



British
Consular Network
Greece

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a traditional Greek windmill. The windmill has a white cylindrical body with a dark, thatched roof. It is supported by a complex wooden structure of poles and ropes. In the foreground, there is a low wall made of rough, stacked stones. The sky is a clear, pale blue, suggesting a bright day.

**Holidaying
in Greece**



British Consular Network Greece

British Embassy Athens and British Consular Network Greece

There is detailed information for UK nationals visiting Greece on www.gov.uk/world/greece

Emergency

Fire / Police / Ambulance call



Emergency Words

Help = Voithia
Look out = Prosekse
Ambulance = Asthenoforo
Doctor = Yiatros
Police = Astinomia
Fire = Fotia
Firemen = Pyrosvestes
Do you speak English? = Milate Anglika?

Consular Network

In an emergency, our consular teams can be contacted 24/7 by calling **(0030) 210 727 2600**



Holidaying in Greece

i The Greek National Tourism Organisation offers information, which can help you plan your activities and make the most of your holidays in Greece.

www.visitgreece.gr

Living in Greece

Check out our guide for information and practical advice, including signing up for alerts:

www.gov.uk/living-in-greece



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Local Customs / Culture

English is widely spoken. Dress appropriately when visiting a church and do not disturb those inside.

Driving in Greece



In towns, the speed limit is maximum **50 km/hr** and for

motorways the speed limit ranges between 110-130km/hr. Seat belts are compulsory and children under the age of five must not sit in the front passenger seat. Drivers must be 18 years old and hold a valid driving licence. For information on the type of licence / permit required: www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/greece/safety-and-security

By law you must **wear a crash helmet** on a scooter, moped or motorcycle. Quad bike riders must wear a full-face helmet (or non-full-face helmet plus goggles). Failure to wear a helmet might invalidate your travel insurance if you are involved in an accident.



DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE

Driving any vehicle while over the legal drinking limit, which is lower than the UK, can result in a heavy fine, licence confiscation and/or imprisonment.

Rentals

Many tourists hire cars, motorbikes and quad bikes.



DO NOT use your passport as a deposit.

When hiring a car, moped, boat, jet ski, or other vehicle, check that you **have appropriate insurance cover and safety equipment – most insurance policies do not cover quad bikes.**

Drink and drugs

Greece strictly enforces a **zero tolerance policy towards illegal drugs**. If you are caught in possession of even small quantities of any type of illegal narcotic, including codeine, you will receive either a prison sentence or a heavy fine.

Drinks served in bars are often **stronger** than those in the UK; so, you should be aware of your limits. Any incident involving alcohol or excessive drinking may **invalidate your insurance**. It is **illegal to buy or sell nitrous oxide** (laughing gas) for recreational use in Greece. You should be aware of the health risks associated with its use. Alcohol, drugs and use of nitrous oxide can lead to you being less alert, less in control and less aware of your environment.

Greece Travel Advice

Make sure you read the Travel Advice and sign up to receive email alerts on the current situation in Greece. You will also find useful information on local laws and customs, **entry requirements**, healthcare and security. www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/greece

Public Order

 **Avoid taking photographs near potentially sensitive areas** such as military buildings and vehicles including at airports. Rowdy or indecent behaviour may result in arrest, **heavy fines or prison sentences**.

Personal Safety

Most visits to Greece are trouble-free but you should **take sensible precautions to protect yourself and your belongings**. Theft of wallets and handbags can occur in crowded tourist places. Personal attacks, including sexual assaults and rape, are generally rare in Greece. You should maintain at least the same level of personal security awareness as in the UK.

- Stick with your friends.
- Follow water safety rules.
- Don't** walk home alone.
- Don't** go off with people you don't know.
- Don't** swim after eating or drinking alcohol.

British passports



Always look after your passport.

If your passport is lost or stolen, you will need to apply for an Emergency Travel Document to return home. If your passport is stolen, report the theft to your nearest police station and obtain a report.

www.gov.uk/emergency-travel-document

Travel insurance / Healthcare

It is important to ensure you have the right health travel insurance and specific cover for any **pre-existing illnesses**. Withholding details of your medical history may mean you are not fully covered.

Always take care to **read the details of your insurance cover** paying particular attention to the small print and exclusions on your insurance policy.

Always ensure that your travel insurance has adequate cover for quad bikes, water sports, parasailing, paragliding, rock climbing etc. before undertaking such activities. **Quad biking** is considered an extreme sport and carries the risk of serious injury or death. Specific travel insurance to cover quad bike rental is essential to avoid you having to pay the costs of private health care and/or repatriation to the UK.

If your **insurance has expired or you have forgotten to purchase insurance**, please check www.gov.uk/guidance/foreign-travel-insurance.

For more information on **healthcare** in Greece:
www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/greece/health
www.gov.uk/living-in-greece#healthcare

Disclaimer

The inclusion of contact details of organisations within this leaflet should not be taken as an endorsement of them or their aims by the British Embassy and the British Consular Network in Greece. Neither can they be held responsible for any incorrect or incomplete information provided by a third party or action taken on that advice.

Every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this information is correct at the time of printing (2019) but may be subject to change.