routines. The end number, which runs alongside the credits, was shot on the Greek island of Naxos. What we couldn’t anticipate at the time was that the scene would prove so popular on YouTube. It was released on November 20, 2017 [just ahead of the film] and has had more than 700 million views by now. The director [Ali Abbas Zafar] made a request to shoot the number among architectural ruins.

But that’s not easy, because it’s tough to find somewhere where, (a), you can get permission and, (b), there aren’t holiday-makers wandering all over the location. It was Christos Alex Giotis at the production-services company Film Greece who suggested the island of Naxos. The shoot went very well so I wouldn’t be surprised if Greece benefits from word-of-mouth across India.”

AASHISH SINGH, Producer

GREEK FILM CENTRE

FUNDING PROGRAMS

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PART TWO
FUNDING & INCENTIVES

The GREEK FILM CENTRE (GFC) provides several public funding programs aiming at the total protection, support and development of film production in Greece. GFC funds fiction, documentary and animation projects, both feature and shorts, for established and upcoming filmmakers. Foreign productions can benefit by the **Minority Program** of the GFC, but also by the **Location Scouting Support Program** of the Hellenic Film Commission.

Minority Program

Deadlines for applications:
30/04/2022

The Minority program provides funding for projects (fiction, documentaries and animation, with a minimum duration of 70min.) originating outside Greece, but with a Greek minority co-producer and Greek

participation in either cast, crew, labs and/or shooting in Greece. Eligible for this program are foreign projects that have secured 50% or more of their financing, including state/public funding or TV finance.

The program refers to two (2) distinct categories:

- a) International co-productions originating from countries which are member states of the Council of Europe signatory of the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production or states with which Greece has signed a transnational treaty (Canada, China, France, Israel) or will conclude one in the future. In the bilateral co-productions, the Greek co-producer must participate with at least 20% and in the multilateral co-productions with at least 10%. a) The Greek Parlia-

ment has ratified the revised Council of Europe Convention on Cinematographic Co-Production in January 2022. According to the changes introduced. For multilaterals, the maximum participation is now 80% and the minimum participation is 5%. For bilateral co-productions, the new maximum and minimum participations are 90% and 10% respectively. However, these new percentages apply ONLY to co-productions where ALL of the countries participating in the co-production have signed and ratified the revised convention.

- b) International co-productions originating from countries which have not signed the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production and with which Greece has not signed a transnational treaty.

In both categories, producers can apply either for a grant (up to 30.000€) or for financing in exchange for exploitation rights (up to 100.000€).

Location Scouting Support Program

Applications all year long

The Location Scouting Support

Program is addressed to feature films and documentaries, with a minimum duration of 70 min., as well as TV drama series and TV documentaries of foreign initiative that are interested in conducting preliminary location scouting in our country. Eligible to apply for the program are Greek co-producers (sole proprietorship or legal entity) or Greek production companies (sole proprietorship or legal entity) which are active and operate in order to produce audiovisual works as long as they have the corresponding taxation code and they are contracted with the foreign production company for conducting the location scouting.

Eligible projects:

1. International projects, the scripts of which could be shot in Greece, with a Greek co-producer as a minority partner
2. International projects, the scripts of which could be shot in Greece, without a Greek co-producer as a minority partner but with the commitment of collaborating, during the location scouting, with a Greek production company (sole proprietorship or legal entity) that is active and operates in order to produce audio-

visual works as long as it has the corresponding taxation code.

For both eligible categories projects, the prerequisites are:

- a) Minimum shooting days in Greece:
 - fifteen (15) days for fiction feature films and TV drama series
 - seven (7) days for documentaries and TV documentaries
- b) Minimum estimated expenses to be incurred in Greece in case the project gets produced in the country: 50.000 euro

The maximum amount of the subsidy for the location scouting is set up to 10.000 euro.

Find out more about the Location Scouting Support Program in the following link:

<https://filmcommission.gr/location-scouting-support-program/>

Additional funding sources through the GREEK FILM CENTRE

SEE CINEMA NETWORK

The GREEK FILM CENTRE is founding member of the South Eastern Europe Cinema Network (SEE CINEMA NET-

WORK), a well-established film institution that seeks to develop collaboration between cinema professionals in its member states (currently 13 member states). To this end, it supports a) the Development of international co-productions and b) the Production of short films. Since 2003 SEE CINEMA NETWORK has supported more than 115 international co-productions.

Greece is a signatory of the 1992 **European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production and the Greek Parliament has proceeded to the ratification of the Revised Convention of Council of Europe on Cinematographic Co-Production in January 2022**. Greece has also **bilateral co-production agreements** with **Canada, France, Israel and China**. It is a member of the European co-production fund EURIMAGES and the EU Creative Europe Program / MEDIA sub-program.

40% CASH REBATE IN GREECE

The implementation of the cash rebate program was a decisive step towards attracting investment through the production of films, television series, documentaries, animation, and digital games in Greece. With the adoption of **Law 4704/2020**, the Greek cash rebate amounts now to 40% while new provisions of subsidy for high budget productions concerning projects with eligible expenses over 8€mn offer the possibility to foreign production to include non-resident labor invoices. The value of foreign invoices may not exceed 50% of the total eligible expenses involved in the investment plan (VAT excluded), whereas the total state subsidy cannot exceed €12mn.

The Greek cash rebate can work by a way of guarantee to a Greek Bank against a loan.

The initial financing of the rebate is **guaranteed** through the **Public Investment Programme** amounting to a total of

€450mn. To-date, over 135 projects have been included in the cash rebate program (including more than 70 international productions) with the invested capital in the country exceeding €140mn, while the return to productions through the cash rebate exceeding €50million.

The cash rebate for the audiovisual industry in Greece is administered by the National Centre of Audiovisual Media & Communication (**EKOME S.A.**)

What is eligible for cash rebate?

The cash rebate for audiovisual works production supports feature films, documentaries, television series, animated films and digital games that choose Greece as location in either principal photography and production development and/or post-production stage. The rebate does not apply to music concerts, recorded performances, sports events and shows,

reality shows, recorded events, commercials, infotainment shows etc.

Applications may be made for international and domestic productions and/or co-productions to obtain a 40% cash rebate on the sum of eligible expenses incurred in Greek territory.

Who is eligible for the cash rebate?

Eligible to apply for cash rebate in Greece are companies which are established or have a branch in the Greek territory and operate to produce audiovisual works, foreign producers of audiovisual works who are contracted with a company established or having a branch in Greek territory and operating for the purpose of producing audiovisual works and companies for the production of audiovisual works in the context of cross-border production.

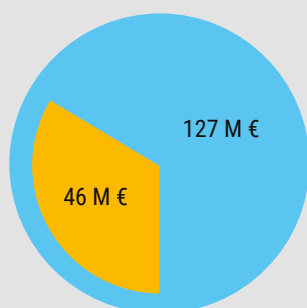
Important Note: Applications

should be submitted only by the Greek partner company. However, beneficiary and applicant may not necessarily coincide. Namely, a beneficiary may be the Greek producer, co-producer or production service provider, or their foreign partner.

When is the cash rebate payable?

The cash rebate is paid to producers no later than six months after the completion of the production and/or post-production in Greece, provided that all prerequisites of the legislation have been met. Visit www.ekome.media and find more in the Frequently Asked Questions section.

CASH REBATE FACTS & FIGURES



- TOTAL INVESTMENT IN GREECE
- TOTAL AMOUNT RETURNED THROUGH CASH REBATE

APRIL 2018 – APRIL 2021
(65 DOMESTIC, 60 INTERNATIONAL)
TOTAL: 125 PROJECTS

CASH REBATE PRECONDITIONS

Type of aid

Audiovisual Works

The rebate can be combined with other aid schemes provided that total state financing (including the state aid by EKOME) shall not exceed:

50% for domestic productions or co-productions

60%, in case of cross-border productions with EU members

80%, in case of “difficult” audiovisual works as defined in Law No. 4487/2014

* EU funds (EURIMAGES or MEDIA) are not included in the above maximum rules

Numbers to remember

Minimum amount of **eligible expenses**:

€100,000 for feature films

€25,000 per TV episode+ total minimum for TV series at 100,000€

€15,000 per episode for TV series (70 episodes minimum + total minimum for TV series at 100,000€)

€20,000 per episode (docuseries + total minimum for docuseries at €60,000)

€60,000 for shorts and animated films

€60,000 for documentaries

€30,000 for digital games

Eligible Expenses

Royalties (screenplay/soundtrack), fees (director, scriptwriter, two leading actors, producer): up to 35% of the total eligible cost. Insurance premiums and completion bond guarantees (5%); production service company's fee (10%); fuel expenses up to 0,02; cash receipts up to 0,005. Per-diems. Travel expenses: from-to Greece +domestic. Dubbing/ subtitling. Excluded: expenses for financial assets, fixed assets and their depreciation, marketing, promotion, and communication costs.

Timeframe

Application no later than 10 days before the beginning of production and/or post-production works in Greece.

The amount is payable no later than six months after the completion of production works provided that all prerequisites of the Law have been met.

Cultural test

Applications are considered on a cultural test point-system basis, according to the type of audiovisual work. More specifically, for:

Fiction and documentaries: at least **20 out of 50** points should be met.

Animation: At least **16 out of 40** points should be met.

Digital Games: At least **16 out of 40** points should be met.

Difficult work: At least **10 out of 20** points on top of the above.

Application Process /Deadlines

Applications are submitted via an electronic system guaranteeing smooth, fast and transparent processing.

Applications may be submitted via EKOME S.A. and processed all year long.

CONTACT: EKOME S.A.

National Centre of Audiovisual Media and Communication

www.ekome.media

cashrebate@ekome.media / T+30 214 4022 515

communication@ekome.media / T+30 214 4022 503



The camera lens can capture more **shades of blue** in Greece than anywhere else in the world. With its stunning locations and backdrops, and its amazing Mediterranean climate with plenty of **sunshine throughout the entire year**, Greece offers far more than a unique and physical décor.

As the birthplace of western drama, a country with an **incredible cultural heritage**, Greece is blessed with thousands of archaeological sites and monuments, many of which are included in the World Heritage List of UNESCO. The Acropolis, the cradle of democracy in the west, unquestionably stands out.

From classical Athens and the mountainous hinterland to the gems of the Aegean and Ionian Sea, the whole of Greece provides a vast range of landscapes: picturesque **traditional villages**, **breathtaking beaches**,

forests, gorges, snow-capped mountains, even volcanoes! Plus, **architecture that spans the millennia** with examples from different eras; historical landmarks with **ancient temples** and **ancient theatres**, fortified **Byzantine cities**, monasteries and **medieval fortresses**, **neoclassical mansions** and sophisticated lofts in big cities.

Athens is a multi-facet capital city privileged by its proximity to the Attica serpentine coast line. Thessaloniki, the second largest city in Greece facing Thermaikos Gulf, boasts twenty-three centuries of fascinating history in its architecture. The choices in style and character among the **thousands of islands and islets**, out of which 227 are inhabited, are innumerable; from the **spectacular medieval old town** of Rhodes, where the Palace of the Grand Master of the Knights stands out as a gem of Gothic architecture in Greece, and the **Minoan palace**

of Knossos in Crete, the biggest island in Greece with amazing landscapes and unique culture, to the Fjord-shaped beaches and **underwater caves** of Paxi in the Ionian Sea.

Nestled in south-eastern Europe at the southern end of the Balkan peninsula, within a few hours of every European capital, Greece offers a **modernized infrastructure** with vast improvement in **transportation** in the past two decades.

The country has 2500 Km of motorways, fifteen (15) international airports, twenty-seven (27) national and public use airports, over forty (40) ports and hundreds of marinas, providing easy access to every destination in the mainland and the islands.

With its ever-expanding transportation systems, travelling to filming locations has never been less time-consuming.

36 LOCATIONS



Vai, Lasithi, Crete



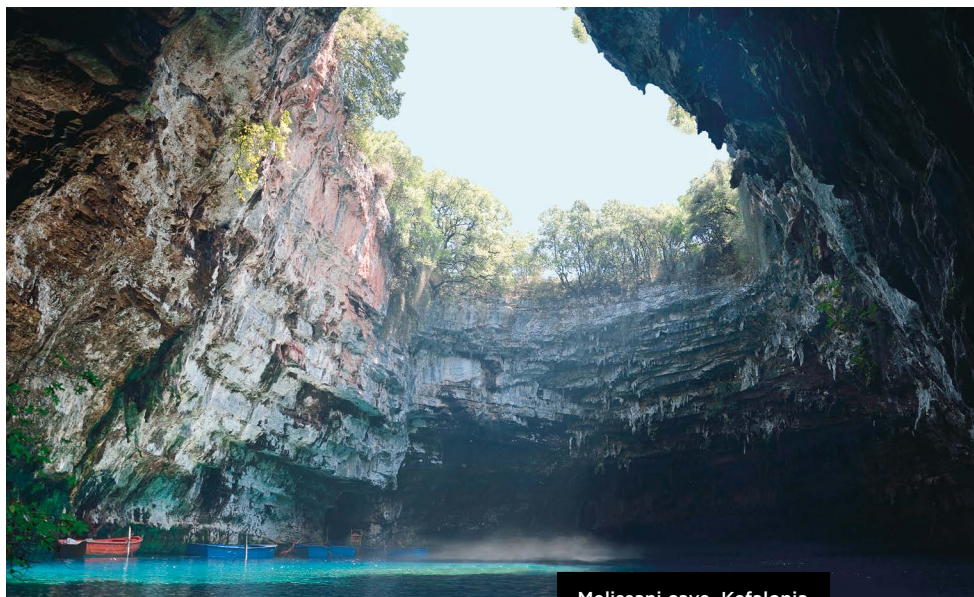
Balos, Crete



The active volcano of Nisyros



Voidokilia beach, Messinia



Melissani cave, Kefalonia



Little Venice, Mykonos



Oia, Santorini



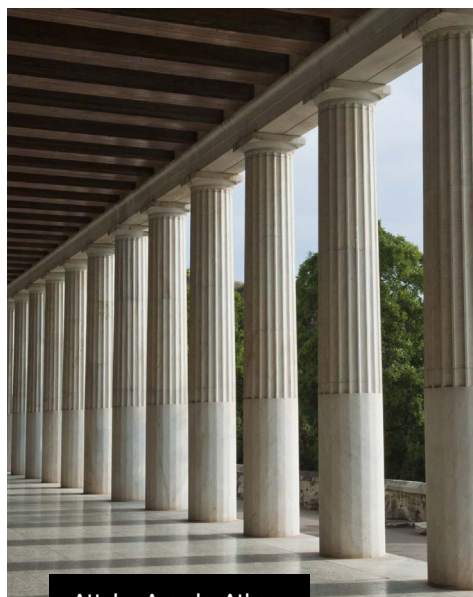
Lighthouse, Lefkada



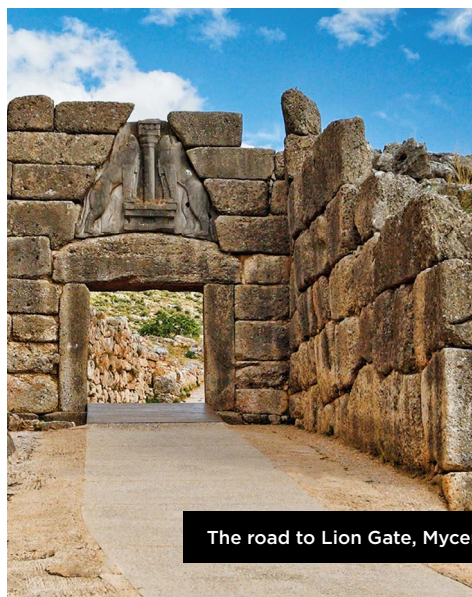
Temple of Poseidon, Cape Sounio



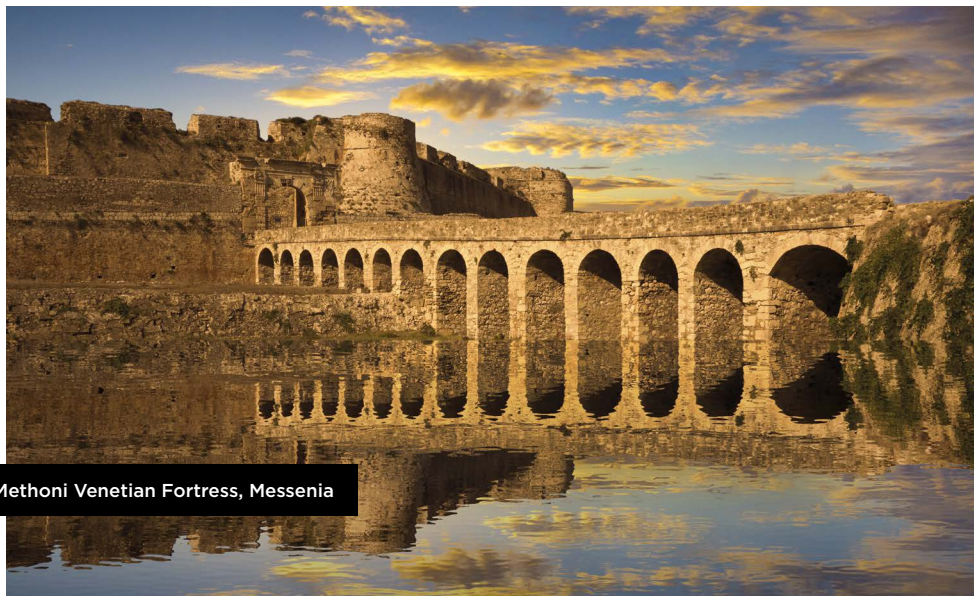
Acropolis Hill, Athens



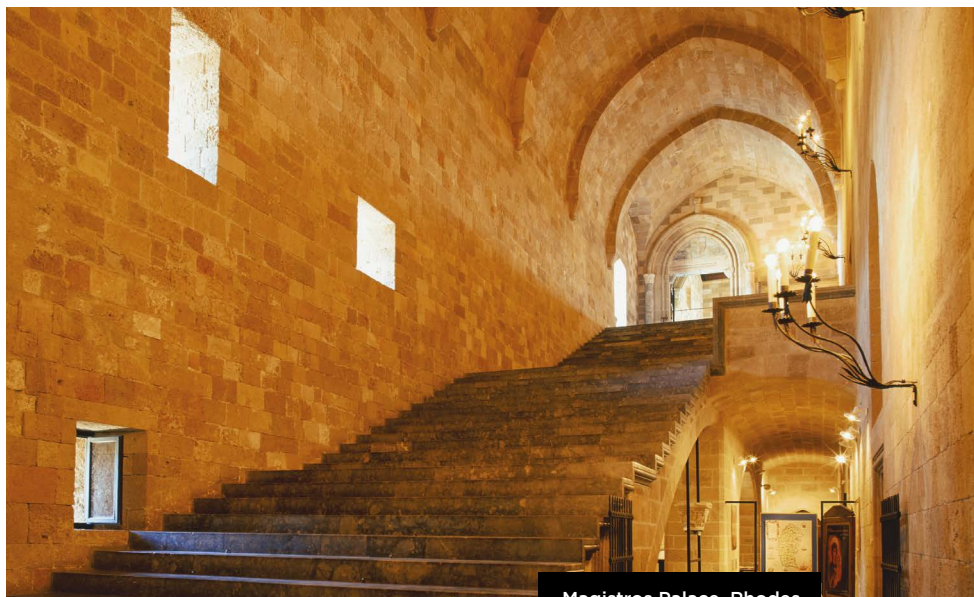
Attalus Arcade, Athens



The road to Lion Gate, Mycenae



Methoni Venetian Fortress, Messenia

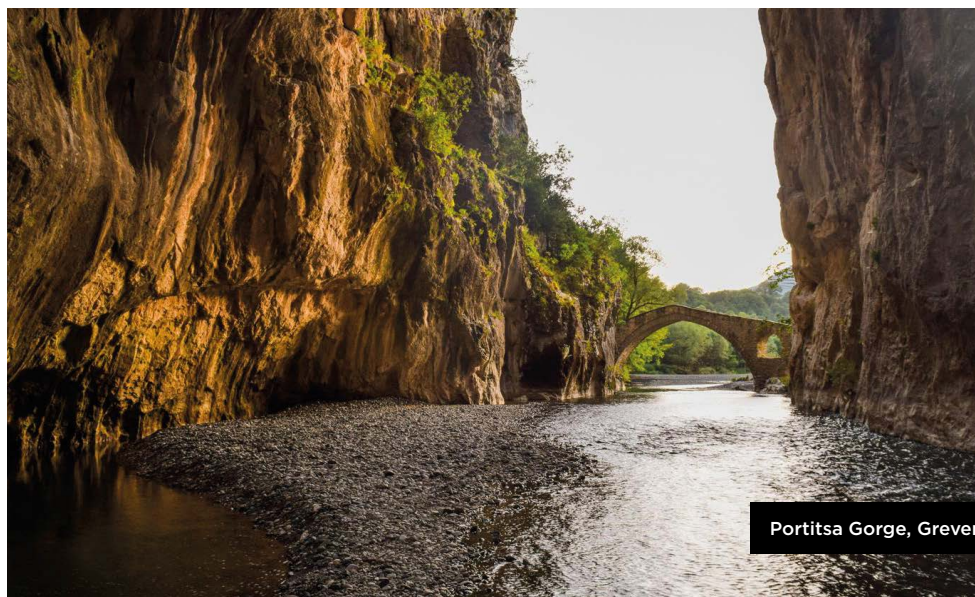


Magistros Palace, Rhodes





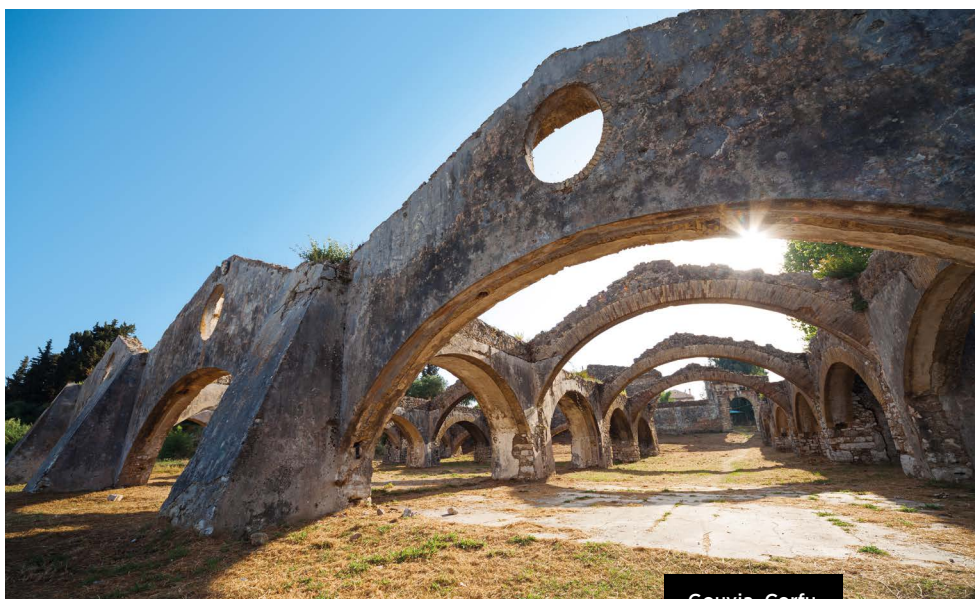
Vathia village, Mani



Portitsa Gorge, Grevena



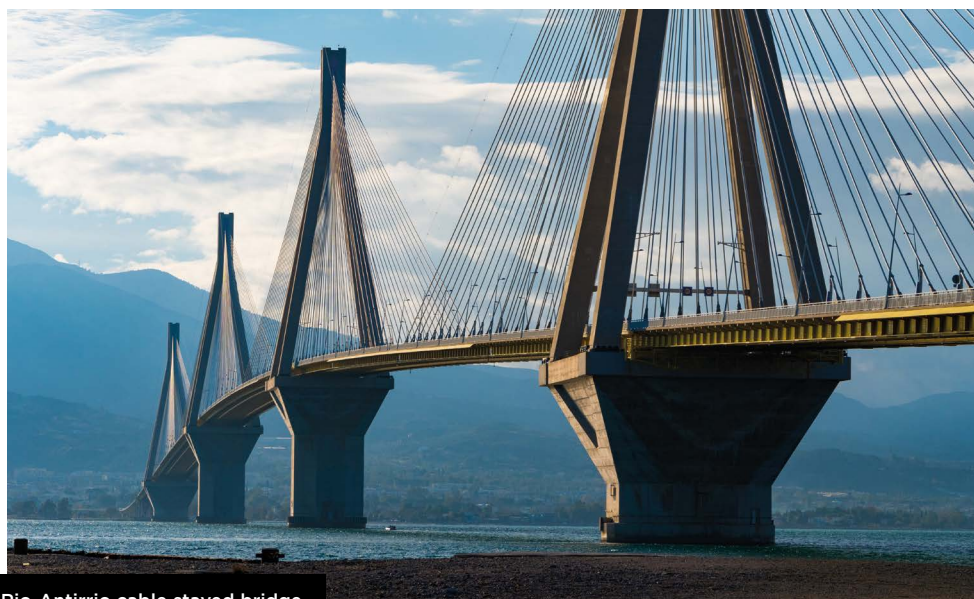
Nafplio



Gouvia, Corfu



Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, Athens

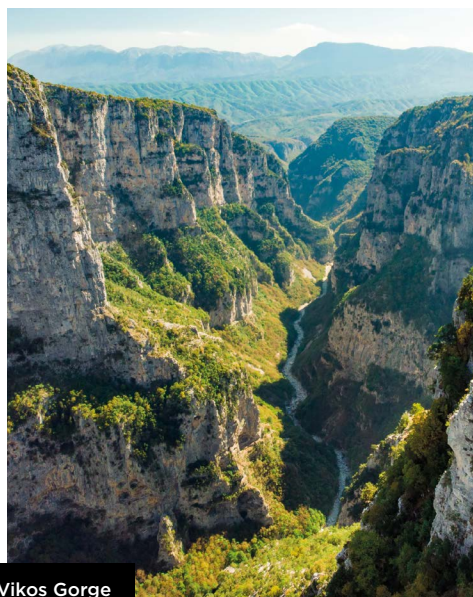


Rio-Antirrio cable stayed bridge



Acropolis Museum, Athens

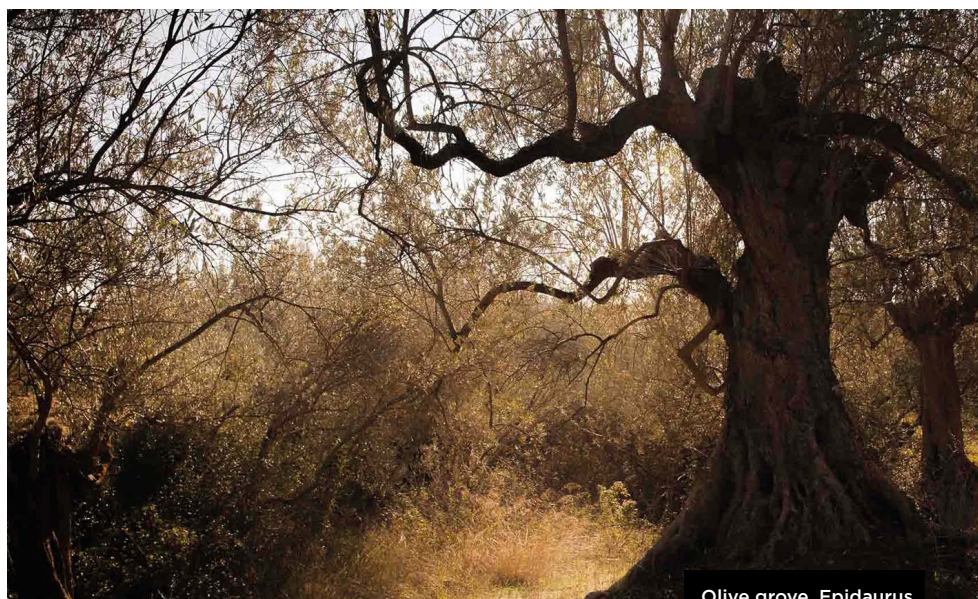




Vikos Gorge



Evros



Olive grove, Epidaurus



Frangokastello, Crete



Pelion



Metsovo

Pindus mountain





The general policy in Greece when filming on the ground is that any audiovisual work (feature, documentary, commercial, TV series, animation, student film etc.) can be produced as long as all required filming permits are secured in time and all measurements of safety and security are undertaken.

We strongly advise international productions to **start scouting and connect with Greek film professionals** (producers, location managers, production managers, fixers etc.) **as early as possible in pre-production**, particularly if these projects include demanding scenes.

Filming permits are issued by **archaeological, municipal, police, port, military**, and other **competent authorities** and **relevant ministries**. There is no central nationwide body

responsible for issuing filming permits. The application and issuing procedures and the fees vary depending on location.

Archaeological sites and monuments are of high demand and subject to availability. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you apply at the competent authorities of the Ministry of Culture and Sports at least one month prior to filming. You need the expertise of Greek producers and location managers to handle these permits.

FIND OUT MORE

ON FILMING PERMITS

ON OUR WEBSITE

FILMCOMMISSION.GR

The HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION (HFC) provides:

- **GUIDANCE** in relation to the various competent authorities
- **FILMING FACILITATION LETTER** addressed to the competent authorities
- **CERTIFICATE** by the GREEK FILM CENTRE (GFC) to productions **applying for filming permits in archaeological sites**, certifying that the script does not promote **violence**, **racism** and **sexism** and does not violate applicable Greek laws, in accordance with Decision B2812 (Gov. Gazette: 04.07.2019). All applications to the authorities of the Ministry of Culture and Sports have to be accompanied by this CERTIFICATE.

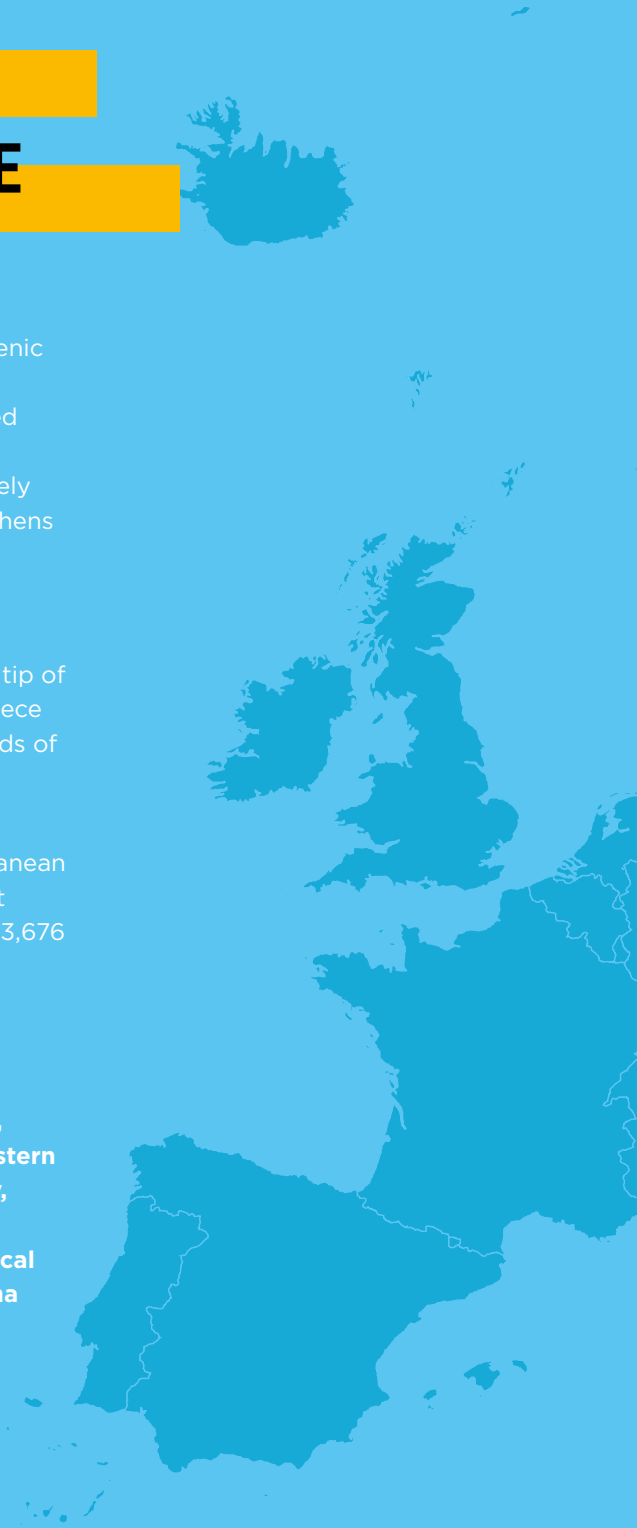
GREECE IN EUROPE

Greece, officially the Hellenic Republic, also known as Hellas, is a country located in Southeast Europe. Its population is approximately 10.7 million as of 2018; Athens is the nation's capital and largest city, followed by Thessaloniki.

Situated on the southern tip of the Balkan Peninsula, Greece is located at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and Africa.

Greece has the longest coastline on the Mediterranean Basin and the 11th longest coastline in the world at 13,676 km (8,498 mi) in length.

Greece is considered the cradle of Western civilisation, being the birthplace of democracy, Western philosophy, Western literature, historiography, political science, major scientific and mathematical principles, Western drama and notably the Olympic Games.



5 PART FOUR
ALL ABOUT GREECE





-
1. Attica
 2. Central Greece
 3. Central Macedonia
 4. Crete
 5. Eastern Macedonia and Thrace
 6. Epirus
 7. Ionian Islands
 8. North Aegean
 9. Peloponnese
 10. South Aegean
 11. Thessaly
 12. Western Greece
 13. Western Macedonia
-



LOCATION	Southeastern Europe at the meeting point of three continents – Europe, Asia and Africa.
NEIGHBORS	Albania, FYRoM, Bulgaria, Turkey. Greece borders Bulgaria and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (Fyrom) to the north, Albania to the northwest and Turkey to the northeast. The western borders are formed by the Ionian Sea, the southern by the Mediterranean Sea and the eastern borders by the Aegean Sea.
AREA	131.957 km ²
COASTLINE	13,676 km length
SEAS	Aegean Sea (east of the mainland), Ionian Sea (to the west), Cretan Sea and Mediterranean Sea (to the south)
ISLANDS	6000 islands and islets, of which 227 inhabited islands. Most populated: Crete (622,913), Evia (191,206), Rhodes (115,490)
HIGHEST POINT	Mount Olympos, 2.917 meters above sea level
POPULATION	10,569,703 (July 2021 est.) - as a percentage of the General EU population: 2,1 % (2016)
CAPITAL	Athens, population 3.153 million
LANGUAGE	Greek. Everyone in the film business speaks English.
POLITICAL SYSTEM	Presidential parliamentary democracy
PRIME MINISTER	Kyriakos Mitsotakis (2019)
EU MEMBER	Since 1st January 1981
NATO MEMBER	Since 1952
SCHENGEN MEMBER	Since January 2000
CURRENCY	Euro. Part of the Eurozone since 1st January 2001
VAT	24%
WORKFORCE	3.6 million people
GDP	184,490 billion €

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE / MONTH



	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
°C	10	10	13	16	21	26
°F	50	50	55	61	70	79
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
°C	28	29	24	20	15	12
°F	82	84	75	68	59	54

SUNLIGHT AND DAYLIGHT



	Sunrise a.m.	Sunset p.m.	Daylight Hours
JAN	8:41	18:16	9h 34min
FEB	8:30	18:47	10h 17min
MAR	7:57	19:18	11h 20min
APR	7:11	19:47	12h 36min
MAY	6:29	20:15	13h 45min
JUN	6:04	20:41	14h 37min
JUL	6:05	20:51	14h 45min
AUG	6:27	20:34	14h 07min
SEP	6:54	19:55	13h 00min
OCT	7:20	19:09	11h 48min
NOV	7:50	18:26	10h 36min
DEC	8:21	18:05	9h 44min

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS



59

1 JAN	New Year's Day
6 JAN	Epiphany
7 MAR*	Orthodox Ash Monday
25 MAR	Independence Day
22 APR*	Orthodox Good Friday
24 APR*	Orthodox Easter Sunday
25 APR*	Orthodox Easter Monday
1 MAY	Labour Day
12 JUN*	Orthodox Whit Sunday
13 JUN*	Orthodox Whit Monday
15 AUG	Assumption Day
28 OCT	Ochi Day
25 DEC	Christmas Day
26 DEC	2nd Day of Christmas

*The above dates refer to the year 2022



	Distance	Driving Time
PATRAS	210 km	2h 15'
KORINTHOS	80 km	1h 5'
NAFPLIO	138 km	1h 39'
TRIPOLIS	158 km	1h 52'
SPARTA	213 km	2h 34'
KALAMATA	238 km	2h 36'
PYLOS-NAVARINO	274 km	3h 21'
EPIDAUROS	138 km	2h
OLYMPIA	300 km	3h 38'
MYKINES	120 km	1h 34'
KALAVRYTA	189 km	2h 27'
MONEMVASIA	300 km	3h 55'
LOUTRAKI	81.3 km	1h 9'
MESSOLONGHI	81.3 km	2h 44'
CHALKIS	78.63 km	59'
VOLOS	78.63 km	3h 18'
IOANNINA	410.88 km	4h 19'
LARISSA	353.15 km	3h 33'
PREVEZA	360.07 km	4h 16'
XANTHI	703.16 km	6h 44'
KAVALA	651.13 km	6h 19'
KOMOTINI	744.84 km	7h 5'
ALEXANDROUPOLI	798.98 km	7h 31'
LAMIA	214.12 km	1h 54'
DRAMA	648 km	6h 23'
THESSALONIKI	502 km	4h 53'
PYRGOS	293.2 km	3h 26'

TRAVEL TIMES TO ATHENS (INTERNATIONAL)



61

	Direct Flight	Car
BERLIN	3h	24h
BRUSSELS	3h 30m	28h
LONDON	3h 45m	32h
MADRID	3h 45m	36h
MOSCOW	4h	36h
PARIS	3h 30m	28h
ROME	2h	19h 30m
DUBAI	4h 45 m	—
NEW YORK	9h 15m	—
TORONTO	11h	—
	Multistop Flight	
BEIJING	16h	—
SEOUL	15h 45m	—
LOS ANGELES	16h 45m	—
MUMBAI	10h 30m	—
SYDNEY	23h	—
TOKYO	17h 45m	—

Sources:
European Union Website
Hellenic Statistical Authority Website
Hellenic Statistical Authority
TaxHeaven
CIA World Factbook
Discover Greece



The movie cameras have been up and running in Greece since the 1920s. Greece is a nation with a cinematic past, present and future. Attracting landmark international films to its unique locations since the 1960s, Greece is now investing in its film industry, producing new talent, making its presence felt at the Oscars, setting trends, and interacting with the international audiovisual scene.

Discover new talent in Greece. After all, this is the birthplace of Odysseus the Cunning, Homer's epic hero, renowned for his intellectual brilliance, guile and versatility.

Greek crews speak perfect English and have the expertise to collaborate flawlessly with international audio-visual productions. **From outstanding drone operators and post-production facilities equipped with high-end industry technologies to world-class VFX, the Greek Industry Guide provides dream teams of “dedicated maniacs”.** Take the opportunity to maximize local talent since you have as much to learn by them as they have by you.

GREEK INDUSTRY GUIDE

63 PART FIVE GREEK INDUSTRY GUIDE

01

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02

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03

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Stavroula joined GREEK FILM CENTRE in 2003 where she held various positions of increasing scope and responsibility (Sales and Promotion Executive, national representative of GFC at European Film Promotion). She joined the HELLENIC FILM COMMISSION in October 2018. She loves to facilitate and connect talents by consulting incoming producers on all aspects of filmmaking in Greece and serves as a liaison between them and the Greek film industry.

Originally a media researcher, Stavroula has worked at the Hellenic Audiovisual Institute (responsible of European and International Programs), the European Children's Television Centre, the Greek Film Archive, and she has cooperated as a tutor with the University of West Attica.

Stavroula studied Mass Media & Communication and Cultural Management at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (GR) and at the John Moores University of Liverpool (UK).



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Georgia first joined the Greek Film Centre for a 3-month college graduate internship in 2019 and in January 2022 she joined the Hellenic Film Commission team as a Project Coordinator. She has collaborated with the Athens Biennale as a Community Building Officer and a Social Media Manager, as well as with various indie book-publishers as a Communications Associate, while volunteering first as a Communications and Production Manager and finally as the Curator of TEDxUniversityofPiraeus 2020, the first TEDx event in Greece to be held completely online.

She envisions a pluralistic, inclusive and new technology embracing cinema and hopes to support and connect visionary professionals from all around the world and introduce them to the vast potential of the Greek film industry landscape. She holds a BA in Theater and Dramatic Arts from the University of Peloponnese and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Film and Cultural Studies at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

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