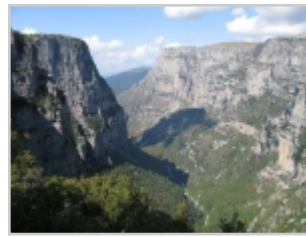


Zagoria

Epirus // Zagoria by Greeka.com



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Map of Zagoria



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About Zagoria

Zagoria is the name of a 46 villages group, in the mountains of Epirus, in the northwest of Greece. In fact, its name derives from a Slavic word meaning "behind the mountains". These villages result quite outstanding because of their beauty and their picturesque surroundings.

The many crystal clear rivers in this area are part of this beauty, as well as the mentioned mountains, full of firs and pine trees. The landscape varies according to seasons, as in winter the mountains get picturesquely covered by snow, while in spring and summer the area seems to blossom with the running wates of river Voidomatis.

Zagoria also hosts the Gorge of Vikos, the biggest in Greece, which is considered by many ecologists as one of the last paradises in Europe. The general atmosphere on Zagoria is very low-key. During the recent years it has been developing tourism, but not in a massive way.

Therefore, the only periods in which it is important to book accommodation beforehand are on Christmas season and on Easter.

In fact, almost every village has its own hotel and guest-house. Regarding its places of interest, the visitor will find many imposing Byzantine monuments and impressive houses with a unique architecture.

Some villages are placed at an altitude that provides wonderful views. For example, Tsepelovo is built at 1.100 metres . Additionally, it hosts the church of St Anargyri, which has a great panoramic view of this village. Skamneli is also another example, as it is perched on a height about 1.200 metres. Moreover, it offers a wide variety of restored mansions and churches, as well as houses from the 18th and the 19th century.

Fortunately, the villages can be visited not only by car, but also on foot, due to the paved walkways and the stone bridges that connect them. Some of those are Asprangeli, followed by Elati, Dilofo and Kipi, among others. No matter what period of the year you choose for visiting Zagoria, you will surely enjoy its wonderful features, which offer the best conditions for amusement and relaxation.

Villages of Zagoria



Papigo (Rating: ★★ by Greeka members)

Location: 59 km north west of Ioannina

Description: Megalo Papigo is the most tourist village of Zagoria, however it hasn't lost its authentic style. Due to tourism, Papigo is lively all year round.

Sightseeing: Church Of Agios Vlassios



Mikro Papigo

Location: 61 km north west of Ioannina

Description: Mikro Papigo is a lovely village with great views. Along with Megalo Papigo, there are the most popular villages of Zagoria.



Monodendri

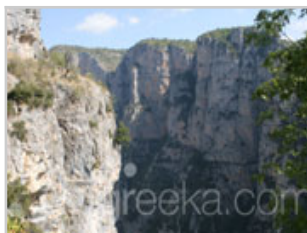
Location: 39 km north west of Ioannina

Description: A typical traditional village, Monodendri is constructed at an altitude of 1,060 metres. From there starts a trekking path to the Gorge of Vikos.

Sightseeing: Church Of Agios Minas, Monastery Of Agia Paraskevi, Rizarios Centre For Exhibitions



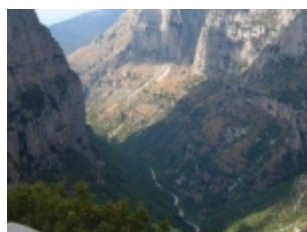
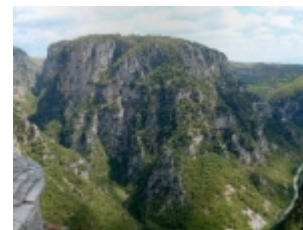
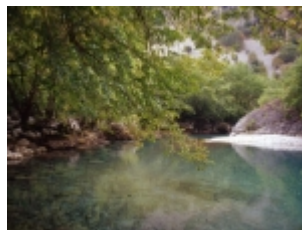
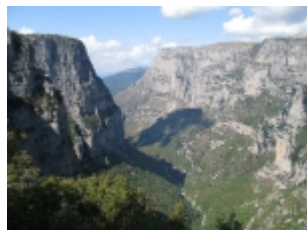
Sightseeing in Zagoria



Vikos Gorge

Location: Vikos

Vikos Gorge is the second deepest gorge in the world (after Grand Canyon in the USA). It offers impressive views and great chances for extreme sports.



Voidomatis River

Location: Vikos

Voidomatis is an amazing river that runs through Vikos Gorge and close to many villages of Zagoria. It offers many spots of natural beauty and excellent chances for extreme sports.



Monastery Of Agia Paraskevi

Location: Monodendri

In the heart of the Vikos-Aoos National Park that surrounds Zagoria, there is a beautiful monastery, particularly popular among trekkers. This is the monastery of Agia Paraskevi and dates from the 15th century. The location gives an amazing view to the gorge.

Credits

Greekka.com would like to thank the following members for their valuable contribution, as some of the photos included in this guide belong to them.

dado72, jopp, mariah, yiannare, zlivido

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