

SUMMER 2021

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#familyfriendlygreece

Family Summer Vacation in Mani

Customizable 10-day family package

Its sharp land and austere nature render Mani enticing to explorers seeking peace. Towers built in stone and nature bathed in light cradle unique traditional settlements with a medieval and Byzantine past. Surrounded by Mount Taygetus and a rocky landscape made up of canyons, caves and gorges, covered with forests and olive groves, the region's geography does not give us the leeway to travel far away. The distances are long enough to "keep" the traveler "in Mani's arms" granting him time to appreciate the landscape, the traditional lifestyle of the inhabitants, the food, and the relaxing accommodation at a slow pace. In other words, to explore the art of slow and meaningful life.

Mani is full of hidden gems for families to discover in various ways and by several means. On foot, by bike or by sea, you can breathe it, smell it, taste it in its excellent local products and authentic taverns, where you can enjoy your mezes and meal at a leisurely pace. As sir Patrick Leigh Fermor give us an insight of Mani in a few words "Passing by you see Mani in three days, walking in three months and to see its soul you need three lives. One for the sea, one for its mountains and one for its people".



At a glance

What is included (customizable)

- **9 nights at family-friendly accommodations** about which we have firsthand experience and which conform to MAMAKITA and our team's high standards (listed [here](#)). Through our proposals, you will be the one to choose which type of accommodation meets your expectations, be it a hotel, a farm or an independent villa!
- **Selected kid-friendly tours and activities** that MAMAKITA team of travel advisors has handpicked based on firsthand experience according to the interests, the budget and the age of kids
- **A detailed day-by-day personalized travel guidebook** with a custom Google Map with pins compiled from our team's extensive travel experiences. The travel guidebook includes all relevant and useful information regarding places of interest, family-friendly activities, kid-friendly beaches, taverns and restaurants, playgrounds, as well as all emergency contacts every family may need to travel independently and safely.

Indicative day-by day program

Day 1: Ancient Messene and the Messenian taste



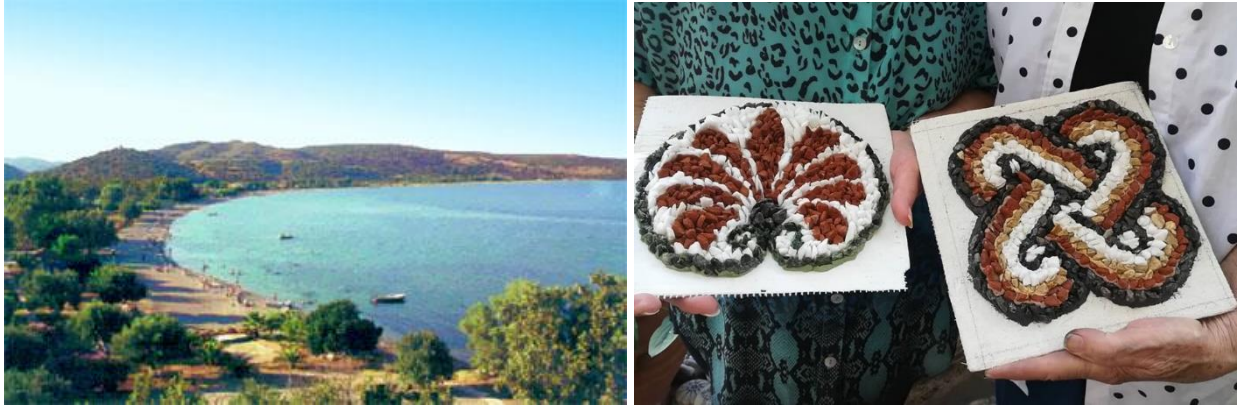
Before arriving to your hotel by the water, you make a stop in Ancient Messene, one of the greatest and best-preserved cities of antiquity in terms of size. After your kid-friendly tour in the ancient city, you get the chance to taste the Kalamata olives and olive oil. Walk through the olive groves and marvel the perennial olive trees while kids indulge themselves in a treasure hunt with the guidance of our experienced guide. In a family friendly olive oil testing & food pairing seminar, our certified olive oil sommelier will help you discover the richness of the Messenian taste. Traditional meal will follow.

Optional:

- Privately guided tour in Ancient Messene with state licensed tour guide
- Treasure hunt for kids in the olive grove (>3 yo)
- Visit an olive oil mill

- Olive oil tasting & food pairing
- Light traditional meal

Day 2: Swim & Slow down



This is a day to relax and enjoy the sea and sun. In the afternoon, an artist will engage your kids in a mosaic and handmade art workshop inside your hotel (on the beach, your balcony or another spot under the trees).

What is included:

- 2-hour creative mosaic and handmade art workshop for kids

Day 3: Explore the coast of Mani by sea



Enjoy the beaches along the Maniot coast. You will receive a complete personalized guide to choose among the ones that suit your family and you will have the option to enjoy watersports, SUP and snorkeling. In the afternoon, take a boat trip or a guided sea kayak tour along the West or the East Mani coast -depending on your accommodation.

What is included:

- Half-day guided sea kayak tour in the Maniot coast (small group)

Optional:

- 4-hour private boat trip

- Watersports (SUP& snorkeling, waterski)

Day 4: East Mani, Diros cave & Cape Matapan



This day is dedicated to the East (Inner) Mani. Ascend to Areopolis, the heart of Inner Mani, visit the Cave of Diros, swim along your way and reach Cape Tenaro, the southernmost natural harbor of the Greek mainland, mythologically perceived as the Gate to the Underworld.

Day 5: Explore West Mani



Swim in the beautiful kid-friendly beaches of Stoupa and Kalogria and enjoy your lunch at one of the traditional tavernas along the coast. In the afternoon, explore by bike one of the most restful places in Messenian Mani, the coast from Stoupa to Agios Nikolaos and the small harbor of Trahila.

What is included:

- Private 2,5 hour guided bike tour in West Mani



Day 6: Kardamyli or Monemvasia

Depending on your “base”, explore Kardamyli, the land that captured the heart of leading travel writer sir Patrick Leigh Fermor and his wife, photographer Joan Leigh Fermor, back in the 1960s and hosted them until the end of their lives. You will be able to visit their mansion upon request.

Alternatively, visit Monemvasia. Stroll along the cobbled paths of the Medieval Castle Town, a natural fortress and Europe’s only castle that has never ceased being inhabited. Walk amidst the mansions and the Byzantine churches and grasp the opportunity to taste Greek local wine varieties in an old cellar or create natural olive-oil soap together with a local host. [Not suitable for strollers].



Optional:

- Guided tour, wine-tasting and soap making in Monemvasia
- Sir Patrick Leigh Fermor Mansion guided visit in Kardamyli
- Photo tour for families with teens “In the path of Joan Leigh Fermor” led by experienced photo coach in Kardamyli or Monemvasia

Day 7: Mystras day trip



Visit the Byzantine city of Mystras, one of the most important centers of the Byzantine Empire (1280-1400 AD) with an interactive “Game of Thrones” tour led by a state-licensed guide experienced in kids and teens. You will have the opportunity to walk around the Acropolis of William, and visit the museums within the cluttered walls, full of elements of daily life and monasteries where nuns still live.

In the afternoon, your kids have the possibility to participate in an educational tour and activities at an orange grove and farm.

What is included:

- Game of Thrones interactive private guided tour

Optional:

- Educational tour and activities for kids at an orange grove close to Sparta

Day 8: Authentic villages or Elafonisos



Depending on your “base”, swim at one of the kid-friendly beaches of the area and in the afternoon drive to the authentic villages up the Mount Taygetus to appreciate the views and sense Mani’s uniqueness. Let your imagination depict the everyday lives of the “Captains” (“kapetanios” in Greek) of the Greek War of Independence, unfold their stories that are well-kept in the inimitable Maniot towers, take your time to comprehend their dual use, as tools of

warfare and as residences, as well as their “ability” to narrate the evolution of the Maniot society and its distinct family bonds.

Alternatively, drive to Elafonisos, which is surrounded by the most beautiful turquoise seas and has some of the finest and longest sandy beaches in Greece, Simos beach.

Day 9: Swimming, Farming & Cooking



Enjoy your last day in Mani on your favorite beach. In the afternoon, take part in a farming and cooking experience and explore rustic life and the rich cultural heritage of the area in an eco- farm. Visit the crops, the animal farm and the vegie garden; pick fresh fruit and vegetables, feed the animals and marvel at the unique treehouses, built from all-natural materials. Then, a local cook will unravel the secrets of the Greek cuisine. After the meal, kids have the opportunity to attend a pottery workshop and take their creations with them when they leave. Alternatively, enjoy your dinner by the water at an authentic fish restaurant.

What is included:

- Farewell dinner

Optional:

- Farming & cooking class
- Pottery workshop for kids

Day 10: Departure & Kalamata



Departure with a stop in the Messenian capital, Kalamata, which is famous for its olives and olive oil. It is also, probably, the most beautiful city of the Peloponnese, with interesting museums and an authentic historic center around its Castle, that you can explore with a food tour. Cherish your day in its beautiful beach and walk in the old railway station, which operates as an open-air railway museum with old wagons, ideal for children to discover and play.

Optional:

- 4-hour Kalamata walking food tour

Accommodation options:

This family package includes accommodation in:

- Studios, apartments & family suites in hotel with breakfast
- Self-catering studios & apartments



Possibility for an upgrade to:

- Luxury private villa
- Detached house in a complex with shared pool
- Detached house in a complex without pool





Additional Services (upon request)

- Grocery delivery
- Chef or catering services
- Creative activities for children & baby-sitting led by a pedagogue
- Private cinema in your villa or in an olive-grove
- Live music/ private party with a DJ
- Private concert/ performance in an olive-grove
- Photo shooting
- Private transfers

Terms & Conditions

Upon filling the request form, the customer receives a personalized draft proposal, including an indicative day-by-day program and an indicative description of the accommodations, the tours, the activities and the services. This draft proposal serves as the basis of the customer's travel plan.

If the customer wishes to continue, a deposit of 250 euros +VAT 24% (310 euros) is required, which is part of the cost of the trip, in order for the travel advisor to adjust the plan according to customer's wishes. The final cost is determined by the final travel plan that includes all the activities and extra services that the customer will select until the start of the trip.

When the customer is absolutely satisfied with the travel plan, he/she proceeds to booking paying a 50% deposit of the remaining amount. The remaining 50% is settled 7 days before the start of the trip. In case the customer does not proceed to booking, the initial deposit of 250 euros +VAT 24% is non-refundable, as it is considered to be the consulting fee paid to the travel expert and advisor for sharing all his/her knowledge and information. On a detailed account, you are recommended to read the terms [here](#).

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Our cancellation policy applies as follows:

- More than 22 days prior to the starting date of the trip booked: Full refund, excluding the consulting fee and credit card fees
- 8-21 days prior to the starting date of the trip booked: 50% refund, excluding credit card fees
- 0-7 days prior to the starting date of the trip booked: no refund
- No show: No refund
- In the event that MAMAKITA needs to cancel a booking, the respective payment will be fully refunded.
- Refunds will be returned within 30 days of the cancellation date.

Read also our [Privacy Policy](#)

About MAMAKITA

MAMAKITA Family Friendly Greece is an online travel agency specialized in family travel and custom family vacation itinerary planning in Greece.

Our mission is to provide families travelling with kids to Greece with premium and personalized family travel consulting services based on first-hand experience, to create custom-tailored travel itineraries and private family & kid-friendly activities and experiences that will make each and every one of the family happy.

Whether you are an adventure-seeker, or you prefer to live your family vacation at a slow pace; whether you opt for outdoor activities and hiking with kids or you have a special interest in Culture, History or Arts; whether you like agritourism, wine tourism, farming, tasting the local produce or Ecotourism and the exploration of Greece's wild life, we, the MAMAKITA travel designers have travelled across Greece, traced the ideal family destinations for every taste and built a network of top service providers with whom we share the vision to create every family's "Grecious" travel story.

Family & kids friendly travel planner in Greece

- Personalized planning based on first-hand experience
- Custom itineraries for vacations with kids in Greece
- Privately guided tours and services for families
- Things to do, hands-on family and kids' friendly experiences
- Family friendly accommodation

Why Greece is the ideal destination for your family vacation? Learn more [here](#)