Activities in Epirus

Epirus is an area with many natural beauties and the people seem to blend in with the land. You'll meet a different Greece at this crossroads of civilisations and landscapes in Western Greece, between the Pindos mountain range and the <u>Ionian Sea</u>. Mountain peaks, gorges, rare plants and animals, lakes, rivers and indented sandy beaches complement the ancient ruins of Dodoni and dozens of mediaeval castles, monasteries, arched bridges and stone-built traditional villages.

Specifically ,in Epirus there are many evaluated activities that are separated in three categories :

1.Soil activities

2.Water activities

3.Air activities

Soil Activities

The soil activities are distinguished in three groups

Horse riding

Horses for walks in the forest, in the area of the Voidomatis bridge, between Aristis Zagori and Konitsa, on the boundary of the Vikos-Aoos National Park. After we welcome you and give you some instructions, we will give you your helmet and the excursion will start, with our escort.





Hiking

Blessed with high peaks, Epirus is a paradise for hiking aficionados. One of the most spectacular hikes you can do in Epirus is the trek to Mount Tymfi's Dragon Lake, home to the alpine newt. This alpine lake lies between the Aoos and Voidomatis rivers, in the Gamila crest. Start from the picturesque village of Papigo (or Papingo) and make your way to the lake after a four-hour-long trek through nature. Also, Zagori, as the region remained cut off from the rest of the country for decades, it boasts an extensive network of old footpaths in good condition. You can opt to explore the region and a few of its villages following these tracks but if you are a serious hiker, you can tackle the nearby massifs. Many hiking centers have set up day hikes and multiple-day excursions, where you will come across picturesque villages, hidden peaks and scenic landscapes. Zagori is home to the impressive Vikos Gorge, the second deepest gorge in the world after the Grand Canyon. Rising up to 1,040 meters in several places, the steep walls of the gorge offers a fascinating sight to its visitors.



• <u>Canyoning</u>

The region of Zagorohoria is a premier destination for a number of outdoor activities, including canyoning. Vikaki Canyon offers a unique opportunity to explore the rich vegetation of the gorge, see from really close endangered

animal species and enjoy the crystal waters. The meeting point is at the village of Tsepelovo and the duration of this thrilling activity is approximately 4-6 hours. Also, in many parts it is needed to swim, so a neoprene wetsuit is necessary. Furthermore, the route is considered of moderate difficulty and is addressed to all experience levels of reasonable physical condition.







Water Activities

• Rafting

Epirus is an area with many rivers. The best way to get to know them is rafting.

1. Arachthos

Arachthos River offers unique trails, peaceful and yet exciting, with the wild gorge and two of the most famous **Epirus bridges**: **Plaka** (the tallest single arch bridge in Greece) and **Arta**. Along the course you will encounter mineral sources that gush from crevices, waterfalls, rare bird species that nest on the

canyons' distant cliffs. Half way through the gorge, make a stop and walk to **Glyfki's waterfalls** where a pond is formed at its base.

Duration: 2 hours (4 hours for advanced)

2. Voidomatis

If Vikos Ravine is a true miracle of nature, then **Voidomatis River** is definitely its precious gem. It's a river with sparkling clean waters, ideal for your first rafting experience. Near Zagorochori village, start off at **Aristi bridge** and follow the 5km rafting ride which presents a low level of difficulty, amidst a marvelous green scenery, small waterfalls and stone bridges. After 45 minutes you'll reach the abandoned **monastery of Agioi Anargyroi** (16th century), where you can enjoy the wild vertical rocks and impressive caves that once were used as hermitages. By now your body and soul will feel rejuvenated, paddling under the single arched lovely **bridge of Kato Kleidonia**.

Duration: 90 minutes

3.Acherontas

This <u>mythical river</u> extends in an area of great beauty, offering thrills to all rafting lovers.It is a 4km ride, ideal for beginners, that starts at the river source at **Glyki's bridge**.

Duration: From 1hr to 4-5hrs







Air Activities

• Paragliding

1. Aspraggeloi(Zagori)

Take a flight over Aspraggeloi a village which is built at 1.000 meters altitude, situated in the green slopes of Mitsikeli mountain.

2. Dikorfo(Zagori)

Fly over Dikorfo, a mountain village of Zagorochoria of Epirus.Let yourself fly in the midst of a natural environment within the abundance of the forest. An essential winter destination, at first glance an unthinkable place to be until you see it from above.

3. Chanopoulo (Arta)

Have the chance to enjoy the beautiful view basking at the plain of Arta at the Chanopoulos baths. Discover the hidden beauties of these areas and let yourself go in the experience that will take your adrenaline levels to the limits.

4. Vrachos-Loutsa Beach (Preveza)

Take off and fly from the beach of Vrachos, in Preveza. You can see the Ionian sea and the vast coast. You will live a liberating and refreshing experience.





