



DIVE IN HISTORY

UNDERWATER CULTURAL ROUTES IN GREECE AND ITALY

2018 
EUROPEAN YEAR
OF CULTURAL
HERITAGE
#EuropeForCulture

J O I N U S T O U N C O V E R T H E P A S T



Ancient trail of Peristera, Greece

IN COLLABORATION WITH:



Co - funded by the EMFF programme of the European Union



Ancient trail of Peristera, Greece



Ancient trail of San Pietro, Italy

THE EPHORATE OF UNDERWATER ANTIQUITIES IN GREECE

is a Special Regional Service of the Ministry of Culture and Sports, with competence throughout the Greek Territory. Founded in 1976, its mission is to protect the marine antiquities, consisting of ancient shipwrecks, settlements or ancient port facilities located within the seas, lakes and rivers.

In detail, the Ephorate has the following activities: research of ancient antiquities and care for them, maintenance of ancient alliances, organization of museums of ancient artifacts, supervision of the work of institutes of alternative activities, promote the process of declaring marine archaeological sites and the establishment and operation of these sites.

The Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities could support in the future the UCRCA project, which aims at developing and promoting the 'Underwater Cultural Route in Classical Antiquity' the new tourism product, with the involvement and close cooperation of partners, experts in their fields. Recently divers archaeologists from Japan (Osaka & Okinawa) visited the 2 famous shipwrecks of Methoni and admired the uniqueness of the shipwrecks and the underwater environmental area.

This complements the effort to create in the best way the first Underwater Accessible Archaeological Site in Greece, in accordance with the BlueMed project and the Ano Magniton Nisi project, which are both based on the sustainable development of the natural and cultural environment, and they consist long term try.

In that end, this effort is an outstanding example of the cooperation among Greece and Italy, which can lead to a sustainable development of the maritime environment.

Dr. Angeliki G. Simosi

Director of the Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities

THE ISTITUTO SUPERIORE PER LA CONSERVAZIONE E IL RESTAURO (ISCR),

a public institution of the Italian Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities and for the Tourism (MiBACT), has been involved for several years in the safeguarding of the national Underwater Cultural and Archaeological Heritage.

Its activities range from the setup of innovative methodologies, products and techniques for the documentation and the restoration of the underwater artifact and sites, to the management of important *in situ* restoration campaigns to protect and promote the conservation of the Italian and international underwater cultural sites.

The *in situ* conservation of such peculiar heritage is the first option, according to the UNESCO Convention signed in Paris in 2001, and the concurrent setup of thematic itineraries and proper didactic media gives these places the status of real underwater museums, enjoyable under the naturalistic, cultural and leisure point of view.

MiBACT ISCR is a proud partner of UCRCA project, a European Union initiative aimed at conserving both Italian and Greek underwater archaeological sites while promoting responsible cultural tourism activities.

In the selected sites, shipwrecks from the classical period lie on the seabed, testifying the ancient trading routes linking the two Countries. In our belief, the close cultural link that ties together Italy and Greece since ages, deserves to be furthermore enhanced through a joint sustainable and responsible touristic policy, whose starting point is the Dive in History touristic proposal.

Dr. Barbara Davide

Director of the Underwater Archaeology Operations Unit (NIAS)

WHO WE ARE

We are a consortium of public institutions and private companies from Greece and Italy. With the cooperation of the European Committee, through the EU project "Underwater Cultural Route in Classical Antiquity", we have created for you an innovative touristic cultural product, named "Dive In History", involving both our countries to link together our common underwater archaeological heritage and our shared cultural values.



- **MAZI TRAVEL** is a Greek tour operator since 28 years, specialized in cultural and leisure travel destinations both for individuals and groups.
- **ATLANTIS CONSULTING** is a Greek business consulting company experienced in the development of sustainable tourism products.
- **MIBACT - ISCR (Ministero Dei Beni Delle Attività Culturali e Del Turismo – Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione e il Restauro)**, is the Italian public Institution in charge of the setup of all conservation and restoration methods, with a special unit dedicated to Underwater Archaeology.
- **UNICAL (University of Calabria)** is an Italian University active in the field of underwater research. It has developed promising technologies for the survey and safeguarding of the underwater heritage.
- **ITINERA S.r.l** is an Italian restoration company, specialized in research activities, excavation, recovery and conservation of the archaeological heritage, both on the ground and in underwater environment.

WHAT YOU WILL FIND in this BROCHURE

In this brochure you will find all the details of this new visitor's experience. It suits not only **enthusiastic scuba divers**, but also **free divers**, **snorkelers** and **divers to be**. It is also addressed to visitors who just love history and would enjoy a unique experience in the world of **Classical Antiquity**, in **Greece or Italy**, or a combination of the two countries as well. **Kids, teens** and **sea lovers with special needs** are the most welcome to this experience!

Get ready to travel back in time and dive into the Mediterranean waters, unraveling their ancient history! Visit ancient shipwrecks in Greece and Italy, a must for scuba divers and history lovers.



Ancient trail of Peristera, Greece

VISIT ANCIENT SHIPWRECKS IN GREECE AND ITALY

A MUST FOR SCUBA DIVERS AND HISTORY LOVERS

We have chosen for you four destinations, where significant shipwrecks from the classical period are located. Easy to reach, enjoyable by scuba divers, free divers, snorkelers and simple sea lovers. They offer uncontaminated environments and excellent accommodation solutions. This is the best choice for your holidays!

1. Alonissos island | Greece

Alonissos island, a stopover on the sea routes from Northern to Southern Aegean since the 9th millennium BC, is one of the most remote islands of the Sporades complex. Its unharmed beauty, its watercolor-like landscapes and crystal waters, protected by the Alonissos National Marine Park, provide unmissable opportunities to get away and dive into the boundless blue of the Aegean Sea.

2. Methoni | Greece

Methoni, a small fishing and farming village, is a quiet resort on a cape south of Pylos-Navarino and its renowned, enchanting bay. This peaceful place delighted its visitors ever since: it was one of the seven towns Agamemnon offered to Achilles to appease his anger during the Troy siege. This village's atmosphere is still inebriating, with long beaches backed by olive groves and vineyards, and the famous Venetian fortress.

3. San Pietro in Bevagna | Italy

The small town of San Pietro in Bevagna, located in the Salento peninsula, was a mandatory stopover in the Otranto-Leuca-Taranto sea route, and the archaeological remains well testify the trade activities that took place in this area.

Today, San Pietro is a renowned summer destination, with its golden beaches, crystal-clear seawater and shallow sea beds, ideal for children and swimming beginners, close to the well-known

'Porto Cesareo' Marine Protected Area.

4. Crotona | Italy

Crotona is located on the Ionian shore of the region that the Romans called Lucania and Bruttii. Founded by the Achaeans (Greek settlers) in the 8th century B.C., Crotona was one of the most important centres of Magna Graecia due to its strategic position on the Ionian Sea. Its charm crossed the centuries and made this city a jewel of nature and history in the Mediterranean basin.



SCUBA DIVING

While diving one needs to keep in mind that every site is different from the other. Thus all diving instructors are highly trained professionals who know the diving areas. It is highly important to know about diving equipment. The first thing you need is a dive mask which allows you to see under the water by creating an air space in front of your eyes. Additionally you need diving fins, snorkels, a scuba unit and an exposure protection.

Ancient trail of Peristera, Greece

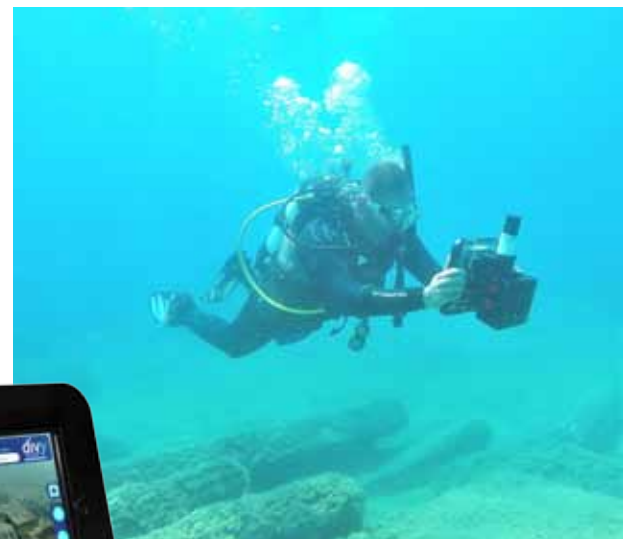
WE HAVE DEVELOPED NEW UNDERWATER RESTORATION METHODS

Thanks to MiBACT-ISCR & UNICAL, the Italian underwater archaeological sites recently benefited of new electrical cleaning tools working in underwater environment and of new consolidation technologies.

DIVING with NEW TECHNOLOGIES in CROTONE:

A Virtual Reality system allows non-diver tourists to live a virtual dive experience and learn both general information and historical-cultural contents related to the wrecks and the surrounding seabed. Users can explore the 3D reconstruction of the underwater site and can receive information and contents about the submerged exhibits and structures of the underwater site. An Augmented Diving system allows divers to have a virtual guide of the underwater archaeological site. It is based on a tablet properly equipped with a waterproof case and an integrated system for acoustic localization and inertial navigation. The tablet guides the diver along the selected track, it shows a 3D map representing the environment around the diver, it provides useful information about underwater artifacts and structures. The diver can also change the view mode or open the camera device to shoot a photo. Photos are automatically geo-referenced and can be uploaded to the most common social platforms where people can share the most exciting moments of the dive.

Ancient trail of Punta Scifo D, Italy



An Augmented Diving system allows divers to have a virtual guide of the underwater archaeological site.

COMBINE UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL ROUTES WITH POPULAR TOURIST DESTINATIONS

Four are the destinations no one should miss. San Pietro in Bevagna, Crotona, Alonissos and Methoni can offer you the excitement you are craving for, or the relaxation you need! These places combine everything you could possibly wish when looking for a place to visit during your holidays. While seeing the uncanny beauty of those areas, you will be given the possibility to dive in places of significant importance during the Classical Antiquity.

HOLIDAY PACKAGES FOR EVERY TASTE

FOR SCUBA DIVING ENTHUSIASTS:

Get ready to travel back in time and dive into the Greek and Italian deep blue. You can choose among special diving packages with several dives per day, while exploring ancient shipwrecks. In those areas, the cargos of ancient ships, sunken during tough storms, are lying at the bottom of the sea waiting for you to discover them. Additionally, you will be given the opportunity to dive through submarine gorges, cliffs and reefs, an extraordinary experience you will never forget.

FOR DIVERS TO BE AND FAMILIES:

For those who never experience diving before now it's time to try! In San Pietro, Crotona, Alonissos and Methoni, there are clear waters and shallow seabed areas, ideal for beginners. You can try the magic experience of diving at the continuous guidance and presence of professional instructors. There is the possibility of diving from a boat, or directly from the coastline. You will receive a diver certificate once you finish your lessons!

FOR SNORKELERS AND FREE DIVERS:

If you wish to enjoy the sea and discover the underwater secrets, you will have the opportunity to explore the shipwrecks just wearing your diving mask and snorkel. You do not need to wear any diving equipment, as many of the underwater sites you will visit are in shallow waters. Impressive routes for free divers and snorkelers will take you to the countless caves and underwater cliffs, to enjoy the colorful Mediterranean marine life.

FOR NON-DIVERS:

Put on your life vest and take part in water sports, sailing or water skiing! A wide variety of activities is also available, such as visiting the national water parks to admire the protected flora and fauna species, or cruising around the islands and the beautiful coastlines, enjoying the unique landscapes and swimming at the most exclusive spots in a magic atmosphere far away from the crowd.

FOR KIDS, TEENS & SCHOOLS:

There is an adventure world calling to give you the best holidays of your life!!!! For the teenagers there is the possibility to qualify and receive the "Junior Diver" certificate. Everyone will find the perfect activity to have fun while exploring the underwater marvels!

FOR SEA LOVERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

For history lovers with special needs wishing to discover the underwater marine life and explore wrecks from the Classical period in a completely safe and comfortable way, we offer enchanting dives that will fill them with joy and anticipation for the next one. All dives will take place at the continuous presence and assistance of suitably trained professional instructors.

COMBINED PACKAGES

COMBINE TWO DESTINATIONS IN TWO COUNTRIES ON A 7-DAYS TRIP – COMBINE THE FOUR DESTINATIONS IN A 14-DAYS TRIP

GREECE : ALONISSOS | SPORADES

THE DESTINATION ALONISSOS: THE UNTOUCHED BEAUTY

The complex of **Sporades** Islands is located in the northern Aegean Sea, and Alonissos is one of the most far away of its islands. Easily reachable by boat from Thessaloniki, Skiathos and Volos, it has the clearest waters, countless beaches with gold sand and lush vegetation. The feeling of pure and authentic is shocking. Underneath the sea surface there is a whole other world waiting for you, dressed with fabulous colours, plants, animals and secrets to be discovered. Here you will have the chance to go back in time exploring the biggest cargo ship form classical times ever found, still lying on the seabed. Additionally, you can visit Steni Vala, a quiet fishing village that for many decades has been the favourite destination of nature lovers in search of a relaxing holiday. It is located in a natural retreat for boats protected from the winds. From Steni Vala you can reach Peristera, Kyra Panagia and several deserted islets surrounding Alonissos. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to visit the National Marine Park and meet the famous and protected *monachus* - *monachus* seal.



TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:

The shipwreck contains more than **four thousand amphorae** and other artifacts that created a 25 m long, 10 m wide and 3m high mound.

The ship was probably an Athenian cargo ship, that sank at a depth of about 30 meters around 425 – 415 B.C. The wine amphorae were transported from Mendi of Chalkidiki and Peparithos, today's Skopelos.

The ship weighed more than 11 tons, which reveals, contrary to previous beliefs, that Greeks were extremely capable in shipbuilding, even of such size.

DISCOVER THE ANCIENT TRAIL OF PERISTERA:

Only 1,5 miles away from Alonissos island, heading east, is the barren island of Peristera, and its protected sea stretch that always provided a safe shelter from heavy windstorms and rough sea for the passing ships.

In 1985, the Greek fisherman Dimitris Mavrikis discovered the large "Classical shipwreck" near Peristera. The wreck was partially excavated in 1992-93 and 1999 by the Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities – under the direction of the diving archaeologist Dr. Elpida Hadjidaki.



ACCOMMODATION

A wide range of accommodation means is available in the whole area, in order to satisfy all kind of needs, with 2*,3*,4*,5* hotels located by the beach. There are hotel chains, boutique hotels, guest houses, studios and camping facilities.

EXPLORE UNTAPPED MEDITERRANEAN FLAVOURS

Greek cuisine does not need recommendations, and in Alonissos there are many local products and traditional dishes not to be missed, for instance the local tuna fish. All the Sporades are famous for their cheese pies, filled with the typical goat cheese produced locally, a real food excellence.

Here you can also taste the delicious pork cooked with local plums that together with the goat cheese, olive oil, and goat meat is famous all over Greece.

NIGHTLIFE

Sporades offer an infinite choice of bars, clubs restaurants and Greek traditional taverns to choose from. There is no specific entertainment district, but in August, the visitor could attend many events with traditional music and folklore festivals. The most intense nights take place at Skiathos island.

THINGS TO DO

- Dive to the ancient wrecks, discover classical archaeology.
- Dive into mysterious sea caves and along reefs full of marine life.
- Experience snorkeling in crystal clear waters of the Aegean Sea.
- Rent a boat and make cruises around the Sporades islands.
- Visit the National Marine Park and meet the monk seals.
- Enjoy swimming and water sports in the countless beaches.
- Make endless walks along cobbled streets of the villages, admiring the handmade products.
- Attend local events and folklore festivals.
- Party until dawn.

EXTEND YOUR TRIP

Skiathos island, a cosmopolitan destination with a vivid night life.

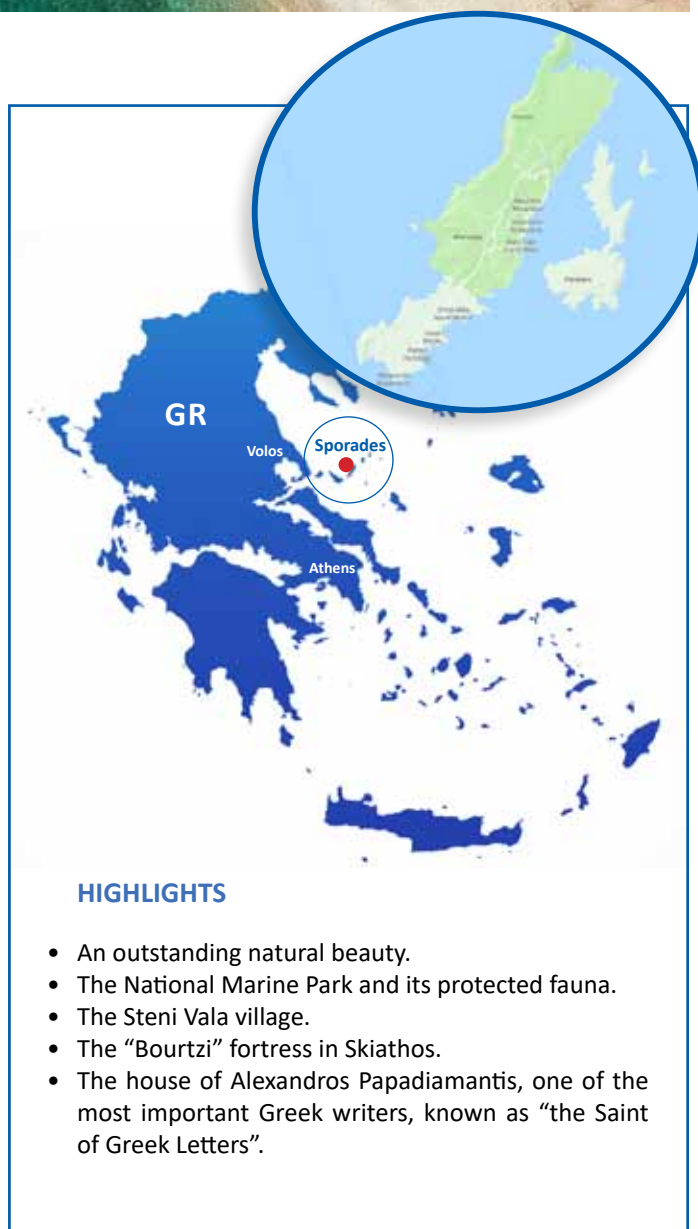
Skopelos island, a destination for calm and exclusive holidays.

Combine Skiathos and Skopelos islands to enjoy all the magic of Sporades.

Volos-Pelion, the legendary home of the Centaurus, an infefable natural beauty destination.

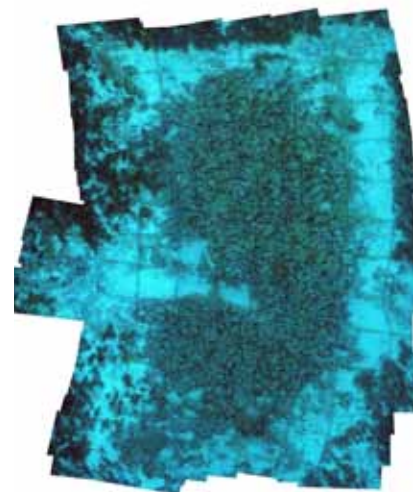
Thessaloniki, the second major city of Greece. Don't miss a tour to the archaeological site of Vergina and its Macedonian necropolis.

Athens, the capital of Greece, its world-famous Acropolis archaeological site and the New Acropolis Museum.



HIGHLIGHTS

- An outstanding natural beauty.
- The National Marine Park and its protected fauna.
- The Steni Vala village.
- The "Bourtzi" fortress in Skiathos.
- The house of Alexandros Papadiamantis, one of the most important Greek writers, known as "the Saint of Greek Letters".



FOR SCUBA DIVING ENTHUSIASTS

Highlights: Alonissos is a new scuba diving location in Greece according to the recent lift of government restrictions. The greatest advantage of this Greek island is that the whole area has been declared a National Marine Park since 1992.

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Alonissos

Briefing with our tour operator partner in the arrival hall of the port, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the island can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel.

> DAY 2 | Diving in Peristera

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the diving area. Off the north - eastern coasts of modern Alonissos, there are six deserted islets, ideal destinations for every kind of diving experience.

Our program contains 2 dives (morning and afternoon) at the underwater archaeological site of the Classical Shipwreck near Peristera. Lunch is provided on board or at a traditional village with local delicacies prepared according to your liking. We recommend optional diving at night in the clear waters of Peristera. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Explore caves

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel towards a diving area with two enchanting caves, where you can see white sea breams, golden groupers, damselfishes, dusky groupers, octopuses, dolphins. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the port for the departure.

Your package includes:

► 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast ► Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor

Your package excludes:

► International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals ► Optional excursions and visits.

FOR SNORKELERS AND FREE DIVERS

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Alonissos

The first day in Alonissos is the same in all three programs.

> DAY 2 | Diving in blue cave north Ag. Dimitrios (boat dive).

After breakfast an experienced guide will take you to the diving area.

The wild and rocky coastline of Alonissos island is gifted with many small and amazing caves with deep and blue waters that impress every visitor. The most famous among them is the Blue Cave, located on the north-eastern side of Alonissos, between the remote beaches of Strovili and Lalaria, a few km north of Agios Dimitrios village. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Explore caves

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel to boat for diving at a cave where you can see White Seabream, Golden Grouper, Damselfish, Dusky Grouper, Octopus, Dolphins. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the port for the departure.

Your package includes:

► 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
► Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

► International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals
► Optional excursions and visits.





FOR DIVERS TO BE AND FAMILIES

Highlights: The 'Open Water Diver' certificate can be achieved by over 13 years-old participants having already attended the eLearning Scuba Experience Course (available for free after the package booking) through the participation to the 4 diving lessons in the sea presented below.

> DAY 1 | Preparation

Briefing with our tour operator partner in the arrival hall of the port, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the area can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel. In the afternoon, an optional scuba diving lesson in the pool is available, before starting with the DAY 2 activities.

> DAY 2 | First diving lesson

After breakfast, an experienced instructor will provide you with all the necessary equipment and the basic information for a couple of hours, in a pool area. The first open water lesson, in the morning, will take place in a safe and protected bay of the island, 0 - 5 meters deep, with a reef where more than 30 different marine species have been identified among the formations created by the rocks. Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies, according to preferences.

In the afternoon, the second lesson will take place in a similar bay of the Island, with the same safety requirements. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Explore the caves or cruising at the 3 islands.

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel. For those who enjoyed the first scuba lessons, they can continue with a trained instructor, diving in safe and calm waters to explore the rich seabed during the other two diving lessons needed for the Open Water Certificate. For the accompanying people not interested in diving, a cruise along Sporades Islands and an enchanting swimming experience in the clear waters around the caves, in wild beauty, is available. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the port for the departure.

Your package includes:

- 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance
- Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- International flights
- Personal expenses
- Optional meals
- Optional excursions and visits.

FOR KIDS, TEENS & SCHOOLS

Highlights: Highlights: The **Sea Baptism** is an experience available from 10 to 99 years old participants and no pre-training is required. An experienced instructor, during the sea fare, will brief you about the diving basics, in order to provide your first underwater experience with all the needed comfort, safety and fun, and will accompany you in your first dive. The diving site will be maximum 5 meters deep.

The **'Bubblemaker' experience** is available for children over 8 years-old, and is carried on in a pool or in a sea water environment maximum 2 meters deep. The experience lasts 1 hour and no pre-training is required. The **'Junior Open Water Diver'** certificate can be achieved by over 13 years-old participants having already attended the eLearning Scuba Experience Course (available for free after the package booking) through the participation to the 4 diving lessons in the sea presented below. Special rates are dedicated to school groups of minimum 15 participants.

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

FOR SEA LOVERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Highlights: Easily combined with the 'SNORKELERS AND FREE DIVERS' package for the accompanying people.

An experienced instructor will be dedicated for each of our special divers, to ensure their maximum safety, comfort and fun.

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

FOR NON-DIVERS

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

GREECE: METHONI | PELOPONNESE

THE DESTINATION METHONI: THE UNTOUCHED BEAUTY

Methoni is a coastal town located in the Southwestern promontory of Peloponnese. Close to Sapienza island, it is placed on the important maritime route that ever since connected the Italian Peninsula and the Middle East. Due to its protected bay and its strategic location, Methoni became one of the most important markets in the Eastern Mediterranean during the Byzantine period (Middle Age) and under the Venetian Marine Republic rule.

Near Methoni, there is the town of Pylos, also known as Navarino, in whose amazing bay lies the modern wreck of the oil tanker "IRENES SERENADE" (1980), already declared as Underwater Archaeological Park Open to Visitors.

Additionally, in 425 BC, the naval Battle of Pylos took place in the Navarino Bay, leaving behind great historical evidences from the Classical Age.



DISCOVER THE ANCIENT TRAIL OF SAPIENZA:

The sarcophagi shipwreck is located at the northern end of Sapienza island, in an area of significant ecological interest and declared as a protected site within the NATURA 2000 network.

Under these waters, you can find many shipwrecks, still lying on the seabed with their loads. You will be able to explore the remains of ancient trade routes dating to the Roman, Byzantine and Medieval periods. At the end of 1970, the Greek Ephorate of Underwater Archaeology conducted a systematic archaeological research.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:

The "Shipwreck of the sarcophagi" dates to the Roman period. The ship was carrying several sarcophagi carved in marble stone, and their covers. Its cargo lies approximately at 15 meters depth, and allows to date the ship back to the 3rd century AD. All the sarcophagi were intact, except one, which probably got broken when the ship sunk. Their measure is approximately 2.20 x 0,80 meters, and their simple decoration contains floral motifs, boukranions, etc.

The covers are carved in the usual roof-shaped style decorated with antefissae at the four corners.

The Greek Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities protects this archaeological site and aims to make it a Underwater Archaeological Park Open to Visitors.



HIGHLIGHTS

- The Methoni Fortress, the guardian of the Venetian seaways from marauding pirates, with many spooky chambers.
- The Koroni castle, with impressive fortifications which existed since the 7th century AD. Inside there is the church of Agia Sofia.
- The Saint Charalambos Church, a single-aisled building with wooden roof, originally dedicated to Saint Rocco.
- Sapienza, one of Oinousses islands, the perfect destination for divers, with many shipwrecks to discover.
- Sxiza, the biggest of the Oinousses islands, where there is the "black hole", a wonderful cave with stalagmites and stalactites.

ACCOMMODATION

There is a wide range of accommodation in the entire area, able to satisfy all kind of needs and all tastes. There are 2*,3*,4*,5* and chain hotels, boutique hotels, guest houses, camping facilities.

EXPLORE UNTAPPED MEDITERRANEAN FLAVOURS (LOCAL CUISINE)

In Methoni, as in the whole Peloponnese area, the visitor can find the most authentic Greek traditional cuisine.

In this area, the local farmers produce food excellences like olives, olive oil, grapes, currants, figs and oranges. Unmissable local dishes are the boiled goat, the roasted piglet and the fried haddock in garlic sauce. Another local delicacy is the sausage smoked in sage, a must if combined with a good wine from the local vineyards. Additionally, you can taste the typical dessert called "diples", a deep fried pastry with honey and cinnamon.

NIGHTLIFE

Methoni offers a variety of bars, clubs restaurants and Greek traditional taverns. There is no specific entertainment district. All year long the visitors can attend many events with traditional music and folklore festivals. During summer time, it's possible to attend drama plays at the Epidauros ancient theatre.

THINGS TO DO

- Dive at Sapienza wreck to admire the sarcophagi lying at the bottom of the sea.
- Dive at Sxiza where the deepest point of the Mediterranean Sea is situated, known as the "moat".
- Enjoy swimming and water activities throughout the area of Messini.
- Experience snorkeling in the Ionian Sea.
- Visit the big Lighthouse at Sapienza, constructed by the Englishmen in 1885.
- Visit the "black hole" cave, which is decorated with stalagmites and stalactites.
- Walk around the "Eyes of the Serene Republic" the twin Fortresses of Koroni and Methoni, with the underground passages.
- Enjoy walking along the cobbled streets of the villages and admire the handmade products.

EXTEND YOUR TRIP

Nafplio, one of the most beautiful places around Argolis, the most romantic city all over Greece.

Epidauros, the location of the famous ancient theatre, where you can attend a drama play.

Olympia, the place where the Olympic games were born.

Galaxidi, a small port situated on a natural double harbor surrounded by mountains.

Delphi, recognized by UNESCO, as a World Heritage Site, for its phenomenal influence in the Ancient World.

Athens, the capital of Greece, its world-famous Acropolis archaeological site and the New Acropolis Museum



FOR SCUBA DIVING ENTHUSIASTS

Highlights: Methoni is a small fishing and farming village, a quiet resort on a cape south of Pylos-Navarino and its renowned, enchanting bay. This peaceful place delighted its visitors ever since. This village's atmosphere is still inebriating, with long beaches backed by olive groves and vineyards and the famous Venetian fortress. Modern Methoni is made of two towns: a low-key settlement huddled on the beach beneath the fortress, and, just above, an animated old town on the crest of a rise - a laidback, pleasant place to rest for a day or two.

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Methoni

Briefing with our tour operator partner in the arrival hall of the airport, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the town can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel.

> DAY 2 | Diving in Pylos

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the diving area, where you can admire "The sarcophagi shipwreck" using the proper equipment. In addition to underwater archaeology, divers will be able to enjoy the marine life of the Mediterranean. Underwater caves and reefs home to grouper and sea turtles can all be found within the parks, while dolphins are a common sight in Pylos Bay. Our program contains 2 dives (morning and afternoon) at the underwater archaeological site. Lunch on board or in a traditional Greek village with local delicacies according to your preferences. We recommend optional diving at night in the clear waters of Pylos. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Diving in Methoni

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel for diving around Methoni, where you can see The 'shipwreck of columns' lying on the seabed, close to Cape Spitha. The columns are scattered in an area of 30 m² and are 10 m away from the edge of the Cape. Parts of the columns are aligned in the seabed, while other parts are scattered in a wider area around. Around 1920 local fishermen located archaeological finds, lying on the seabed close to the northern cape of Sapienza (Cape Karsi), opposite the village of Methoni. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

- ▶ 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- ▶ Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ▶ Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- ▶ International flights ▶ Personal expenses ▶ Optional meals ▶ Optional excursions and visits.

FOR SNORKELERS AND FREE DIVERS

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Methoni

The first day in Methoni is the same in all three programs.

> DAY 2 | Diving in Sapienza

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the diving area. A great shipwreck located in the northwest of the island, is the so-called **Sarcophagi shipwreck** (Roman sarcophagi made out of sculpted titanium stone). The shipwrecks around Sapienza are so numerous and important that the creation of an underwater archaeological park is under evaluation. Here, underwater exploration is a unique experience. However, in southern part of the island, and southeast of the islands called "The two brothers", the so-called Oinousses Gorge, an underwater abyss, is existing and diving should be avoided in any case. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Explore caves

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel to dive in a cave where you can see white sea bream, golden grouper, damselfish, dusky grouper, octopus, dolphins. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

- ▶ 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast ▶ Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ▶ Diving instructor.

Your package excludes:

- ▶ International flights ▶ Personal expenses ▶ Optional meals ▶ Optional excursions and visits.





FOR DIVERS TO BE AND FAMILIES

Highlights: The 'Open Water Diver' certificate can be achieved by over 13 years-old participants having already attended the eLearning Scuba Experience Course (available for free after the package booking) through the participation to the 4 diving lessons in the sea presented below.

> DAY 1 | Preparation

Briefing with our tour operator partner in the arrival hall of the port, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the area can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel. In the afternoon, an optional scuba diving lesson in the pool is available, before starting with the DAY 2 activities.

> DAY 2 | First diving lesson

After breakfast, an experienced instructor will provide you with all the necessary equipment and the basic information for a couple of hours, in a pool area. The first open water lesson, in the morning, will take place in a safe and protected bay of the island, 0 - 5 meters deep, with a reef where more than 30 different marine species have been identified among the formations created by the rocks. Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies, according to preferences. In the afternoon, the second lesson will take place in a similar bay of the Island, with the same safety requirements. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Explore caves or cruise at 3 islands.

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel. For those who enjoyed the first scuba lessons, they can continue with a trained instructor, diving in safe and calm waters to explore the rich seabed during the other two diving lessons needed for the Open Water Certificate. For the accompanying people not interested in diving, a cruise around the area of Messinian Oinousses, an enchanting swimming experience in the clear waters around the caves, in wild beauty, is available. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

► 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
► Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

► International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals ► Optional excursions and visits.

FOR KIDS, TEENS & SCHOOLS

Highlights: Highlights: The **Sea Baptism** is an experience available from 10 to 99 years old participants and no pre-training is required. An experienced instructor, during the sea fare, will brief you about the diving basics, in order to provide your first underwater experience with all the needed comfort, safety and fun, and will accompany you in your first dive. The diving site will be maximum 5 meters deep.

The '**Bubblemaker**' experience is available for children over 8 years-old, and is carried on in a pool or in a sea water environment maximum 2 meters deep. The experience lasts 1 hour and no pre-training is required. The '**Junior Open Water Diver**' certificate can be achieved by over 13 years-old participants having already attended the eLearning Scuba Experience Course (available for free after the package booking) through the participation to the 4 diving lessons in the sea presented below. Special rates are dedicated to school groups of minimum 15 participants.

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

FOR SEA LOVERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Highlights: Easily combined with the 'SNORKELERS AND FREE DIVERS' package for the accompanying people.

An experienced instructor will be dedicated for each of our special divers, to ensure their maximum safety, comfort and fun.

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

FOR NON-DIVERS

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

ITALY: SAN PIETRO IN BEVAGNA

THE DESTINATION SAN PIETRO: THE UNTOUCHED BEAUTY

The small town of San Pietro in Bevagna is located between the rivers Chidro and Bor-raco, in the Salento peninsula. San Pietro was a mandatory stop in the Otranto-Leuca-Taranto sea route, and the archaeological remains well testify the trade activities that took place in this area. At the beginning of XX century, rumors of the existence of some sarcophagi, belonging to a shipwreck found not far from the shoreline of San Pietro, had been reported by local scholars, that called them "Le vasche del re" - "King's tanks".

The seaside here is made out of never-ending beaches with golden sand and, the Ionian Sea is well known for its clearness and uncontaminated waters.

Easy reachable by car or by coach, coming from northern Italy, or by train. Nearby, the International Airport of Brindisi- Casale operates scheduled and charter flights from and to many European airports. Not very far, there is also the International Airport of Bari.



DISCOVER THE ANCIENT TRAIL OF SAN PIETRO:

Following the rumors of the existence of a shipwreck, in 1964 Peter Throckmorton, an American journalist and a pioneer underwater archaeologist, conducted a survey that succeeded in finding the correct location of the sarcophagi and in its mapping.

Although no wooden parts of the planking have so far been found, the cargo ship is generally supposed to have been 20-22 meters long with a beam of 5-6 meters. Probably the sarcophagi were initially addressed to Rome. The artifacts look partially worked from monolithic blocks. As well known, the bathtub type is common in Rome from the mid-2nd century AD, depicting scenes linked to the Dionysian myth or bearing spiral fluting along its sides. The proposed date for the shipwreck is around the first half of the 3rd century AD, according to the type of sarcophagi and the characteristics of the pottery found on the seabed, as well as to the comparison with a contemporary wreck in Methoni (Greece).

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:

The site of the sarcophagi from the shipwreck of San Pietro in Bevagna (Taranto), III Century AD, is located approximately 100 m away from the shoreline and ca. 5 m deep, near the Chidro river mouth. It covers an area of ca. 150 square meters and contains twenty - two partially worked white marble sarcophagi of different shapes and sizes, each weighing between 1000 and 6000 kg.

ACCOMMODATION

In San Pietro in Bevagna there is a wide range of accommodations, for all tastes and every kind of holiday: a month, some weeks, a weekend or even just a short visit of the area, for couples, families, groups, young and elderly people, etc.

A large number of Bed & Breakfasts, Typical Farm Houses, Guest houses, Holiday Homes, Hotels, Campings and Resorts provide a complete frame where one can choose between luxury accommodations, nice hotels and apartments, or very accessible facilities.

EXPLORE UNTAPPED MEDITERRANEAN FLAVOURS

Along the centuries, the local agricultural tradition in Puglia gave birth to some unique products, universally recognized as organic 'slow food' excellences: olive oil, cheese, vegetables and cereals, bread, wine. Each year many people visit the area to discover the fabulous wine and cheese, and to taste the typi-



HIGHLIGHTS

- Dive to the shipwreck of San Pietro in Bevagna and admire the sarcophagi.
- Experience snorkeling in the Ionian Sea.
- Discover the countless treasures of archaeology.
- Enjoy swimming in the crystalline water.
- "Salina dei Monaci Beach", the Salina salt lake attracts flocks of Flamingos.
- Visit the Chidro River naturalistic protected area, important for biodiversity, where you can find many species.
- Enjoy Borraco Beach, a magic place where fresh water coming from the river melts with warm sea water.
- Visit the Manduria Archaeological Park and Museum, the best representative of the Messapians of ancient Puglia.
- Taste the renowned, excellent Primitivo wine, in the numerous wine bars and taverns where one can taste local delicacies.

cal "orecchiette" handmade pasta. Puglia's cuisine is deeply steeped in the region's agricultural traditions, some representative dishes have their origins in the "cucina povera", using only products available locally, often very simple but delicious. Freshness of the ingredients is all-important as is their provenance: durum wheat, tomatoes, artichokes, fava beans, courgettes, beans, fennel, peppers, onions, seafood and lambs.

NIGHTLIFE

The near city of Manduria, Taranto and Gallipoli offer an infinite choice of restaurants, bars and clubs and the opportunity to spend pleasant evenings along their city center streets, crowded with people and full of lights, open shops and street events. Many traditional folklore events are held in August, September and October.

THINGS TO DO

- Scuba diving, exploring the underwater ancient world.
- Enjoy swimming and water sports in the clear waters.
- Horse riding.
- Visit the Zoo Safari in Fasano.
- Play golf and Go Kart.
- Walk around the "Trulli of Alberobello", "Porto Cesareo" and "Oria Castle" places of cultural, historic and natural interest.
- Taste the renowned, excellent Primitivo wine, in the numerous wine bars and taverns where one can taste local delicacies.

EXTEND YOUR TRIP

Santa Caterina di Nardò is an ancient defensive outpost against the attacks of Saracens, as testified by the two towers of the sixteenth century.

Porto Cesareo is a renowned centre for fishing activities and for bathing. Very important is the Marine Protected Area of Porto Cesareo.

The Marine Protected area of Torre Guaceto has a very varied coastline; in particular, on the southern side of Torre Guaceto, the coast is linear and mainly consists of a clayey cliff.

Mesagne with its old town and the Castle. This precious noble palace with its façades embellished by the Renaissance loggia has a big corner tower, the walls, the internal courtyard and the square plan as signs of the original military function of the building.

Taranto has one of the greatest museums in Puglia: MARTA (The National Archaeological Museum of Taranto), where there are exceptional finds as the golden objects from the 4th-3rd century necropolis.

Grottaglie, very famous for the pottery arts and crafts. The area is very rich in clay and it is therefore a fertile ground for its flourishing pottery production.



FOR SCUBA DIVING ENTHUSIAST

Highlights: The small town of San Pietro in Bevagna is located between the rivers Chidro and Borraco, very close to the beautiful cities of Manduria, Porto Cesareo and Gallipoli. The underwater archaeological remains found in its seabed well testify the trade activities that took place in this area in ancient times. The extraordinary landscape and natural environment, along with the neverending beaches with golden sand and the crystalline water of the Ionian Sea, make the destination one of the most alluring. You shouldn't miss to taste the famous wine and food that makes this area famous all over the world.

> DAY 1 | Arrival in San Pietro in Bevagna

Briefing with our tour operator partner in the arrival hall of the airport, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional tour in Manduria, Porto Cesareo or Gallipoli can be offered late in the afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the hotel.

> DAY 2 | Scuba Diving in the "Aquarium" and the "Lobster's escarpment"

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the San Pietro diving area known as the "Aquarium", a paradise of clear water and sparkling marine life in a naturalistic protected area. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with the local delicacies according to your preferences.

In the afternoon, another scuba dive in a wonderfully colored and iridescent environment is available: the "Lobster's escarpment". Transfer to San Pietro in Bevagna. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Diving in the "Santa Caterina" and "Santa Maria al Bagno" caves

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel to the diving area of 'Santa

Caterina Caves' to explore the wreck of a Junkers Ju 88 fighting aircraft, fallen off the Santa Caterina coastline during World War II, lying perfectly preserved and straight on the sandy seabed. The aircraft is perfectly visible, due to the clearness of the sea water, and coloured by the marine flora and fauna that colonized its surfaces over the last seventy years.

Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. In the afternoon, the last scuba dive will be in the 'Santa Maria al Bagno' diving site, where further caves and untouched naturalistic scenarios just wait to be discovered together with the wreck of a III century AD ship carrying greek-italic amphorae, discovered in 1982. Recommended: night scuba dive in the crystalline water of the San Pietro in Bevagna Sarcophagi site (-6 metres depth). Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

- 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals ► Optional excursions and visits.

FOR SNORKELERS AND FREE DIVERS

> DAY 1 | Arrival in San Pietro in Bevagna

The first day in San Pietro is the same in all three programs.

> DAY 2 | First diving lessons – Sarcophagi site

After breakfast an experienced guide will take you for the first diving course, providing you with all the necessary equipment and the basic information.

The first lesson, in the morning will take place in a pool. In the afternoon, the second lesson will take place in a safe and protected bay of San Pietro, with depths ranging from 0 to 5 meters and with the beautiful underwater archaeological site of the sarcophagi. This experience open also to disable people, who will be accompanied in the exploration of the seabed. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Diving at Torre Ovo, Campomarino and Chidro River

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel to the Torre Ovo diving site "the Fossilized Forest", a mystery and fascinating geofomation only 6 meters deep, that can easily be enjoyed by scuba dive beginners. An optional second diving experience is available in the Torre Lapillo diving site known as "le Grotte", where a medieval ship wrecked and lies on the seabed. Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies accord-

ing to your preferences. In the afternoon, diving experience in the Chidro river, the second most important river of Salento. Legend has it that led the Apostle Peter in Rome made a stop for water supply and, in this very copious spring, probably Peter performed the first baptisms of Christians in Italy. In fact, the emergence of fresh water is still plentiful and allows spectacular diving due to its water clarity. Transfer to San Pietro in Bevagna. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

- 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals ► Optional excursions and visits.



FOR DIVERS TO BE AND FAMILIES

Highlights: The 'Open Water Diver' certificate can be achieved by over 13 years-old participants having already attended the eLearning Scuba Experience Course (available for free after the package booking) through the participation to the 4 diving lessons in the sea presented below.

> DAY 1 | Preparation

Briefing with our tour operator partner in the arrival hall of the airport, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional tour in Manduria, Porto Cesareo or Gallipoli can be offered late in the afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel. In the afternoon, an optional scuba diving lesson in the pool is also available, before starting with the DAY 2 activities.

> DAY 2 | Diving lessons at San Pietro bay and at the Sarcophagi wreck

After breakfast, an experienced instructor will provide you with all the necessary equipment and the basic information for a couple of hours, in a pool area. The first open water lesson, in the morning, will take place in the safe and protected bay of San Pietro, whose depth ranges from 0 to -5 meters. Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies, according to preferences.

In the afternoon, the second lesson will take place at the San Pietro underwater archaeological site of the sarcophagi, 100 meters off the shoreline, reachable with a small dinghy and only 5 meters deep. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Diving lessons at Torre Ovo and Campomarino

After breakfast, early departure from the hotel to the Torre Ovo diving site known as 'the Fossilized Forest', a mystery and fascinating geoformation only 6 meters deep, that can easily be enjoyed by scuba diving beginners.

Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies, according to preferences.

In the afternoon, the second diving lesson of the day is available at the archaeological site known as 'the Underwater Temple' near Campomarino di Maruggio, a diving site only 6 meters deep. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

► 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
► Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

► International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals ► Optional excursions and visits.



FOR KIDS, TEENS & SCHOOLS

Highlights: Highlights: The **Sea Baptism** is an experience available from 10 to 99 years old participants and no pre-training is required. An experienced instructor, during the sea fare, will brief you about the diving basics, in order to provide your first underwater experience with all the needed comfort, safety and fun, and will accompany you in your first dive. The diving site will be maximum 5 meters deep.

The '**Bubblemaker**' experience is available for children over 8 years-old, and is carried on in a pool or in a sea water environment maximum 2 meters deep. The experience lasts 1 hour and no pre-training is required. The '**Junior Open Water Diver**' certificate can be achieved by over 13 years-old participants having already attended the eLearning Scuba Experience Course (available for free after the package booking) through the participation to the 4 diving lessons in the sea presented below. Special rates are dedicated to school groups of minimum 15 participants.

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

FOR SEA LOVERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Highlights: Easily combined with the 'SNORKELERS AND FREE DIVERS' package for the accompanying people.

An experienced instructor will be dedicated for each of our special divers, to ensure their maximum safety, comfort and fun.

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

FOR NON-DIVERS

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

ITALY: CROTONE

THE DESTINATION CROTONE: THE UNTOUCHED BEAUTY

Crotone is located on the Ionian coastline of the region that the Romans called Lucania and Bruttii. Founded by Achaeans (Greek settlers) in the 8th century B.C., it was one of the most important centers of Ancient Greece due to its strategic position on the Ionian Sea, that still now makes the city a crucial point in the Mediterranean basin.

This city is the home of several factories and enterprises, mainly devoted to farming typical Mediterranean crops. Nowadays,

Crotone and its hinterland offers - still intact - extremely varied natural sea attractions, not far from the mountains and other natural landscapes of geological interest. Even, regarding sea attractions, quite famous are the seaside resorts within the MPA "Capo Rizzuto". Eight promontories edge this safe area, the first of which, Capo Colonna, hosts an important archaeological site, evidence of the Magna Graecia period. The city's prosperity is connected directly to its harbor, the only suitable natural basin on the route between Tarentum (Puglia) and the Strait of Messina (Sicily), and to the ever-growing number of tourists, attracted by the beauty of the natural marine area.



DISCOVER THE ANCIENT TRAIL OF PUNTA SCIFO D:

In the waters of the Marine Protected Area "Capo Rizzuto" it has been established an underwater itinerary devoted to one of the most interesting evidence of cultural heritage in Calabria. It is the shipwreck, called "Punto Scifo D", discovered in 1986 in the bay of Scifo (South of Crotone, Calabria – Italy), which in ancient time was an important commercial landing place, connecting Greece and Asia Minor to Italy, via the Ionian Sea. The shipwreck cargo is mainly composed by large blocks and slabs of white rough marble, along with some metallic artifacts and pottery. It was a Roman ship coming from the Marmara Island (Turkey) and its size was not less than 40 meters long and 14 meters wide. The archaeological remains of Punta Scifo D wreck lie at a depth of 6.5-7 meters, occupying an area of about 22x16 meters on a rocky sea bottom, characterized by the typical biocalcarenes formations that are also visible on the dry land. To explore the submerged archaeological site two distinct itineraries have been created: one dedicated to divers and the other for those who enjoy snorkeling. Also, tours for "non-swimmers" are organized using glass-bottomed boats.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:

The Marine Protected Area "Capo Rizzuto" offers unexpected opportunities for tourists who are willing to visit it. A Virtual Reality system allows "non-diver" tourist to live a virtual dive experience and learn both general information and historical-cultural contents related to the Punta Scifo D wreck and the surrounding seabed. Users can explore the 3D reconstruction of the underwater site and receive information and contents about the submerged exhibits and structures of the site.

An Augmented Diving system allows divers to have a virtual guide of the underwater archaeological site. It is based on a tablet properly equipped with a water-proof case and an integrated system for acoustic localization and inertial navigation.

ACCOMMODATION

Various types of accommodations are available in the whole area, ready to satisfy the needs of all visitors. They mainly consist of hotels that provide diverse guest services and range from one-star to five stars. Other extra-hotel accommodations are hostels, B&Bs, apartments, tourist villages, resorts, camping and guesthouses.

EXPLORE UNTAPPED MEDITERRANEAN FLAVOURS

Getting to know Crotona does not just mean admiring its cultural and natural heritage, it also means trying out the delicious flavors of its local cuisine. A seaside city can't help but offer excellent seafood dishes. The homemade pasta topped with seafood is particularly recommended. The most typical pasta shapes are those called "macaroni" and "covatelli". A typical appetizer will contain traditional Calabrian cold ready sliced meats, aromatized with red chili peppers. As regards for the drinks, the territory is rich in precious vineyards. One of its best-



HIGHLIGHTS

- Admire the scenic beauty and uncontaminated along-side of the Ionian Sea and natural landscapes of the hinterland.
- There are numerous Greek and Roman remains to be explored.
- Visit the mountain of the Sila National Park.
- Enjoy the amazing views of lake Ampollino.
- Taste the genuine flavors of local food, that make the area a unique place.
- Those who love nature can explore the hinterland, discovering pure and unpolluted sceneries, where huge green areas alternate with lakes and rivers.
- Enjoy the warm rays of the sun and dive into clear sea: one can choose from the many charming localities along the shoreline.

known products is its wine, especially the Cirò and Melissa.

NIGHTLIFE

Crotona has a quite large number of entertainment options available to be tried. However, there is no specific entertainment district, and the nightlife spreads all through the city; there are many restaurants, pubs, bars, squares that host social events and where you can just sit and enjoy. The summer brings an even greater range of options, mainly linked to marine attractions where nightlife is an expedition into the heartland of the coastline.

THINGS TO DO

- Different package tours and excursions in cultural and natural sites are offered to tourists with the possibility of a guided tour.
- Crotona's coastline offers a great variety of places to enjoy the Ionian Sea.
- The coastline stretching between Capo Colonna and Le Castella is truly spectacular, so rich in history and nature, that in 1991 was declared as protected marine reserve.
- For diving lovers, it is possible to do scuba diving with experienced guides and admire the unspoiled sea beds along with the submerged archaeological areas, rich in wrecks and archaeological remains of the Roman period.
- For art lovers, special tours are designed in archaeological areas, castles, museums, art galleries located in the entire province.
- Also, for lovers of the outdoors activities, who enjoy mountaineering, hiking, horse riding and trekking across the trails, there are many possibilities to practice their favorite activities.

EXTEND YOUR TRIP

The city of **Reggio Calabria**, about 250 km south of Croton, has one of the greatest Calabria museums, called the **National Museum of Magna Graecia** where the "Bronzi di Riace" statues are exhibited.

Bagnara and Scilla, the latter with a beautiful castle of the XVI century, surrounded by the sea.

The province of **Vibo Valentia** is also rich in art and natural and unspoiled beauties.

Pizzo, Tropea and Capo Vaticano are the three most precious destinations of the Tyrrhenian coast in the Vibo Valentia territory.

Cosenza, located north, is one of the most ancient cities of Calabria and due to its cultural past offers a wonderful old city characterized by steep and narrow alleys.

The city of **Catanzaro** has many interesting areas to visit such as the Cathedral and the Norman Tower.

Soverato and Montepaone represent the most famous bathing sites, popular for their clear water and sandy beaches.



FOR SCUBA DIVING ENTHUSIAST

Highlights: Crotona's coastline offers a great variety of places to enjoy the Ionian Sea. The shoreline stretching between 'Capo Colonna' and 'Le Castella' is truly spectacular, so rich in history and nature, with crystal-clear sea waters, that in 1991 was declared as Marine Protected Area; with an area of about 15,000 hectares, it is the largest in Italy. The coastline is characterized by alternating large and small headlands and bays, wide sandy beaches and sea cliffs. For diving lovers this unique place provides excellent opportunities to do scuba diving and admire the unspoiled seabed along with the submerged archaeological sites, rich in wrecks and ancient artifacts of the Roman and Greek period.

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Crotona

Arrival in Crotona (or Lamezia Terme) Airport (meeting point at the arrival hall of the airport). Transfer to the hotel with a chauffeur-driven car, and the rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the area can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the hotel.

> DAY 2 | Diving in "Punta Scifo D" and "Cala Cicala"

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you from the hotel to the diving area. Our program contains one scuba dive in the morning at the shipwreck called "Punta Scifo D", and one dive in the afternoon at the shipwreck called "Cala Cicala". Divers will explore the two Roman shipwreck cargos, mainly composed by large blocks and slabs of white rough marble at a depth less than 7 meters, on a rocky sea bottom with sandy seabed and Posidonia meadows. In addition to the underwater archaeological routes, divers will also be able to enjoy the marine life. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your

preferences. We recommend an optional diving at night. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Diving in "Le Castella" and "Capo Alfieri"

After breakfast, departure from the hotel to the diving area. Our program contains one scuba dive in the morning at the site called "Capo Alfieri", and one dive in the afternoon at the "Le Castella" submerged site. Located nearby to the famous Aragonese fortress of the XV century, "Le Castella" seabed hosts the ruins of an ancient Greek quarry along with those of an imposing wreck; while at "Capo Alfieri" site, divers will be able to explore some ancient Roman millstones. In addition to the underwater archaeological routes, scuba divers will be able to enjoy the marine life, especially of the rich and colored flora and fauna that colonized these ancient submerged materials. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

- 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals ► Optional excursions and visits.

FOR SNORKELERS AND FREE DIVERS

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Crotona

The first day in Crotona is the same in all three programs

> DAY 2 | First diving lesson - "Le Castella"

After breakfast an experienced guide will take you for the first diving course, providing you with all the necessary equipment and the basic information. The first lesson, in the morning, will take place in a pool. In the afternoon, the second lesson will take place in the marine area of "Le Castella", at a depth less than 5 meters nearby the Aragonese Fortress of the XV century, where scuba divers will be able to admire the ruins of an ancient Greek quarry along with those of an imposing wreck. This experience is open also to disabled people, who will be accompanied in the exploration of the seabed. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Diving at low depth in "Punta Scifo D" and "Cala Cicala"

After breakfast early departure from the hotel to the diving area. Our program contains one scuba dive in the morning at the shipwreck, called "Punta Scifo D", and one dive in the afternoon at the shipwreck called "Cala Cicala". Both dives can easily be enjoyed by scuba dive beginners and snorkeling div-

ers; the depth is less than 7 meters, and divers will be able to explore the two Roman shipwreck cargos, mainly composed by large blocks and slabs of white rough marble on a rocky sea bottom with sandy sections and Posidonia meadows. In addition to the underwater archaeological routes divers will be able to enjoy the rich marine life that colonized these ancient marble blocks. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

- 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals ► Optional excursions and visits.



FOR DIVERS TO BE AND FAMILIES

Highlights: The 'Open Water Diver' certificate can be achieved by over 13 years-old participants having already attended the eLearning Scuba Experience Course (available for free after the package booking) through the participation to the 4 diving lessons in the sea presented below.

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Crotona

The first day in Crotona is the same in all three programs

> DAY 2 | First scuba diving lesson - "Punta Scifo D"

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you for the first diving lessons, providing you with all the necessary equipment and start with the basic information. The first lesson, in the morning, will take place in a pool, and then will take place in the protected area of "Punta Scifo D", with depths ranging from 0 to 7 meters, where scuba and snorkel divers will be able to admire the great Roman shipwreck cargo, mainly composed by large blocks of marble. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. In the afternoon, the second diving lesson will take place in the surrounding areas, with the same safety requirements. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Mini Cruise in the Marine Protected Area "Capo Rizzuto"

After breakfast, early departure from the hotel to a boat with transparent bottom for a mini cruise and a swimming experience in the Marine Protected Area "Capo Rizzuto". This area, including the shoreline stretching between Capo Colonna and Le Castella, is truly spectacular, rich in history and nature and with crystal-clear sea colors. For those who enjoyed the first diving lessons, they can continue with a trained scuba instructor both in the morning and in the afternoon, in order to complete their Open Water experience. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

- ▶ 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- ▶ Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ▶ Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- ▶ International flights ▶ Personal expenses ▶ Optional meals ▶ Optional excursions and visits.



FOR KIDS, TEENS & SCHOOLS

Highlights: Highlights: The **Sea Baptism** is an experience available from 10 to 99 years old participants and no pre-training is required. An experienced instructor, during the sea fare, will brief you about the diving basics, in order to provide your first underwater experience with all the needed comfort, safety and fun, and will accompany you in your first dive. The diving site will be maximum 5 meters deep.

The **'Bubblemaker' experience** is available for children over 8 years-old, and is carried on in a pool or in a sea water environment maximum 2 meters deep. The experience lasts 1 hour and no pre-training is required. The **'Junior Open Water Diver'** certificate can be achieved by over 13 years-old participants having already attended the eLearning Scuba Experience Course (available for free after the package booking) through the participation to the 4 diving lessons in the sea presented below. Special rates are dedicated to school groups of minimum 15 participants.

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

FOR SEA LOVERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Highlights: Easily combined with the 'SNORKELERS AND FREE DIVERS' package for the accompanying people.

An experienced instructor will be dedicated for each of our special divers, to ensure their maximum safety, comfort and fun.

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com

FOR NON-DIVERS

For more information and updates please visit: www.diveinhistory.com



COMBINE THE TWO ITALIAN CITIES

> DAY 1 | Arrival in San Pietro in Bevagna

Arrival in Taranto Airport (meeting point at the arrival hall of the airport) and transfer to San Pietro in Bevagna with private car. Check in at the hotel, and the rest of the day is at leisure. An optional tour in Manduria, Porto Cesareo or Gallipoli can be offered late in the afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the hotel.

> DAY 2 | San Pietro

After breakfast, early departure from the hotel to the Torre Ovo diving site 'the Fossilized Forest', a mystery and fascinating geoformation only 6 meters deep, that can easily be enjoyed by scuba dive beginners.

An optional second scuba diving experience is available in the Torre Lapillo diving site known as 'le Grotte', where a medieval ship wrecked and lies on the seabed.

Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences.

In the afternoon, diving experience in the Chidro river, the second most important river of Salento. Legend has it that the ship that led the Apostle Peter in Rome made a stop for water supply and, in this very copious spring, probably Peter performed the first baptisms of Christians in Italy. In fact, the emergence of fresh water is still plentiful and allows spectacular diving due to its water clarity. Transfer to San Pietro in Bevagna. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | San Pietro

After breakfast early departure from the hotel to the diving area of 'Santa Caterina Caves' to explore the wreck of a Junkers Ju 88 fighting aircraft, fallen off the Santa Caterina coastline during World War II, lying perfectly preserved and straight on the sandy seabed. The aircraft is perfectly visible, due to the clearness of the sea water, and coloured by the marine flora and fauna that colonized its surfaces over the last seventy years.

Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences.

In the afternoon, the last scuba dive will be in the 'Santa Maria al Bagno' diving site, where further caves and untouched naturalistic scenarios just wait to be discovered together with the wreck of a III century AD ship carrying greek-italic amphorae, discovered in 1982.

Recommended: night scuba dive in the crystalline water of the San Pietro in Bevagna Sarcophagi site (-6 metres depth).

Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Arrival day in Crotone

Arrival in Crotone (or Lamezia Terme) Airport (meeting point at the arrival hall of the airport). Transfer to the hotel with private car, check-in, and the rest of the day is at leisure. In addition to the historical and archaeological sites it is suggested to admire the scenic beauty and uncontaminated alongside of the Ionian Sea. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the hotel.

> DAY 5 | Diving in "Punta Scifo D" and "Cala Cicala"

After breakfast an experienced guide will take you from the hotel to the

diving area. Our program contains one scuba dive in the morning at the shipwreck, called "Punta Scifo D", and one dive in the afternoon at the shipwreck called "Cala Cicala". Divers will explore the two Roman shipwreck cargos, mainly composed by large blocks and slabs of white rough marble at a depth less than 7 meters, on a rocky sea bottom with sandy sections and Posidonia meadows.

In addition to the underwater archaeological routes, divers will also be able to enjoy the marine life. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. We recommend optional diving at night. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 6 | Diving in "Le Castella" and "Capo Alfieri"

After breakfast departure from the hotel to the diving area. Our program contains one scuba dive in the morning at the site called "Capo Alfieri" and one dive in the afternoon at the "Capo Alfieri" site. At "Le Castella" submerged site, located nearby to the famous Aragonese fortress of the XV century, the seabed host the ruins of an ancient Greek quarry along with those of an imposing wreck; while at "Capo Alfieri" site, divers will be able to explore some ancient Roman millstones. In addition to the underwater archaeological routes, scuba divers will be able to enjoy the marine life, especially of the rich and colored flora and fauna that colonized these ancient submerged materials. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 7 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

The above program can also be performed vice versa.

Your package includes:

- ▶ 6 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- ▶ Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ▶ Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- ▶ International flights ▶ Personal expenses ▶ Optional meals ▶ Optional excursions and visits.





COMBINE THE TWO GREEK CITIES

Highlights: **Alonnisos:** provides its visitors with ideal opportunities to get away and dive into the boundless blue of the Aegean. It's whole area has been declared a national Marine Park since 1992. This provides an excellent opportunity to dive into the crystal-clear waters of significant importance to our European and world heritage.

Methoni, is fairly inebriating, with long beaches. Overlooking the Ionian Sea and the complex of Oinouses islands, the visitor can feel like a pirate who can plunge into history. Underneath you can find famous shipwrecks lying on the seabed admiring ancient vessels, sarcophagi dating the Roman, Byzantine and Medieval period.

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Alonnisos.

Transfer to the hotel with private car. You will meet with our partner of our travel in the arrival hall of the port, who will provide the information about your journey.

The rest of the day is at leisure. An optional general tour of the city can be offered late in the afternoon, exploring the center of the island. Visitors will find only few bars in Patitiri and Chora, the two largest villages of Alonissos. These bars play lounge music and usually stay open till a bit after midnight. Alternatively, you can enjoy a long dinner in the many seaside taverns around the island. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the hotel

> DAY 2 | Diving in Peristera

After breakfast an experienced guide will take you scuba diving using the proper equipment is allowed in all sea areas. Off the north - east coasts of modern Alonissos there are six smaller deserted islands, ideal for every kind of diving. On the seabed of the barren island of Peristera, is lying one of the most significant shipwrecks of classical times. Our program contains 2 scuba dives (morning and afternoon) at the underwater archaeological site. Lunch on board or in a traditional Greek taverns. We recommend optional scuba diving at night. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Explore caves

After breakfast, early departure from the hotel to the boat to scuba dive at 2 Caves where you can see White Seabream, Golden Grouper, Damsel-fish, Dusky Grouper, Octopus, Dolphins. A dinner package is optional.

> DAY 4 | Departure day and arrival to Methoni

Breakfast and private car transfer to Methoni. Our tour guide will provide you with all the information about your exploration. The rest of the day is at your leisure. A general city tour is possible, late in the afternoon, while dinner can be arranged (optional) in one of many fine restaurants of the area.

> DAY 5 | Diving in Sapientza

After breakfast an experienced guide will take you to the diving area, where you can admire "The sarcophagi shipwreck". In addition to underwater archaeology, scuba divers will be able to enjoy the marine life of the Mediterranean. Underwater caves and reefs home to grouper and sea turtles can all be found within the parks, while dolphins are a common

sight in Pylos Bay. Underwater exploration is a unique experience for skillful scuba divers.

> DAY 6 | Explore caves

After breakfast, early departure from the hotel to the boat for one scuba dive at one Cave where you can see White Seabream, Golden Grouper, Damsel-fish, Dusky Grouper, Octopus, Dolphins. A dinner package is optional.

> DAY 7 Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

The above program can also be performed vice versa

Your package includes:

- ▶ 3 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- ▶ Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ▶ Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- ▶ International flights ▶ Personal expenses ▶ Optional meals ▶ Optional excursions and visits.



COMBINE ALONISSOS AND CROTONE

FOR SCUBA DIVING ENTHUSIASTS

From Alonissos to Croton: along the Achaean sea routes



COMBINE ALONISSOS AND CROTONE

Alonissos is supposed to be the island where the Achaeans crowded and put out to sea their warships towards Troy, thus starting the legendary 10-years Troy War. Beyond the legend, history tells us that Achaeans settled in the Peloponnese and surrounding areas, during the 8th century B.C. raised their ship's anchors towards Calabria, and colonized a big part of its Ionian coast, from Sibari to Caulonia. They founded Croton, one of the richest cities in Classical Age, and established flourishing trades through the maritime routes linking Greece to southern Italy. The Romans, conquerors of the Mediterranean basin, used these commerce routes for several centuries after the Greek colonizers. Let us discover their traces beyond the millennia.

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Alonissos

Briefing with our tour operator partner in the arrival hall of the port, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the island can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel.

> DAY 2 | Diving in Peristera

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the diving area. Off the north - eastern coasts of modern Alonissos, there are six deserted islets, ideal destinations for every kind of diving experience. Our program contains 2 dives (morning and afternoon) at the underwater archaeological site of the Classical Shipwreck near Peristera. Lunch is provided on board or at a traditional village with local delicacies prepared according to your liking. We recommend optional diving at night in the clear waters of Peristera. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Explore caves

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel towards a diving area with two enchanting caves, where you can see white sea breams, golden groupers, damselfishes, dusky groupers, octopuses, dolphins. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day – Arrival in Croton (subject to flight connections)

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the port for the departure. Arrival in Croton (or Lamezia Terme) Airport (meeting point at the arrival hall of the airport). Transfer to the hotel with chauffeur-driven car, check-in, and the rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the town can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the hotel.

> DAY 5 | Diving in “Punta Scifo D” and “Cala Cicala”

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you from the hotel to the diving area. Our program contains one scuba dive in the morning at the shipwreck called “Punta Scifo D”, and one dive in the afternoon at the shipwreck called “Cala Cicala”. Divers will explore the two Roman shipwreck cargos, mainly composed by large blocks and slabs of white rough marble at a depth less than 7 meters, on a rocky sea bottom with sandy seabed

and Posidonia meadows.

In addition to the underwater archaeological routes, divers will also be able to enjoy the marine life. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. We recommend an optional diving at night. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 6 | Diving in “Le Castella” and “Capo Alfieri”

After breakfast, departure from the hotel to the diving area. Our program contains one scuba dive in the morning at the site called “Capo Alfieri”, and one dive in the afternoon at the “Le Castella” submerged site. Located nearby to the famous Aragonese fortress of the XV century, “Le Castella” seabed hosts the ruins of an ancient Greek quarry along with those of an imposing wreck; while at “Capo Alfieri” site, divers will be able to explore some ancient Roman millstones. In addition to the underwater archaeological routes, scuba divers will be able to enjoy the marine life, especially of the rich and colored flora and fauna that colonized these ancient submerged materials. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 7 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

► 6 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast ► Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving instructor.

Your package excludes:

► International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional excursions and visits.



COMBINE METHONI AND SAN PIETRO IN BEVAGNA

From Methoni to San Pietro: on the footprints of Peter Throckmorton

FOR SCUBA DIVING ENTHUSIASTS



COMBINE METHONI AND SAN PIETRO IN BEVAGNA

Highlights: In 1962, the 'Father of Underwater Archaeology' discovered the Methoni sarcophagi site during the first archaeological underwater campaign ever done in Greece. A few years later, in 1967, 'following an exciting trace starting from Methoni' he travelled towards San Pietro in Bevagna, where rumors of further sarcophagi lying on the seabed were spreading out from time to time, and actually found the sarcophagi site. Being a photojournalist, in 1969 he wrote a pamphlet named 'Ancient shipwreck yields new facts - and a strange cargo (marble coffins)', published by the National Geographic Magazine, in which he narrates this amazing underwater archaeological adventure. Let us follow his travel itinerary in search of the lost sarcophagi, along the ancient sea routes.

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Methoni

Briefing with our tour operator partner in the arrival hall of the airport, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the town can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel.

> DAY 2 | Diving in Pylos

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the diving area, where you can admire "the sarcophagi shipwreck" using the proper equipment. In addition to underwater archaeology, divers will be able to enjoy the marine life of the Mediterranean. Underwater caves and reefs home to grouper and sea turtles can all be found within the parks, while dolphins are a common sight in Pylos Bay. Our program contains 2 dives (morning and afternoon) at the underwater archaeological site. Lunch on board or in a traditional Greek village with local delicacies according to your preferences. We recommend optional diving at night in the clear waters of Pylos. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Diving in Methoni

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel for diving around Methoni, where you can see the 'shipwreck of columns' lying on the seabed, close to Cape Spitha. The columns are scattered in an area of 30 square meters and are 10 meters away from the edge of the Cape. Part of the columns are aligned on the seabed, while other columns are scattered in a wider area. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day – Arrival in San Pietro (subject to flight connections)

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure. Arrival in Brindisi or Bari Airport (meeting point at the arrival hall of the airport) and transfer to San Pietro in Bevagna in a chauffeur-driven car. Check in at the hotel, and the rest of the day is free. An optional tour in Manduria, Porto Cesareo or Gallipoli can be offered late in the afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the hotel.

> DAY 5 | Scuba Diving in the "Aquarium" and the "Lobster's escarpment"

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the San Pietro diving area known as the "Aquarium", a paradise of clear water and sparkling

marine life in a naturalistic protected area. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with the local delicacies according to your preferences. In the afternoon, another scuba dive in a wonderfully colored and iridescent environment is available: the "Lobster's escarpment". Transfer to San Pietro in Bevagna. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 6 | Diving in the "Santa Caterina" and "Santa Maria al Bagno" caves

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel to the diving area of 'Santa Caterina Caves' to explore the wreck of a Junkers Ju 88 fighting aircraft, fallen off the Santa Caterina coastline during World War II, lying perfectly preserved and straight on the sandy seabed. The aircraft is perfectly visible, due to the clearness of the sea water, and coloured by the marine flora and fauna that colonized its surfaces over the last seventy years.

Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. In the afternoon, the last scuba dive will be in the 'Santa Maria al Bagno' diving site, where further caves and untouched naturalistic scenarios just wait to be discovered together with the wreck of a III century AD ship carrying greek-italic amphorae, discovered in 1982. Recommended: night scuba dive in the crystalline water of the San Pietro in Bevagna Sarcophagi site (-6 metres depth). Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 7 Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

- 6 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals ► Optional excursions and visits.



THE FOUR DESTINATIONS TOUR

Travelling from Graecia to Magna Graecia

FOR SCUBA DIVING ENTHUSIASTS



THE FOUR DESTINATIONS TOUR

The Greco-Roman World of Classical Antiquity, the historic period that gave birth to democracy and laid the foundations for modern state governance, was a world of established cultural and trade relations among several civilizations settled on the coasts and islands of the Mediterranean basin. Let us visit some of the jewels of Ancient Graecia (Greece) and its Italian ancient colonies (Magna Graecia, Southern Italy), places that have built History in the Greek and Roman Ages. Let us enjoy a unique underwater experience in the world of Classical Antiquity!

> DAY 1 | Arrival in Alonissos

Briefing with our tour operator partner in the arrival hall of the port, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the island can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel.

> DAY 2 | Diving in Peristera

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the diving area. Off the north - eastern coasts of modern Alonissos, there are six deserted islets, ideal destinations for every kind of diving experience.

Our program contains 2 dives (morning and afternoon) at the underwater archaeological site of the Classical Shipwreck near Peristera. Lunch is provided on board or at a traditional village with local delicacies prepared according to your liking. We recommend optional diving at night in the clear waters of Peristera. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 3 | Explore caves

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel towards a diving area with two enchanting caves, where you can see white sea breams, golden groupers, damselfishes, dusky groupers, octopuses, dolphins. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 4 | Departure day – Arrival in Methoni (subject to combined transfer connections)

Briefing with our tour operator partner at the airport hall, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the town can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel.

> DAY 5 | Diving in Pylos

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the diving area, where you can admire “the sarcophagi shipwreck” using the proper equipment. In addition to underwater archaeology, divers will be able to enjoy the marine life of the Mediterranean. Underwater caves and reefs home to grouper and sea turtles can all be found within the parks, while dolphins

are a common sight in Pylos Bay. Our program contains 2 dives (morning and afternoon) at the underwater archaeological site. Lunch on board or in a traditional Greek village with local delicacies according to your preferences. We recommend optional diving at night in the clear waters of Pylos. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 6 | Diving in Methoni

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel for diving around Methoni, where you can see the ‘shipwreck of columns’ lying on the seabed, close to Cape Spitha. The columns are scattered in an area of 30 square meters and are 10 meters away from the edge of the Cape. Part of the columns are aligned on the seabed, while other columns are scattered in a wider area. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 7 | Departure day – Arrival in San Pietro (subject to flight connections)

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure. Arrival in Brindisi or Bari Airport (meeting point at the arrival hall of the airport) and transfer to San Pietro in Bevagna with chauffeur-driven car. Check in at the hotel, and the rest of the day is free. An optional tour in Manduria, Porto Cesareo or Gallipoli can be offered late in the afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the hotel.





> DAY 8 | Scuba Diving in the “Aquarium” and the “Lobster’s escarpment”

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you to the San Pietro diving area known as the “Aquarium”, a paradise of clear water and sparkling marine life in a naturalistic protected area. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with the local delicacies according to your preferences.

In the afternoon, another scuba dive in a wonderfully colored and iridescent environment is available: the “Lobster’s escarpment”. Transfer to San Pietro in Bevagna. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 9 | Diving in the “Santa Caterina” and “Santa Maria al Bagno” caves

Early breakfast and departure from the hotel to the diving area of ‘Santa Caterina Caves’ to explore the wreck of a Junkers Ju 88 fighting aircraft, fallen off the Santa Caterina coastline during World War II, lying perfectly preserved and straight on the sandy seabed. The aircraft is perfectly visible, due to the clearness of the sea water, and coloured by the marine flora and fauna that colonized its surfaces over the last seventy years.

Lunch onboard or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. In the afternoon, the last scuba dive will be in the ‘Santa Maria al Bagno’ diving site, where further caves and untouched naturalistic scenarios just wait to be discovered together with the wreck of a III century AD ship carrying greek-italic amphorae, discovered in 1982. Recommended: night scuba dive in the crystalline water of the San Pietro in Bevagna Sarcophagi site (-6 metres depth). Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 10 | Departure day – Arrival in Crotone (subject to combined transfer connections)

Briefing with our tour operator partner at the airport hall, then transfer to the hotel in a chauffeur-driven car. The rest of the day is free. An optional general tour of the town can be offered in the late afternoon. Dinner (optional) and overnight at the Hotel.

> DAY 11 | Diving in “Punta Scifo D” and “Cala Cicala”

After breakfast, an experienced guide will take you from the hotel to the diving area. Our program contains one scuba dive in the morning at the shipwreck called “Punta Scifo D”, and one dive in the afternoon at the shipwreck called “Cala Cicala”. Divers will explore the two Roman shipwreck cargos, mainly composed by large blocks and slabs of white rough marble at a depth less than 7 meters, on a rocky sea bottom with sandy seabed and Posidonia meadows.

In addition to the underwater archaeological routes, divers will also be able to enjoy the marine life. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. We recommend an optional diving at night. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 12 | Diving in “Le Castella” and “Capo Alfieri”

After breakfast, departure from the hotel to the diving area. Our program contains one scuba dive in the morning at the site called “Capo Alfieri”, and one dive in the afternoon at the “Le Castella” submerged site. Located nearby to the famous Aragonese fortress of the XV century, “Le Castella” seabed hosts the ruins of an ancient Greek quarry along with those of an imposing wreck; while at “Capo Alfieri” site, divers will be able to explore some ancient Roman millstones. In addition to the underwater archaeological routes, scuba divers will be able to enjoy the marine life, especially of the rich and colored flora and fauna that colonized these ancient submerged materials. Lunch on board or in a traditional village with local delicacies according to your preferences. Transfer to the hotel. Optional dinner package.

> DAY 13 | Departure day

After breakfast, chauffeur-driven car transfer to the airport for the departure.

Your package includes:

- 12 nights at a hotel of your choice on bed & breakfast formula
- Transfers upon arrival and departure with assistance ► Diving guide or instructor.

Your package excludes:

- International flights ► Personal expenses ► Optional meals ► Optional excursions and visits.

MANY OTHER COMBINATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ACCORDING TO YOUR PREFERENCES OR YOUR DIVING SKILLS!

**> CHECK ALL THE AVAILABLE COMBINATIONS by visiting:
www.diveinhistory.com**



OUR HERITAGE:
WHERE THE PAST
MEETS THE FUTURE

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