

# <u>GREECE</u>: Camper Van-Site-Guide for the Epirus-Ioannina region 24 s

1. Edition 2016

24 sites with complete GPS data

Great places – with all kinds of tips – especially for cycling and hiking tours



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# Introduction

This guide of camper van sites was developed in cooperation with the communities of the mountain region Epirus (loannina) and presents a "speciality" within the camper van tourism:

You get to locations and sites where you are highly welcomed by "the community" and which the "normal camper van traveller" would never discover!

Through close teamwork with local supporters this sites guide contains "hot tips" around the locations, especially cycling and hiking tours.

Greece and the Ioannina region with its 8 municipalities of Epirus especially are ideal for a longer, divers stay in this still unknown, unspoilt region. If, for example you plan to visit all of the sites listed in this guide you will cover a distance of over 600 km. During a trip like this the landscape constantly changes: At one point you are reminded of Switzerland, then of the Dolomites or the Pyrenees. On top of it, the road network is relatively well improved and by a careful way of driving it poses no problem even for bigger camper vans.

The proximity to the ocean is also very attractive: Ioannina, the capital of Epirus, is only 78 km- by motorway- away from the ferry terminal Igoumenitsa. With this, this camper van guide enables you to ideally combine relaxing vacation at the ocean and exciting vacation in the mountains.

# The hidden cultural and nature treasures



The Vikos-Canyon is unique in Europe:

It can not be compared with any other landscape – even the Ardeches. Here you find impressive rock formations with breathtaking views and well developped hiking paths.



The encounter of numerous historical bridges is – so to speak – the "trademark" of Epirus. Because of the constantly changing countryside their sight is never boring.



A great number of rivers run through all of Epirus and – to the camper – offer great sites from where you can start hiking tours. Here you get partly strange, but wonderful impressions, which you can not find anywhere else in Europe in this variety.(Picture: hiking path at the legendary Acheron)



The also numerous lakes are ideal for round trips by bike or on foot.

(Picture: site directely at the lake of Metsovo at an altitude of over 1.400 m. Here you can do a wonderful, easy cycling tour around the lake (37 km).



The many springs or waterfalls stimulated the inspiration since the beginning of time: According to legend the ferryman of the river Acheron (picture) takes the souls to the underworld – but only, after the family of the deceased placed a gold coin under his/ her tongue.



The villages and small towns of Epirus impress with well preserved houses and squares. One of these is the legendary mountain village Metsovo at an altitude of 1.300 m. Close to Metsovo there is skiing in winter, excellent hiking and ... if your are lucky you can see bears.

# The hospitality is legendary ...





... and no joke – but fact! ... in every village you will meet somebody, who welcomes you – often even in German. Especially in northern Greece many people are there, who lived and worked in Germany. Most likely you will be offered a selfmade Zippero (picture 1) during an ensuing conversation.





In fact here you can actually go into the kitchen of a taverna and choose your food directly (picture 1) and there are traditional corner shops (picture 2), where you are also warmly welcomed.

# About us

We are three people (Thomas Fettback, Stefan Bücker, Rolf Geinert), who founded a municipal consultancy office (BFG GbR, Association for Marketing, Tourism and Regional Development). We got to know each other through the German-Greek Meeting, which tries to iniciate projects in Greece on a local level. Two of us were longstanding mayors in Germany, the third is specialist for cycling tours. It is our target to develop regions, which are mostly still unknown today, with the aid of "mild tourism".Through this we want to help these regions economically – but not just that: It is also of concern to us to accomplish "understanding among nations" though this type of tourism. Not only the "getting to know" of still unknown cultural and landscape treasures is important to us, but also their preservation and the contact to the local people. Because of this concept we got the assignment from the Greek Development Agency of Epirus S.A., to develop for and with this region this guide for camper vans and cycling-tour-tourism.

Further information you can find here:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/929196527135633/?fref=ts

http://thomas-fettback.de/tourismus.html

# Impressum

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#### General map of sites 12 5(10 Konitsa 9 Pogoni Metsovo Zagori Albanien 24 13 20 14 (15) E 853 1000 Zitsa **@**8 5 22 Tzoumerka loannina E 92 1 A 2 / E 90 16 2 Dodoni Igoumenitsa 18 17 E 951 3 (c) Thomas Fettback

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# Explanation of symbols

≯	electricity		beautiful landscape
۳.	fresh water	Î	sight
WC	toilet		at a lake / river
⋪	shower	۳©۲	restaurant
÷	garbage bin	₩.	shopping
1	disposal chemical toilet	<b>'</b> */	hiking
C	quiet location	00	cycling
~~	foundation = asphalt	m	foundation = grass
~~~	foundation = gravel		

# **DESCRIPTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL SITES**

# The Dodoni region

# Words of welcome by the mayor of the Dodoni region

Welcome to the municipality of Dodoni ... one of the most historical municipalities of Epirus.

From the mountains of Souli to the gates of Hades, from the lake of Viros and springs of Louros, the stone bridges, the Byzantine monasteries, to the oldest oracle in Greece.

It is our place!

It's about the people you meet and the hospitality they offer.

Because if something stands up for our place it is the hospitality, which has roots as deep as the holy oak, which gave oracles in ancient times by observing the rustling of the leaves.

The municipality of Dodoni consists of 56 local communities. Each one keeps its own secrets and invites you to discover them ... either on the mountains or next to rivers or on the axis of Egnatia motorway.

Unique routes, outstanding landscapes, wild and untouched natural environment.

Your journey here never ends... Besides, no one here is a stranger!

Christos Ntakaletsis

(Mayor of Dodoni)

# Short description of the Dodoni region

The municipality of Dodoni is located in the southern part of Ioannina. It consists of 56 villages and is geographically defined by mountain ranges. The whole area is characterized by the abundance of ancient monuments which depict the depth of history and prove that the area presents an outstanding interest.

The municipality of Dodoni hosts the Ancient Theatre of Dodoni, a cultural monument of archaeological value globally. The sanctuary was dedicated to Naio Zeus and in it had an oracle area (surrounding the holy acorn tree named Figos), a theater, a prytaneum and a parliament. Its famous oracle is traditionally

considered as the most ancient one in Greece and was referred to by Homer in his epics. By observing the rustling of the leaves on the sacred oak tree and the flight of the birds nesting in it the priests interpreted the god's will.

The entire region is a place where people can take pleasure in natural attractiveness and biodiversity. Two rivers with high natural and cultural value cross the municipality of Dodoni: Louros and Acheron. The area surrounding the river Acheron is of outstanding beauty and a source of important information and knowledge in the field of environmental education. Both narrow and the estuaries of Acheron and its surrounding area belong to the European network of protected nature areas 2000 (Natura 2000). There are also paths which give access to natural and cultural heritage and give added value to environmental connectivity. On the mountains of Souli, wild horses draw the attention with their unruly galloping. They descent from the Balkan Horse and during their evolution, two types were created: the mountain type and the lowland type. Moreover, throughout the region of Dodoni there is a huge diversity of medicinal and aromatic plants. Nature shows its omnipotence, captivates the eye and allows the mind and fantasy to walk through old paths and to admire all the natural monuments.

Folk museums, churches and monasteries, stone bridges and traditional watermills are some of the special elements that the municipality can display. Traditional stone watermills, where the waters are more than enough, satisfied the residents' needs in old times. At each village there are squares which remain a gathering point for the residents, who recall, contemplate and mostly do not stop dreaming. At the village of Sistrouni there are the springs of the Acheron, a scenery of vast serenity and of unique beauty. Flowing waters, ageless planes and small stone bridges compose an imposing scenery. The passes of the Acheron, the gates of Ades is a place of outstanding natural beauty and of great importance. Visitors can walk along the path of the Acheron and admire the wild beauty of the river.

# No. 1 Dodini region – "At The Amphitheater"

Quality of site



Description of location

This site is a wide meadow directly located behind the amphitheater of Dodoni. A gravel path leads into the meadow, so that it poses no problem even for big camper vans. 50 m from the location there is a fresh water tap.

A visit to the excavation site, acknowlegded by the UNESCO, with the impressive amphitheater is a "must" (open from 8 am to 3 pm). Up to 18,000 spectators could watch the tournaments; during Roman times mostly fights between bulls and boars took place here.

Also the surroundings are inviting for walks: Especially the little villages are very picturesque and make you believe you are in Ticino.

At the entrance to the excavation site there is also a taverna, in which you can eat traditional food (unfortunately it is not always open). The entrance is not even 500 m away from the camper van site.

# How to get there

Arriving via motorway (E 90) – exit Dodoni, follow the signs to the north-east. After 2.1 km turn left. At the roundabout take the second exit.

GPS data	39°32'34.75"N / 20°47'7.98"E
Number of spaces	15
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	10€



The access/ entrance to the site



The amphitheater, one of the largest in Greece



The small villages are inviting for a walk

#### Quality of site

|--|--|

#### Description of location

Large, gravelled site located directly at the river, it is an officially marked site for camper vans by the municipality of Dodoni.On the site there is a fresh water tap. This location is especially ideal for bigger camper vans as a stop along the way to or from Igoumenitsa. Diagonal across from the site there is a taverna. The village Tiria can be reached on foot.

#### How to get there

Arriving via motorway E 90, take exit no. 3 in direction of Tiria (Tyria). After 200 m cross a river and directly afterwards turn right. After further 300 m the camper van site is on the right side –diagonally across a taverna by the river.

GPS data	39°32'2.07"N / 20°41'15.91"E
Number of spaces	12
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



Entrance to the camper van site



The location is right next to the river...



... from a different view

# No. 3 Dodoni region - "At The Acheron"

Quality of site



# Description of location

The site is located next to the legendary river Acheron: According to legend from here the souls are taken to the underworld.

The camper van site is slightly behind the popular place for outings (picnic area) with a taverna, with an owner who is originally from Germany. Two days per year folkore performances are shown here. Also worth seeing is the restored monastery right next to the site, which is part of the UNESCO cultural heritage.

Due to the fact, that the site is behind the picnic area, the access is difficult for bigger camper vans- but manageable when driving carefully.

#### How to get there

Because the site is located in a beautiful mountain landscape of the Dodoni region, even the journey to the village of Sistrouni is an event. The site for camper vans is 500 m north of Sistrouni (postcode 4400 09). After approximately 200 m turn left to the site – close in front of the river Acheron.

GPS data	39°24'57" N / 20°41'51" E
Number of spaces	15
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The large and absolutely even location



View from the site to the picnic area at the river Acheron



The "somewhat difficult" access

# The Ioannina region

# Words of welcome by the mayor of the Ioannina

Dear Visitors,

Welcome to the city of legends, traditions and culture. Ioannina is the Capital City and the largest in the Epirus Prefecture. The City is built on

the bank of Pamvotis Lake. The Municipality of Ioannina, has a population of 130.000 inhabitants, an airport, a University with 30,000 students, two University hospitals, a sufficient hospitality capacity as well as a qualitative business-tourism infrastructure. When you arrive in Ioannina the question raised is: What do you want to do first? loannina is considered to be one of the most beautiful cities in Greece, with an important course in the nation's history and multicultural characteristics. Modern buildings and shopping centers coexist with the well preserved historic landmark buildings, the imposing monuments, the popular-silver art workshops, the picturesque neighborhoods and alleys. The lakefront boardwalks and museums with exquisite objects and treasures, the Castle and the Historic – Traditional Town Centre, the Island in the lake with the exceptional byzantine monasteries and the famous Ali Pasha museum together with the extraordinary famous Perama Cave, is a guarantee for every type of visitor. Ioannina also has a large and thriving academic community which brings a lively and creative dynamism to the city. Daily life in the city is full of intellectual and artistic events. During the last years, the city of loannina as well as its surroundings have become a favourite and promising tourist destination in Greece, offering many forms of alternative touristic options like sport activities (skiing, rafting, hiking, biking, climbing, sailing, paraflying, etc.), cultural and religion pathways and routes, as well as relaxing city break escapes. All these together with the exclusive gastronomic tastes offered in the area (Traditional Epirotic cuisine with top quality dairy, meat-poultry, herb and spices, products and spirits), the qualitative level of entertainment and the intense nightlife, develop an exceptional atmosphere.

I wish you to enjoy every minute of your visit in our area and I 'm sure you will have the opportunity to discover the Old.New.You!

Many regards

The Mayor of Ioannina

**Thomas Mpegas** 

# Short description of the region

One city...many destinations

Ioannina is the capital and the largest city in the Epirus Prefecture (north-west part of Greece). The city is built on the bank of lake Pamvotis (500 m altitude). The municipality of Ioannina, has a population of 120.000 inhabitants, an airport, a university with 30,000 students, two hospitals, a sufficient hospitality capacity (more than 206 hotels in the Ioannina county //total: 6,721 beds, 2012 data) as well as a quality business-tourism infrastructure.



loannina is considered to be one of the most beautiful cities in Greece, with an important course in the nation's history and multicultural characteristics. Modern buildings and shopping centers coexist with the well preserved historic landmark buildings, the imposing monuments, the popular-silver art workshops, the picturesque neighborhoods and alleys, the lakefront walkways and large squares.

Ioannina also has a large and thriving academic community which brings a lively and creative dynamism to the city. Daily life in the city is full of intellectual and artistic events. During the year, there are also important sports events, mainly held at lake Pamvotis.

loannina county is an area where visitors can combine both mountain landscape and water foundations, in a close distance of the Ionian Sea coasts with the famous blue flags beaches. The multicultural scenery with innumerable historic monuments (including the first ancient Greek theatre of Dodoni), museums with exquisite objects, documents and treasures, the castle and the historic-traditional town centre, the island in the lake with the exceptional byzantine monasteries together with the extraordinary famous Perama cave, is a guarantee for every type of visitor.

The surrounding area includes the famous Zagori, Konitsa, Tzoumerka, Metsovo etc., which construct a network of beautiful traditional villages that spread all over the mountains around the city.

During the last decade, the city of Ioannina as well as its surroundings have become a favourite and promising tourist destination in Greece, offering many forms of alternative touristic options like sport activities (skiing, rafting, hiking, biking, climbing, sailing, para-gliding, etc.), cultural and religious pathways and routes, as well as relaxing city escapes.

All this together with the exclusive gastronomic tastes offered in the area (traditional Epirotic cuisine with top quality dairy, meat, poultry, fish, herbs and spices, products and spirits), the quality level of entertainment and the intense nightlife, develop an exceptional atmosphere. Don't leave the city unless you have tasted the local traditional desserts 'yianniotikos baklavas'-'kataifi' and 'yianniotiko loukoumi' and/or indulged in sweet-smelling tsípouro together with the locals.

# No. 4 Ioannina region - camping site "Limmopula"

Quality of site

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#### Description of location

This is a very nice camping site directly located at the lake. Within a 15 min walk you reach historical downtown loannina – the "capital of Epirus". From here you can take boats to the island with many monasteries. There is a beautiful 30 km circular path for cycling around the lake, in which you shouldn't go swimming though.

#### How to get there

You leave the motorway at the exit Ioannina. In town you find signs. Bigger camper vans shouldn't struggle through the city but choose the bypass (towards the airport).

GPS data	39°40'40.74"N / 20°50'36.79"E
Number of spaces	12
Opening hours	March - October
Fee	24€



The site with view of the lake



Reception with small shop



Circular cycle path around the lake

# Quality of site

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#### Description of location

The site is located directly at the lake in Perama. Here are possibilities for shopping, restaurants and tavernas. The site for camper vans is right next to the beautiful 30 km circular cycle path around the lake, in which you shouldn't go swimming. Perama is also known for its stalactite cave, which you can visit for a small fee.

Ioannina, the capital of Epirus, is only 4.5 km away.

This location was made available by the municipality as an official site for camper vans and it is well suited for big camper vans.

#### How to get there

Coming from Ioannina you drive north-east on E 92 to Metsovo/Trikala for about 4 km. After you pass the the place name sign the site is about 300 m on the right side.

GPS data	39°41'25.8"N / 20°50'52.0"E
Number of spaces	ca. 12
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free

#### Pictures



The camper van site ...

<mark>???</mark>

The site with the sign "Camper Van Site"



Circular cycle path around the lake

# No. 6 Ioannina region – "Liggiades"

#### Quality of site



#### Description of location

This site is in Liggiades, a small village above the lake of Ioannina, which is at a distance of 1.5 km. Here you have a fantastic view of the lake in an absolutely quiet location. Because of its architecture the village itself is worth a visit. In addition there is its history: In World War II Liggiades suffered and was accepted as one of the 93 Greek villiages which fell victim to the German Armed Forces. Here is also a memorial, which you should visit if you have the chance, because there is absolutely no xenophobia towards Germans here – on the contrary. This location was made available by the municipality as an official site for camper vans.

#### How to get there

Coming from Ioannina you drive north-east on E 92 towards Metsovo/Trikala. Turn right off E 92 after approximately 5 km. Follow the serpentine mountain road for about 5 km up into the mountains. The site is located right at the entrance to the village on the right side.

GPS data	39°41'26.37"N / 20°53'18.82"E
Number of spaces	ca. 5
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The site with view to the lake; in the background loannina



The access to the site

#### No. 7 Ioannina region – "Loggades"

#### Quality of site



#### **Description of location**

The camper van site is located right at the lake next to the road. This road is no main thoroughfare though. The next villages are about 2 km away, and you can reach them easily by bike, especially since the site is located directly next to the cycle path around the lake.

This location was made available by the municipality as an official site for camper vans.

#### How to get there

Coming from Ioannina you drive north-east on E 92 towards Metsovo/Trikala. Turn right off E 92 after approximately 6 km and follow the little lakeside road along the lake. The site for camper vans is on the right side after approximately 3 km.

GPS data	39°40'12.00"N / 20°55'15.64"E
Number of spaces	ca. 5
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free

#### Pictures



The site with its westward view

<mark>???</mark>

The site with the sign "Camper Van Site"



Circular cycle path around the lake

Quality of site



Description of location

This site offers a fantastic view of the lake of loannina and is suitable for big camper vans as a place to stay overnight. It is located right next to the road though, the next villages are approximately 2 km away. This location was also made available by the municipality as an official site for camper vans.

How to get there

Coming from Ioannina you drive north-east on E 92 towards Metsovo/Trikala. The site for camper vans is on the right side after about 7 km.

GPS data	39°40'26.0"N / 20°56'07.5"E
Number of spaces	15
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The site with view towards the west



The access to the site

# The Konitsa region

# Words of welcome of the mayor of Konitsa region

The municipality of Kinitsa is a small community, which is surrounded by high mountains with especially beautiful nature sights. One part of our community belongs to the protected UNESCO geopark of Vikos – Aoos, which offers interesting geological, ecological, archeological, historical and cultural aspects.

All mountains of the geoparks are included in the network of Natura 2000.

Beautiful hiking path, suitable for every visitor, lead into the peaks of the mountains of Smolikas, Timfi and Grammos. -The water of the rivers Aoos, Voidomatis and Sarantaporos is very clear and clean and is ideal for water sports such as kayaking and rafting.

The visitors to our communities are always the focus of our efforts and we try to support them in every way, so that they can visit the sights of Konitsa and the villages quickly and easily. We want to show them the wonderful natural environment, the architectural and religious antiquities, as well as the customs and traditions and cultural events of our region. We encourage our guests to get to know the local food and hospitality of our community.

With best regards

Andreas Papaspirou

(Mayor of Konitsa)

# Short description of theTzoumerka region

#### <The text comes from Konista 29-7-16; too late for the Englisch translation>

Konitsa ist einer der groessten Doerfer der Praefectur von Ioaninna. Sie liegt 64 km noerdlich von der Stadt Ioannina, am Fusse der schoensten Berge von Griechenland und genau neben den wilden Fluss Aoos.

Von Konitsa und von der Grosse steinige Bruecke, kann man die Schlucht von Aoos besuchen, und von dort an fangen viele Wanderwaege an, die zu den naehen liegenden Bergen fuehren. Am Anfang der Wanderwege, wenn es Sommer ist, trifft man viele Leute die an den Fluss schwimmen, oder an den Felsen klettern. Ein bischen weiter, der Weg der zum Kloster von Stomio fuehrt steigt auf und wenn man dort ankommt die Aussicht ist unglaublich schoen. Hier trifft man nur Wanderer die zum noerdlichen Teil von Timfi aufsteigen, und das ist ein Weg den man mehrere Stunden laufen muss. Die Wanderwege von hier aus, fuehren zum kleinen Doerfer die hinter den Bergen liegen, und ueber den Berg Gamila und der beruhmte Drachensee. Auf der Rueckkehr kann man die Via Ferrata sehen, das ist ein Felsen weg, eine wilde Schoenheit, die sehr behrumt ist wie die Italienische Dolomiten.

Der Besucher von Konitsa kann sich mit vielen Aktivitaeten beschaeftigen. Die Fluesse sind von den schoensten und saubersten Griechemlands und sind ideal geignet um Rafting und Kayak zu machen. 3km ueber Konitsa entfern ,in den Huegel von Ai Lias sieht man eine Gleitschirmpiste und eine kleine Kirche. Die Aussicht von dort ist einfach fantastisch.

Im Winter, die Bergen sind mit Schnee bedeck, aber in Konitsa schneidet es sehr selten. Also es gibt keine Problem mit dem Wetter im Winter und man kann alle kleine schoene Doerfer, die in der Naehe liegen mit dem Auto besuchen. Die Berggipfel im Winter sind nur mit dem Ski besuchbar und der Abstieg von dort ist unglaublich abendteurlich. Die Gebirge von Timfi, Smolikas und Grammos garantieren es. An der Grenze unserer Gemeinde befiendet sich die Skipiste von Vasilitsa, eine der groessten von Griechenland.

Im Zentrum von Konitsa kann man alles was man braucht finden. Gesundheitszentrum, Apotheken, Banken, Post, viele Geschaefte zum Einkaufen und Informationszentrum fuer die Touristen.

In den Informationszentrum kann der Besucher von Konitsa sich ueber die Sehenswuerdigkeiten der Gemeinde sehr gut informieren. Ueber die vielen Kloestern die sich in den kleinen Doerfer befinden, ueber die Wanderwege, ueber das Bergsteigen, das Mountainbiking, das Fahradfahren, das Felsenklettern.

Das Nachtleben von Konitsa ist sehr intensiv. Es gibt viele Bars und Kaffees die bis spaet am Abend geoefnnet sind. Im Sommer alle sitzen draussen an den Plaetzen und geniessen die traditionelle Getraenke wie "Tsipouro" und "Ouzo". In den Tavernen und Restaurants von Konitsa, aber auch ausserhalb des Ortes kann der Tourist die Koestlichkeiten die ihm serviert werden probieren.

# No. 9 Konitsa region – "At The Historical Bridge"

# Quality of site



# Description of location

This location was made available by the municipality as an official site for camper vans and is located right next to the river with a historical bridge. A very nice hiking path also starts here on the left bank of the river (5.2 km easy route). By bike you can also get to Konitsa, which is 12 km away.

Right across the site the municipality installed a fresh water tap for the tourists with camper vans.

#### How to get there

The site is about 12 km south of Konitsa. You take the road no. 20 from Ioannina or from Konitsa. Coming from Ioannina its about 63 km. The location is marked by a sign as a site for camper vans.

GPS data	39°58'10.46"N / 20°39'40.90"E
Number of spaces	12
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The site with view of the gorge in the background



The historical bridge; ca. 300 m from the site



An impression of the hiking path, which starts right at the historical bridge

# No. 10 Konitsa region – "In the City"

Quality of site



#### **Description of location**

The municipality of Konitsa marked the quiet part in the back of this location officially as a site with spaces for camper vans only. This site is located in the middle of the original town of Konitsa, the towncenter can be reach on foot in 10 min. Here you can go for a strolls, shop or dine well. There is also a tourist information, where you can get information about the hiking paths.

The municipality plans the installation of electricity and a picnic area.

#### How to get there

In the city the site for camper vans is marked by signs.

GPS data	40° 3'1.44"N / 20°45'1.41"E
Number of spaces	12
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



View of the location



View from the site



View from the city into the valley

# No. 11 Konitsa region – "Bourasani"

Quality of site

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# Description of location

The site is located directly next to a hotel with restaurant. The owner of the hotel promotes the camper van tourism in Epirus. He offers cycling and hiking tours, which you can also do on your own, of course. In 5.1 km from the site you can reach on foot or by bike a beautiful monastery, which is open to the public. On inquiry you can visit the game reserve of the hotel owner for  $4 \notin$  person. At the hotel they serve excellent food; specialities are dishes of game.

At the hotel you can also book rafting. The location for rafting can be reached on foot from the hotel.

#### How to get there

Coming from Konitsa you drive on road no. 35 about 12 km towards Albania (westwards). Along the road there are signs to the site for camper vans.

GPS data	40° 3'12.54"N / 20°37'35.13"E
Number of spaces	5
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	10 €/ day, incl. electricity, water and use of toilets. If you eat at the hotel
	the price is reduced to 5 €



The camper van site



The entrance to the site



Entrance to the hotel

# No. 12 Konitsa region – "Pades"

#### Quality of site



#### Description of location

The mountain village Pades (28 km from the city of Konitsa) offers almost everything, which you wouldn't necessarily expect: There are not only tavernas and traditional cafés, you can also go on cycling and hiking tours. In the village guided tours can be provided on demand. The magnificent mountain landscape with its panoramic view invites you to a longer stay.

At the site there is a bathroom with a shower, which isn't seperated from the toilet though.

#### How to get there

Before you reach the city of Konitsa drive east towards Distratou. After about 28 km on this winding, but well passable road you reach Pades. In the village there are signs to the camper van site.

GPS data	40° 2'23.82"N / 20°54'37.44"E
Number of spaces	7
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The access to the site



Beautiful view of the mountains



The bathroom

# **The Metsovo region**

# Words of welcome by the mayor of the Metsovo region

Dear visitor

The municipality of Metsovo is part of the Region of Epirus and consists of 11 local communities with the town of Metsovo as its capital. It has a population of about 8000 inhabitants.

Metsovo is a mountainous region and is surrounded by forests and pastures. The main activities of its inhabitants are animal farming, cheese production, woodworking, tourism, the production of potatoes and wine. The variety of local products such as Katogi wine, Metsovo cheeses, wooden barrels, beehives, wood craft and traditional woven goods made Metsovo famous.

Metsovo attracts visitors all year round: During the summer for its wonderful climate, the beautiful mountain hiking paths and its reach flora and fauna. During the winter the area attracts skiers with its beautiful slopes. Lake Aoos and the Valia Kalda National Park add to the alpine beauty of Metsovo.

Metsovo is home of many national benefactors, the most important being Tositsas, G. Averoff, Stournaras and E. Averoff, who donated a large portion of their wealth to foundations which helped the economic development of the area by restoring churches and monasteries, founding museums, art gallery, ski centre, cheese factory, wood factory, winery, schools etc.

We welcome you to Metsovo and hope you will enjoy your stay.

With our best wishes

For a wonderful experience

Tzafeas Kostantinos Mayor

Short description of the Metsovo region

< There is no text of the municipality>

# No. 13 Metsovo region - "At the lake"

Quality of site



Description of location

This is a beautifully situated nature site at an altitude of 1,350 m right at the lake. Here you can enjoy cycling and hiking tours.). Particularly recommended is the circular route around the lake (= 36.9 km at an even level).

How to get there

This camper van site is located 22 km from Metsovo. From Metsovo you drive towards Kipon (northwards). After 4 km turn left towards Vovousa/ Zagori. After 16.4 km along the lake turn slightly to the right. The site is located after 1.2 km on the right side.

GPS data	39°50'4.04"N / 21° 3'55.70"E
Number of spaces	8
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free
-	,

#### Pictures



The site at the lake



Circular cycle path around the lake



View of Metsovo, the legendary "bear-village" of Epirus

# No. 14 and 15 Metsovo region - "Taverna 1 and 2"

Quality of site



Description of location

These sites are located right next to the tavernas, 2.5 km i.e. 3.2 km behind Metsovo to the north. Therefore they are ideal for a compulsory visit to the legenday "bear-village" Metsovo. The sites are situated at the side of the skiing area and there is also a certified hiking path. By bike you can go on a nice tour around the lake of Metsovo; the circular path (ca. 39 km) is less then 2 km from the camper van sites.

On inquiry you will get fresh water from the proprietor to the taverna. The site is free of charge, but it is requested that you eat at the taverna.

How to get there

The sites for the camper van are 2.5 km i.e. 3.2 km north of Metsovo and are marked by signs.

GPS data Number of spaces per tavern Opening hours Fee 39°46'51"N / 21° 09'44"E or 39°47'05"N / 21° 09'33"E 4 all year round free



The site in front of Taverna 1



The entance of Taverna 2



Metsovo, the legendary "bearvillage" of Epirus

# The Tzoumerka region

# Words of welcome by the mayor of the Tzoumerka region

Dear visitors

Welcome to the North Tzoumerka.

Our municipality is rich in history, tradition and culture and its big and promising growth prospects in the primary sector and the tourist industry.

Visitors to our sites have the opportunity to make a real journey into the heart of nature, to enjoy the incomparable, wild beauty, to be entertained by the wide range of outdoor activities, to taste genuine local products, to come into contact with locals and feel the famous Tzoumerkiotiki hospitality. Tzoumerka mountains and rivers, Tzoumerka tradition and culture, Tzoumerka of action and adventure await you !!!

It is pleasure for us to have you with us! It is pleasure for us to do everything so you enjoy your stay!

Giannis Senteles

(Mayor of North Tzoumerka)

# Short description of theTzoumerka region

The North Tzoumerka is one of eight municipalities of the Regional Unity Ioannina Region Epirus. Up the implementation of the program "Kallikratis" in 2011 from the merger of pre-existing Katsanohoria municipalities and Tzoumerka Pramanta, and basins communities Matsouki, Kalarrytes and Sirrakou.

Municipal headquarters Northern Tzoumerka Pramanta is in the center of Tzoumerka, in the prefectures of Ioannina and Arta. It is built like an amphitheater on the slopes of the Strogoula peak, has always been the administrative and economic center of the whole surrounding area, and a town with a rich tradition and history.

The North Tzoumerka covers and area of 254.94 km2 and is the smallest of the Regional Unity of Ioannina. It has a mountain and for the most part, an area of particular natural beauty. North Tzoumerka extends its boundaries from the basin of Ioannina to the ridges of Tzoumerka and Peristeri and is traversed by the rivers Kalarrytikos and Arachthos. The place is rich in history, tradition and culture and its economy is based on both the primary sector and the tourist industry.



According to the latest census of 2011, the permanent population of the municipality North Tzoumerka has 5.714 inhabitants, i.e. it has 0.05% of the total resident population of Greece and is the 274th (325 in total) in municipality ranking based on the resident population of. The North Tzoumerka is the smallest of Ioannina Regional Unity.

The permanent population per municipality area is as follows: 56 Great Plain, Kalarrytes 192 Katsanohoria 2.181, Matsouki 455 Pramanton 1.774, Sirrakou Tzoumerka 270 and 756.

The actual number of inhabitant of the municipality is 6024 (272nd in ranking order). Finally, the legal (residents) of the population is 11 064 inhabitants (253rd in rank order).

The area of Tzoumerka - Katsanohoria defined north and west of the river Arachthos, south of the prefecture of Arta and east of Trikala. North Tzoumerka, established by "Kallikratis", is based in Pramanta and includes the former municipalities Katsanohoria, Pramanta, Tzoumerka and Kalarrytes communities Matsouki, basins and Sirrakou. The 23 villages occupy a total area of 362 km2 and a population of 7,059 inhabitants. Specifically, the villages are Aetorahi, Ambelochori, the Baptist, the Greek, the Kalarrytes Kalentzi, the cedar, the Koritiani the Michalitsi, Monolithi, Palaiochori Sirrakou, Petrovouni, Pigadia, Panels Malakasio the Matsouki the Platanousa, Potistika, Pramanta, Prosilio, the Raftanaion, Syrrako the Fortosi and Houliarades.

Access to the area of Tzoumerka - Katsanohoria has improved in recent years, greatly reducing the time required, and there are alternatives, depending on your final destination or transport options. From Ioannina, access is via the 2nd Provincial Road, passing the Katsanochoria. From Ioannina take towards Greek node, then navigate to and through Kalentzi Plaka bridge can be reached in Pramanta. A second option is the northwestern part of the municipality through a third country road. From Ioannina head to Koutselio and then over the Tsimpovo bridge you can head to the villages of Tzoumerka, Kalarrytes, Syrrako and Matsouki. Also, a third option is through the second provincial road, after the junction of Greek, instead of the path to Kalentzi and Plaka bridge, follow the path to Ampelochori through Politsa bridge. In future there will be a more accessible by linking Pigadia to Terovo hub of Ionian Road.

From Athens, the kilometric distance loanning is approximately 410 km., Distance will be reduced significantly with the completion of the Ionian Road. Access to the north tzoumerka done and Arta. Immediately after the Bridge of Arta follow the path Rodavgi and Platanousa. From North Greece, it accessed via Egnatia Odos. You take the exit for "Ioannina / Tzoumerka", just before the main exit to the city of Ioannina. This is the first exit you will encounter after the Drosochori toll. After leaving the Egnatia, you arrive at the intersection and head left to the Northern villages Tzoumerka and will follow the second provincial road, to Greek and Kalentzi. Road connection exists with the Thessaly region, through the District Roads Chrisomilia-closed, closed-Mourgani and NERAIDOHORI.

# No. 16 Tzoumerka region (Pramanta) – "At The Stalactite Cave"

Quality of site

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#### **Description of location**

This site is one of the dream locations of Epirus! You will stay right in front of the entrance to the stalactite cave, which was chosen and made available by the municipality as an official site for camper vans.

There is a small taverna, where you can get Greek specialities. You can also use the very well cared for restrooms. An electricity box and a fresh water tap were especially installed for tourists with camper vans. In this magnificent mountainous region you can go on hiking tours to waterfalls and alpine pastures starting right at the camper van site. A trip to the town of Pramata at a distance of 4 km is worthwhile. Here you can also get guided cycling and hiking tours. The visit to the very interesting stalactite cave, right at the site, is a "must": The proprietor of the taverna enjoys showings the cave and telling the stories to the visitors for only 2  $\notin$  per person.

This site is also suitable for big camper van longer than 8m.

# How to get there

The site is 3.1 km south-east of Pramanta. The entrance is in a bend of the road (!) – but being marked by signs as site for camper vans it is easy to find.

GPS data	39°32'23.79"N / 21° 3'25.38"E
Number of spaces	12
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	10 €/ day, incl. electricity, water and use of toilets



The site – reserved for camper vans



The taverna at the site and entrance to the stalactite cave



The proprietor at the entrance to the cave

# No. 17 Tzoumerka region – "At The River"

Quality of site

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# Description of location

This site is a former natural picnic area located directly at the river. The site belongs to the municipality and is made available as official site for camper vans. There is fresh water and in the building there are toilets, which can be used. In the future electricity will also be offered to camper van tourists. The access and spaces are only suitable for smaller, all-terrain camper vans.

#### How to get there

Coming from the capital of the region of Tsoumerka, Pramanta, follow the mail road to the south-west. After ca. 4.5 km turn right. After alltogether approximately 10 km you reach the marked site. The trip takes about 30 min, because the road is full of bends. If you drive carefully this road will not even be a problem for bigger camper vans.

GPS data	39°32'23.79"N / 21° 3'25.38"E
Number of spaces	8
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The entance and exit



View of the site



Building across the site with fresh water and toilets

# No. 18 Tzoumerka region – "Lazena"

# Quality of site



# Description of location

If you are looking for peace and quiet, here in this beautiful mountain landscape you will find it in this smaller site for camping vans. This location is suitable for vehicles up to 7m.

The site belongs to the municipality of Tzoumerka and is made available as official site for camper vans.

# How to get there

You drive south from the village of Lazena (keep left). After 2 km turn left into the dirt road. On this road there is a sign to the "site for camper vans". You reach the site after 300m.

GPS data	39°30'39.27"N / 20°58'11.10"E
Number of spaces	5
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The access, marked at the road



The 300 m access to the site



The small, but beautiful location

# No. 19 Tzoumerka region – "Petrouni"

Quality of site



Description of location

It is a beautiful, large picnic area in a forest, which was made officially available for camper vans by the municipality Tzoumerka.

Unfortunately the access is a little difficult, but manageable by careful driving. If the site is accepted, the municipality will make further investments into this location. In so far this location is still a "hot tip".

How to get there

From the village Petrouni follow the road to the east. After 2.6 km turn right into the dirt road (follow the sign). After approximately 700 m keep left and after additional 700 m you reach the site, which is on the left side.

GPS data	39°34'44.63"N / 21° 1'56.73"E
Number of spaces	15
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free

#### Pictures



The dirt road, which leads to the site





The beautiful, wide location

The entrance

# The Zagori region

# Words of welcome by the mayor of the Zagori region

Dear visitor,

Welcome to the place behind the mountains, welcome to Zagori!

45 villages nestled among gorges, rivers, mountains. Tradition and pure Greek hospitality, locations of extreme natural beauty, stone and wood, are the main characteristics of our homeland.

Our municipality decided to participate into this project in order to:

- Attract a wider number of tourists in to the area
- Promote interventions and tasks for the upgrade and quality development of tourism
- Reinforce small units that live through tourism
- Encourage investments in alternative tourism businesses, which secure the quality upgrade of Zagori region by highlighting in growth factor, history, culture and the special identity of the area.
- Amplify the cultural tourism, by promoting the particularity of the region.

Zagori is a true paradise for nature lovers, offering at the same time high quality services and amenities. Each village has to present and offer something totally new to the visitor. We really hope that you will enjoy your staying here!

Best regards, Vasilis Spyrou Mayor

# Short description of Zagori region

The area of Zagori is a network of 45 villages spread in the mountains on the north-east of the city of loannina. The word Zagori first appeared in a document of 1321 and it means "the land behind the mountains". All the villages of the area are of unspoiled natural beauty, unique architecture and long history. The smashing natural landscape, the large network of trails and the unlimited opportunities for every kind of activity really attract and impress visitors. The rough area in conjunction with the many rivers and streams, especially during the winter months, made obligatory the construction of bridges. The golden age of Zagori allowed wealthy families to finance expensive and sometimes unsuccessful ventures connecting villages. Today, some 60 bridges survive in very good condition but there are reports of one hundred others which have been destroyed.

The monasteries and churches in Zagori follow their architecture and are built with materials of the region, such as stone and wood. Characteristic common feature of temples is shed abroad in large arches, forming a kind of antecedent to protect the faithful people from the winter weather. In many churches of the monasteries, the doors are too short and it was an often used structure element in order to prevent the invaders from the profane to enter the sacred area with their horse, as they usually did.



The National Park of Vikos - Aoos was founded in 1973 to protect the rich wildlife that stretches from the gorge of Vikos up to the gorge of the river Aoos and the mountainous area of the mountain Tymfi.

Within the limits of the park are some of the main villages of Zagorochoria with a rich history and cultural tradition. These are Monodendri, Vikos and Megalo (big) and Mikro (small) Papingo. During the 9th European Convention for geoparks, the International Geoparks Bureau, included 11 new geoparks from 9 countries, among them, also the Vikos – Aoos Geopark. The international geoparks network was created in 2004 under the protection of the UNESCO and it includes 77 geoparks in 24 countries. UNESCO underlines that Vikos – Aoos Geopark covers a region with virgin, mountainous landscape, hosting one of the most impressive gorges in Greece.

The rich fauna of the Park today include ten amphibian species. Twenty species of reptiles, one hundred and thirty species of birds and twenty-four species of mammals, with the largest brown bear (Ursus Arctos), the wild boar (Sus Scrofa), the deer (Apreolus Capreolus), the wolf (Canis Lupus), the wild goat (Rupicarpa Balanika) and the otter (Lutra Lutra).

The Park is important for its flora as well. With the arrival of spring forests, streams, alpine meadows and rocks fill with wildflowers, beautiful aromas and colors. In the forest there are over 1700 species and subspecies of plants. Among them are five endemic species, 19 endemic species of Greece and a large number of plants that are rare, protected or with a special scientific importance.

Also, there are three gorges: the gorge of Vikos with 12 km in length, in some areas the vertical height is up to 900 m, the gorge of Vikaki and of Aoos, which is located between the mountains Trapezitsa and Gamila and measures 10 km in length.
# No. 20 Zagori region(Kipi) – "Old Sports Ground"

Quality of site



Description of location

Even though this is a former sports ground, you get the impression you are looking at a park: the site is very wide, surrounded by high trees directly at the river. The surface is an absolute even grass with gravel, so that even very big vehicles have no problems accessing it. You can comfortably reach on foot or by bike the little village of Kipi with hotels and tavern, at a distance of only 3.9 km. Here you also find suppliers for outdoor activities of all kinds – who, for example, offer guided tours to the unique Vikos-canyon. This wonderful gorge is located 30 km from Kipi.

If you want to start at a comfortable pace take a walk along the river towards Kipi and discover the pretty historical bridges. There is even a place for swimming – only 350 m from the camper van site. A lot of tortoises live in this area and you have to mind them while driving.

This location was made available by the municipality as an official site for camper vans and supplies a fresh water tap.

#### How to get there

Located 3.9 km south of the village Kipi, the site is marked with signs (for camper vans).

GPS data Number of spaces Opening hours Fee 39°51'24.80"N / 20°48'15.81"E 20 all year round free



The park-like site



One of the many bridges in close proximity



The Vikos-canyon (30 km away)

# The Zitsa region

# Words of welcome of the mayor of the Zitsa region

The municipality of Zitsa was founded 2010 as fusion of the already existing municipalities of Ekali, Evrimenon, Zitsa, Molossoi and Passarona. You find it in the western part of Ioannina and it borders with the city of Ioannina and in the west with Thesprotia. It covers an area of 565.60 km2 with 14,766 inhabitants (2011 census).

Seat of the municipality of Zitsa is Eleoussa at the eastern end.

The municipality of Zitsa covers a wide area of mixed features, such as intensive urbanization. In special settlements farming and livestock farming as well as handcraft and industrial activities developed. Most of the people are involved in livestock farming, farming, wine making, bee keeping, collecting of herbs and in the production of traditional goods.

The community is rich in historical cultural heritage and unique, unspoilt nature, which impress every visitor. You can go on a "journey through time" at the archeological sites in antique Passorona and at the temple of Zeus in Rodotopi. The Byzantine monasteries will enchant every visitor, the beauty of nature is unique and the hospitality of the locals in company of wine and Tsipouro during the traditional Panigiria (celebrations) with the sounds of the traditional Epirotic music will be unforgettable.

The harbor of Igoumenitsais is 70 km from the seat of the municipality in Eleoussa.

The municipality is known for its wine in Zitsa – this is where the name comes from.

Thank you again

Stefanos Michalis

(Deputy mayor)

# Short description of Zitsa region

There was a time when this wonderful place with the lush vegetation, which is crossed by the river Kalamás and its tributaries was full of people.

You will have the chance to see this wonderful place if you visit it. Pretty villages shrouded by virgin and untouched nature. Friendly people, ready to offer warmth and love. Unique monuments drowned in endless green. Enjoy your coffee and *tsipouro* at local cafés and taste traditional dishes.

This place is blessed. Every corner takes you to a different dream. Be the first to touch the dream.

Ekáli

It is situated on the northeast edge of the municipality of Zítsa and very close to the district of Zagóri. The municipal community of Ekáli is described by both traditional and modern settlements, such as the local

communities of Karyés and Asfákas. The National Road that connects Ioánnina with Kónitsa and Albania crosses this beautiful area. The locals are mainly stock-breeders.

#### Evrymenés

The community is between the municipal communities of Zítsa and Molossoí. The area of the modern municipality of Klimatiá is possibly identified with the Molossian city of Evrymenés. Klimatiá is an important center of top quality marble quarrying. The great significance of water for the life of the locals, mainly in the past, is evident in the structures for water power (watermills and fulling-tubs) that can be found in most villages. Paliourí Monastery is a famous site that celebrates on September 8. In the village of Soulópoulo you can visit the preserved house of the poet Christovasílis. The nearby area is full of century-old plane trees and is recommended for walks as far as the river Veltsistikós.

#### Zítsa

Zítsa is built on the slopes of Profítis Ilías. It is a beautiful town that reached its heyday in the years of the Turkish occupation and today is one of the most important wine production centres of Greece. The famous monk and martyr Kosmás Aitolós taught here, while Lord Byron wrote poems about Zítsa. It is the birthplace of writers, painters and rebels. The wine celebration of Zítsa is held every year in the area of Profítis Ilías Monastery. The monastery of Agíon Patéron with its amazing paintings is near the village of Líthino. A little farther, on the river Kalamás, in a verdant area with crystal clear waters, you can see Theogéfyro, a complex of rocks connecting the banks of the river.

#### Molossoí

The municipal community of Molossoí is in the west part of the municipality of Zítsa. The former seat of the municipality was Voutsarás. It is an area with rich historical tradition, contribution to national matters and spiritual radiance, archaeological and historical sites, important religious places of worship, interesting modern monuments and a landscape with amazing changes and rare beauty.

This is the place where the Molossians first appeared, according to Nikolas Hammond.

This is where the pre-revolutionary movement of Dionýsios Filósofos began in 1611.

It is the birthplace of the famous patriot monk Samouíl of Koúgk and the homeland of Ioánnis Dombólis, the great national benefactor and founder of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

It is also the birthplace of the "Teacher of the Nation" Geórgios Sougdourís in the Turkish occupation.

#### Passaróna

Passaróna is an area with remarkable agricultural production. The industrial area of Ioánnina is situated on the margins of the municipal community. The seat of the municipality of Zítsa, Eleoússa, is a developing town, almost connected with the urban fabric of Ioánnina. A little outside the settlement, in the hill of Mikró Gardíki, is the archaeological site of Passaróna. It includes the ruins of the temple of Áreios Zeus, which served as the official Molossian sanctuary. At the top of the hill the visitor can see the preserved walled acropolis that is identified with Ancient Passaróna, the capital of the Molossian state. Within a very short distance from the basin visit the Grammenochória villages, birthplaces of great Greek benefactors (Zosimás, Kaplánis, etc.) and other eminent spiritual people.

# No. 21 Zitsa region - "At The Monastery"

Quality of site



#### **Description of location**

A very nicely situated, wide site directly next to the monastery above the town of Zitsa, which you can reach on foot (a 750 m walk). Zitsa itself is still a very originally preserved little town of Epirus, where there are possibilities for shopping and dining and which you should visit. Close to Zitsa there is also a wine-growing estate, which can be visited as well. The camper van site is suitable for bigger vehicles; the access though is somewhat difficult.

#### How to get there

Driving on E92/O6 (Igoumenitsa – Ioannina), follow the signs to Zitsa. In town you find signs to the camper van site.

GPS data	39°45'7.68"N / 20°39'11.94"E
Number of spaces	20
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The natural, unspoilt site



The entrance to the site with the monastery in the background



Here you find water, electricity and toilets

Quality of site



Description of location

If you are looking for peace and quiet at a river, then this is the right place for you: This site is an unspoilt former picnic area directly located at the river in the shade of high trees. It is suitable for bigger camper vans despite the difficult access.

How to get there

If you are driving from loannina towards Igoumenitsa on the old main route, E92/O6 (not the motorway) turn right after approximately 29 km. If you are coming from Igoumenitsa towards loannina turn left after approximately 64 km. The access to the site is right on the main route, E92/O6, and it is marked with a sign to the camper van site The access from the main road (ca. 100 m) is a dirt road, but absolutely manageable even for bigger camper vans.

GPS data	39°41'41.94"N / 20°35'55.50"E
Number of spaces	10
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The natural, unspoilt site; in the background a hut for hikers



View from the site to the river



Space right next to the river

# No. 23 Zitsa region - "At The Taverna"

Quality of site



Description of location

This camper van site is suitable for a stopp of you are coming from or going to Igoumenitsa (approximately 50 km) and you want to enjoy again or for a last meal the Greek cuisine. The taverna is run by a German and she enjoys welcoming every guest coming by camper van. You get free fresh water, electricity and you can use the toilets in the tavern. It is requested that you take a meal at the taverna.

#### How to get there

If your are driving from loannina towards Igoumenitsa on the old main route, E92/O6 (not the motorway), turn right after approximately 33 km. Coming from Igoumenitsa towards loannina turn left after approximately 53 km. The access to the site is right on the main route, E92/O6, and it is marked with a sign of the camper van site.

GPS data	39°39'50.25"N / 20°34'52.59"E
Number of spaces	5
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free



The site (= reinforced grass) infront of the taverna



The "camper-friendly" German proprietress



Absolutly harmless "guests" on the terrace of the taverna

# The Pogoni region

# Words of welcome by the mayor of Pogoni



The "Pogoni" is a municipality of the region of Epirus. Established in 2011 by merging six small municipalities.

The municipality of Pogoni has a concentration of economic activity in the primary sector. It has many forests, great plains, rivers and large pastures. Changing lifestyles combined with the problems of the activities of the primary sector, led several groups of the population to a gradual abandonment. In the past we had a lot of artisans who were involved in crafts like woodworks, stone-works, waxworks, marble works and those who made woven goods and clothes of sheep or goat wool.

The virgin environment, combining mountains and forests, lakes and rivers and is ideal for alternative activities.

The musical tradition is unique and is expressed through the Polyphonic Song.

The municipality is working hard to improve its infrastructure, to emerge the historical and natural monuments and to develop alternative kinds of tourism.

We invite you to explore and enjoy the natural beauty of our municipality and of the further region in one of the most beautiful places in Greece.

# Short description of the Pogoni region

The Municipality of Pogoni, integrated in the region of Epirus, which was formed in 2011 from the merger of the already existing municipalities of Ano Kalama, Ano Pogoni, Delvinakiou, Kalpakiou as well as the communities of Pogoniani, lavdani.

The municipality covers an area of 701 km<sup>2</sup> and its population is 8960 residents.

The largest villages are Kefalovryso, Parakalamos, Kalpaki (the center of the Municipallity with all the official agencies) and Delvinaki with its rich history (the historic center of the municipality).

It borders to the north with the municipality of Konitsa and the country of Albania, to the east with the municipality of Zagoria, to the south with the Municipality of Zitsa and to the west with the village Filiates and Albania.

The rich historical and cultural heritage together with the unique natural environment is an attraction for every visitor. Tourists have the opportunity to visit the historic sites and the Museum of the "epic of 1940" witch became a symbol of resistance and victory of the Greek soul in the modern history of our country.

The visitor of Pogoni may even combine his visit with the sightseeing of the rich archeological sites,

- to feel the religious devotion in the churches and monasteries,
- to admire the architecture of the mansions

- to live the beauty of nature,
- to refresh himself in the rich waters of the region,
- to enjoy the beautiful traditional festivals and the other events which organized by the Municipality with the regional actors,
- to enjoy the local wine and grapes of the region.

The geographical position of the municipality, near Ioannina and Zagori and Albania, offers the advantage to attract lately several people with new business ideas.

# No. 24 Pogoni region – "Kalpaki"

## Quality of site



## Description of location

This camper van site is located in the city center of Kalpaki. It is a wide, gravelled, level location especially for camper vans and very well suited for large vehicles. A fresh water tap is on site.

In the city there are restaurants and possibilities for shopping A little outside the city (towards the south) on the main road there is a military museum, which is worth seeing in view of the history of Greece. From the site you can also go on cycling tours towards Albania on a relatively even level.

## How to get there

Coming from the south (Ioannina), in town you turn right after approximately 250 m off the main road. On this road you pass a school with a playground on the right side. Right after you turn right into the site for camper vans.

GPS data	39°51'47.49"N / 20°34'30.81"E
Number of spaces	15
Opening hours	all year round
Fee	free

## Pictures



The wide gravelled site, which is suitable for big camper vans

<mark>???</mark>
The site with the sign "Camper
Van Site"

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