

CHIOS



Tradition attributes its name to the son of Poseidon, Chios born during a snowstorm on the island to symbolize the arrival of the Ions in the year 1000 BC. Another legend to the myth of Opionione and his daughter Chiona. Opionione was the son of Dionysius and Ariadne, queen of Crete.

Chiona their daughter, born on the island, from Cretese lineage, symbolizes the arrival of the Minoans and the flourishing of their civilization still present on the island. But before that it had been called the island of snakes, the gray island or long island.



Chios is a half moon of red earth, of forests, black sands of lava bathed by an intense blue sea.

Here the legend wants the birth of Homer who taught Daskalopetra (Stone of the Master) near Chòra where there is the huge stone that the poet used as a chair during teaching.

Queen of the oceans and the sea with her innumerable ships and fearless sailors. In fact, historians said that he will win the war who will have Chios at sea as an ally.

Chios is the island of mastic. When the Romans took Agios Isidoros to accompany him to the place of execution, the exhausted Saint began to cry, and his tears, falling on the pavement, became the aromatic masticha.



This explains why the lentisk tree itself, which exists in many other places in the Mediterranean, produces mastic only in Chios; in order to buy it, Chios has undergone the invasions of the Macedonians, Romans, Byzantines, Venetians and Genoese and from the mid-16th century until 1912 a long Ottoman domination. Chios is famous for its medieval architectures, built during the Genoese domination from the 13th to 1566 which give it a particular charm, with the narrow alleys of the medieval villages in black and white stone reminiscent of the "caruggi" of Genoa, in Pyrgi, the walls of the alleys are embellished with a very rare decorative technique, consisting of gray drawings scraped on the white background. All traces of patrician houses and fortified towers are present throughout the island. The Genoese called it Chios for its beauty Paradise of the East.



Despite the variety of landscapes and the reasons of interest, Chios still remains out of the attention of tourism and organized travel, especially from Italy. No Italian tour operator offers complete packages for this destination.

The tourist facilities are almost all small, about 2500 beds in the few hotels and as many of the family receptivity, make it difficult to accommodate large numbers of seasonal invaders, which, however, in Chios, fortunately, do not arrive. But the connoisseurs return year after year, transported by living memories, which have the names of the people and places of Chios.

Chios offers a great variety of landscape-environmental and architectural situations whose originality is renowned throughout Greece. In Chios, in fact, they marry east and west in a unique and unrepeatable way: Byzantine, Genoese and Venetian imprints are mixed with traces of arabesques, creating extremely evocative urban landscapes.



Great 848km² (equal to about 8 times the island of Elba), with 213 km. the fifth largest of all Greece.

It is just a few nautical miles from Turkey. Cape Pounta on the peninsula of Erythraia (Tsesme) is only 3.5 nautical miles away. Its population is about 50,000 inhabitants, most concentrated in the capital where the large hotel facilities are concentrated and in Karfas not far from the east coast where the best equipped beaches are located, a few hundred and sometimes a few dozens of inhabitants in the remaining in the others 64 villages. Here the climate is always mild, rarely exceeds 30 degrees in summer and falls below 10 in winter.



For an overall visit it is practically essential to rent a car or a motorbike. Chios capital is an excellent starting point for the excursion, well connected to Karfas there are quieter beaches even further south, like that of Megas Limnionas, Agia Fotini, Komi, and Mavra Volia (of black sand) that is found in southern corner of the island between the cones of 2 inactive volcanoes. To the north of the island, much less touristy is the beach of Nagos, a few kilometers from Kardamyla, surrounded by lush vegetation. To the west the sona of the Mastic castles starting from Volissos (for the sea the pebbly beach of Giosonas).



European Vocabulary







HELLO

- CIAO

ITA

- ¡Hola

ESP

- Geiá sou

GRE

- Hallo

GER




HOW ARE YOU

- Come stai ITA
- ¿Cómo estás? ESP
- Πώς είσαι? GRE
- Wie geht es dir GER



WELCOME

- Benvenuto ITA
 - Bienvenido ESP
 - Kalosórisma GRE
 - Willkommen GER
- 

PLEASE

- Per favore ITA
- Por favor ESP
- Parakaló GRE
- Bitte GER

MY NAME IS

- Mi chiamo... ITA
- Mi nombre es... ESP
- Το όνόμά μου είναι... GRE
- Mein Name ist ... GER

YES / NO

- Si / No ITA
- Sí / No ESP
- Nai óchi GRE
- Ja / Nein GER

I DO NOT UNDERSTAND

- Non capisco ITA
- No entiendo ESP
- Den katalavaíno GRE
- Ich verstehe es nicht GER

HOW MUCH

- Quanto costa? ITA
- ¿Cuánto cuesta? ESP
- Είμαι τό πόσο? GRE
- Wie viel kostet es? GER

I LIKE IT

- Mi piace ITA
- Me gusta ESP
- Mou arései GRE
- Ich mag es GER



BUS

- Autobus ITA
- Autobús ESP
- Leoforeío GRE
- Bus GER