

ALTOUR-MED

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KA210-VET - Small-scale partnerships in vocational education and training



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Alternative Tourism for the Mediterranean Region

Good Practices: GREEN VILLAGE, GREECE



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Practice number	7
Name of the Practice	<i>AgroTourism in Greece</i>
Category	<i>1. Ecotourism</i>
Type	<i>3. Case Studies</i>
Developer / initiator	—
Short description	<p><i>Agrotourism is a rather new way of spending your holiday in Greece. Discovering the rural life in Greece, while taking part in the farm life with all the farming activities turns a simple travel experience into the unique discovery of culture, tradition, and personal friendships beyond nationalities in gorgeous Greek settings.</i></p> <p><i>There are many venues and businesses across Greece that take advantage of their rural setting for developing an agritourism alternative tourism offer</i></p>
Goal	<p><i>Agrotourism holidays in Greece offer to foreign tourists a deep insight in ecology, farming, regional gastronomy and local customs of Greece. Away from mass tourism spots and large crowds, agrotourism offers the chance to come into contact with the nature and be part of an authentic village community.</i></p>
Detailed description	<p><i>Visitors to agrotourist farms can observe the agricultural activities and also work as volunteers if they want. Working with the land is a new experience for the city people who have no farming background or knowledge. Autumn is the period where most agricultural works are done in Greece. This is when people harvest the olives trees, press the olive oil, make wine, tsipouro or raki, gather seasonal fruits from the trees and vegetables from the earth, collect mushrooms and herbs from the mountainsides and make jams, spoon sweets and cheese.</i></p> <p><i>Apart from taking part in farm activities, many agricultural farms also organize seminars for cultivations of various products and cooking recipes with fresh seasonal ingredients. They may also organize workshops for pottery, knitting or other folk activities of the Greek countryside. Of course, agrotourism holidays in Greece are most of the time combined with mountain sports in nature, including mountain biking, mountaineering, hiking, bird watching or horse riding.</i></p>

	<p><i>Below are some of the most popular agrotourism offers in the Peloponnese:</i></p> <p><i>Kinsterna, Monemvasia</i> The old mansion where Kinsterna hotel is housed is the right place to stay if you've been dreaming of accommodation at an idyllic location, near the most beautiful castle town in Greece. During your accommodation at Kinsterna, you will get to experience the best parts of life in the countryside, explore gardens & olive groves, have relaxing spa treatments & find your new favorite beverage at the hotel's cozy wine cellar. The hotel's rooms have been carefully designed, with hand-picked decoration & a warm atmosphere.</p> <p><i>Opora country living, Nafplion</i> Situated in Pyrgiotika village, only a few kilometers away from Nafplio & surrounded by orange groves & olive trees, Opora Country Living will introduce you to the authentic Greek hospitality by offering an unforgettable countryside experience! The hotel's country houses have a cozy atmosphere that will make you feel at home & at the dining facilities, you will get to taste some of the highlights of traditional Greek cuisine. In addition, massage therapies are offered to add a hint of luxury to your vacation & help you let go of all worries in order to enjoy nature to the fullest.</p> <p><i>Eumelia, Sparti</i> Learn more about olive oil, a staple in Greek gastronomy, by spending your vacation at Eumelia, a farm-hotel designed to offer an authentic experience of agrotourism! You will have the opportunity to participate in farm activities that are both entertaining & educating & will bring you close to the rural life of Greece. During your stay, you will visit olive groves & vineyards, participate in farm chores, special soap-making workshops & olive oil tasting sessions among other activities. The farm's traditional facilities are located in Gouves village in Lakonia.</p>
Innovativeness	<i>Agrotourism and the organisation of activities that combine cultural and active tourism is a relative new form of tourism offer in Greece.</i>
Financial aspect	<p>€€ = Moderate investment €€€ = considerable investment</p>
Country	<i>Greece</i>

<p>Transferability</p>	<p><i>An integrated effort should be done by the destination or tourism business manager to develop a holistic agrotourism offer to tourists. The services should combine agricultural activities as well as education and cultural activities</i></p>
<p>Website and/or relevant links</p>	<p>https://www.greeka.com/greece-holiday/agrotourism/ https://www.eumelia.com/ https://www.kinsternahotel.gr/</p>