Greece Mainland Epirus Zagori

# Zagori

Zagori is a national park of nearly 1000 sq kms in the Pindus mountains of Epirus, north western Greece, and close to the Albanian border.



We have featured a small B&B hotel in Zagori (aka Zagoria) for many years as part of our Hidden Greece fly drive programme but feel that the region deserves better, and so have expanded our hotel choices in order to give this wonderful area, undoubtedly one of the most beautiful in Greece, the promotion it deserves.

Zagori is a national park of nearly 1000 sq kms in the Pindus mountains of Epirus, north western Greece, and close to the Albanian border. The Epirot coast is featured elsewhere in the form of Parga and Sivota, but Zagori, a couple of hours drive inland, is at its heart. Here are the mighty peaks of the Pindos, forests, rivers crossed by ancient stone bridges, lakes, gorges, meadows, and 46 preserved stone villages known collectively as the Zagorochoria. You will not be surprised to read that Zagori is a magnet for walkers and trekkers. The 38 km Vikos Gorge is one of the deepest in the world at nearly 1000m, and the surrounding mountain peaks soar to over 2000m. It is a hiker's paradise and there is a network of well marked trails. Serious walkers can tackle the mountains and the Vikos Gorge (do take the right clothing and footwear), more casual walkers will enjoy the hiking trails that link the villages.

The park is home to some 1700 species of flora, and a wildlife which includes wolves and bears. Historically one of Greece's most remote regions, centuries old traditions, fast vanishing in many other areas, can still be found here (the Vlach shepherds in the high Pindos still speak a form of Latin). We offer very flexible arrangements to Zagori, which can be booked, with a car, as both long and short stays from Preveza Airport; a side trip from Parga, Sivota or even the island of Lefkas; or as part of a touring fly drive itinerary, which could also incorporate the nearby historic lakeside town of Ioannina (the capital of the region), the alpine village of Metsovo and the spectacular monasteries of Meteora.



#### ZAGORI INFORMATION Getting to Zagori

## Flight to Prevesa, 2-2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hour drive

on good roads from the airport. Alternatively a 2 hour drive from Parga or Sivota and 2½-3 hours from Lefkas (all timings are approximate and subject to local conditions). Flights are normally on Sundays but we can arrange flights on other days and odd durations on a tailor made basis.

### **Multi Centre Options**

With Parga, Sivota, Lefkas, mainland fly drive.

## Car Hire

Essential and will be included in the price.

#### Representative

We have no local representative based in Zagori - our hoteliers speak good English and are happy to give advice and assistance if required. Our Parga/Sivota representative can always be contacted if required.

# Dias House Mikro Papingo

Dias is a traditional stone B&B guesthouse in the small village of Mikro Papingo, high in the mountains in the heart of the national park. The village is directly beneath three of Zagori's most spectacular peaks - Gamila, Astraka and Tymfi - and Vikos Gorge is not far away. A number of trails of varying levels of difficulty start from the village.

The guesthouse has just 12 rooms, all cozily furnished with twin or double bed, TV and en suite shower. Air conditioning is not required due to the elevation of the village (c 1000m).

Dias has a restaurant offering excellent unfussy meals (and substantial portions!) plus good local wine. The owner, Kostas, used to be a mountain guide so is a mine of information and advice for walkers of all levels. He can also arrange for river rafting and canyoning. Whatever your hiking ability all visitors will enjoy the mountain air, wonderful views and the fact that this is a good base from which to explore the whole of Zagori.

Between Mikro Papingo and the larger village of Megalo Papingo, 3 kms down the road, are some rock pools where people can swim at certain times of the year, although the water may be a little bracing! We can also offer the 3 Star Ariston Hotel in Megalo Papingo.

The Bed & Breakfast Guesthouse: Free WiFi Car included



View from near Dias



Aristi village

# Aristi Mountain Resort Aristi

This upmarket hotel is the best in Zagori and the only one with a spa and (to the best of our knowledge) a heated indoor pool. Beautifully designed and built in local stone to fit in with its surroundings, the hotel is towards the top of Aristi, one of the prettiest villages of the Zagorochoria.

The hotel has various room types, suites and villas. All are built with stone and wood and warmly furnished to give a feeling of discreet luxury. All possess a kingsize bed, AC, WiFi, bathroom amenities, sat TV with CD/DVD player, kettle with tea-making equipment, coffee machine and hairdryer. Standard rooms have a walk-in shower, higher category rooms have also a jacuzzi bath. All rooms have a terrace or balcony offering magnificent views to Papingo village and the Astraka peaks behind.

The restaurant emphasises fresh organic local produce - much from its own garden - and Epirot speciality dishes. Wellness and Spa facilities include heated indoor pool, sauna, hamam, jacuzzi and a range of treatments.

You will come away from a stay here completely relaxed and rejuvenated!

he Hotel:	Free WiFi
FStars	Indoor pool &
Bed & Breakfast	Spa
Air Conditioning	Car included

ACCOMMODATION		PERSONS	S	Low Season (May – early Jul & mid Sep – Oct)			High Season (mid Jul – early Sep)				
		PERSO BASIS		From 1 Wk 2 Wks		To 1 Wk 2 Wks		From 1 Wk 2 Wks		To 1 Wk 2 W	
		_									
Aristi	Double Aristi	2	BB	1266	2012	1328	2124	1378	2268	1498	238
Junior S	Superior Double	2	BB	1302	2086	1366	2198	1414	2342	1534	246
	Junior Suite	2	BB	1492	2464	1554	2576	1604	2720	1724	284
		3	BB	1176	1833	1239	1927	1270	2021	1359	211
	Suite	2	BB	1598	2676	1660	2788	1710	2932	1830	305
	Family Aristi	3	BB	1099	1679	1162	1773	1193	1868	1282	195
	Turning Autou	4	BB	963	1406	1026	1493	1050	1566	1123	163
Dias House	Standard Room	2	BB	860	1200	952	1330	962	1340	987	136
(incl car)		3	BB	785	1052	880	1184	885	1189	910	121

Prices shown are indicative only and variable due to offers, changing flight prices and seasonal supplements Please call or check online for a confirmed costing (note: no all holidays can be checked online). Prices include transfers or car hire (see text), accommodation as described; and all airport/fuel charges & taxes known at the time of printing - for our surcharge policy see booking conditions at the back of this brochure. To add: regional price supplements, room and board supplements (see text) - single room prices on request. Not all our accommodation is suitable for guests with reduced mobility. Please contact us to answer any questions you may have regarding our properties and to advise their suitability for people with health conditions or impairments.

Not included: Overnight Stay Tax of  $\in 0.50$  to  $\notin 4$  per room, apartment or villa per night payable locally – the amount varies according to the category of the accommodation (i.e. most self catering and 1-2 star hotels =  $\in 0.50$ , 5 star hotels =  $\notin 4$ ).