

Thessaloniki General Info

EMERGENCIES & MEDICAL ASSISTANCE: In case of emergencies or if you need medical assistance, please promptly contact a member of the organizing secretariat who will be present at the excursion. Emergency Numbers: 100, 112, 166, 199

CLIMATE: Thessaloniki enjoys a Mediterranean climate characterized by mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers. In September in Greece offers warm, sunny, and pleasant weather, making it one of the best times to visit with temperatures ranging from 18°C to 30°C (64°F - 86°F). The sea remains warm (24°C –25°C), perfect for swimming, while crowds thin out and humidity decreases to be around 60%. Days are long, with around 9-10 hours of sunshine.

TIME ZONE: Greece operates on Eastern European Time (EET), which is UTC+2 hours. During daylight saving time, Greece switches to Eastern European Summer Time (EEST), UTC+3 hours.

UNITS OF MEASUREMENT: In Greece, the metric system is widely used, encompassing kilograms (kg), grams (g), liters (l), kilometers (km), and other standard units. Temperature is indicated in Celsius (°C).

ELECTRICITY/POWER SUPPLY: Greece, primarily uses the Type C and Type F electrical plugs with power supply 230V, 50Hz. Type C plugs are the standard European two-round-pin plugs, while Type F plugs add grounding with two additional earth clips on the sides. Travelers may need adapters for non European appliances.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE & ATMs: The official currency in Greece, is the euro (EUR). Both cash and cards are widely accepted throughout the city. Currency exchange centers are available downtown for converting foreign currencies to euros. Additionally, ATMs are easily accessible for withdrawing cash in euros.

TIPPING: Tipping in Greece is generally appreciated but not obligatory. In restaurants, a tip of 5-10% of the bill is customary if you are satisfied with the service.

SMOKING: Smoking is strictly prohibited in indoor public spaces. This includes restaurants, bars, cafes, and other enclosed areas. Designated outdoor smoking areas may be available in some establishments.

THINGS TO DO

- Walk along the **seafront promenade**
- Visit UNESCO Byzantine monuments

Practical notes:

- Most monuments are **within walking distance** of the city center
 - Short visits possible (10–30 minutes per site)
 - Google Maps recognizes all monuments by name
- Explore the **Upper Town (Ano Poli)** for panoramic views
- Experience local markets and shopping streets
- Enjoy cafés and restaurants in the historic center

CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT: Mid-September in Thessaloniki is typically warm and pleasant. Light summer clothing is suitable during the day, while a light jacket or sweater is recommended for the evening. Comfortable walking shoes are advised for moving around the city and visiting historical sites. Sunglasses and sun protection are useful, and a compact umbrella may be helpful in case of occasional rain.

City Access

Strategically located at the crossroads of East and West, Thessaloniki is Northern Greece’s dynamic gateway and connects easily to Southeastern Europe, the Balkans and the Middle East.

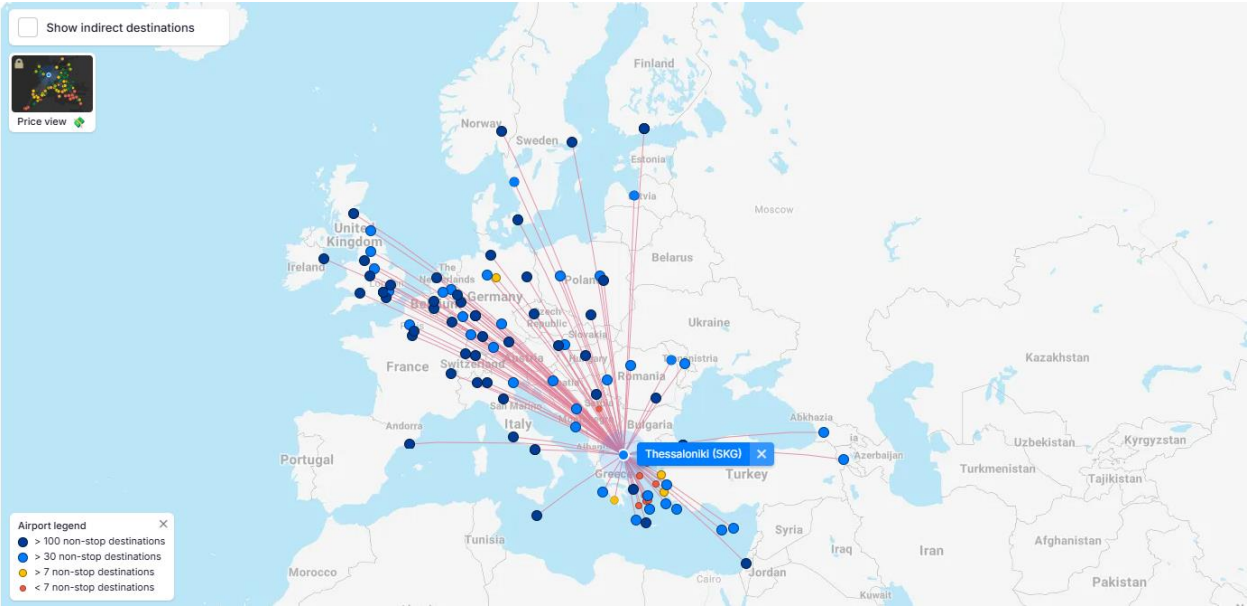
Within easy access through highways form the land borders, efficient cross-border train and bus services and only 14 km away from Thessaloniki Makedonia Airport, with an extended connectivity network serving year-round numerous domestic and international destinations, Thessaloniki offers many solutions to visitors to arrange their travel and ensures a seamless arrival experience

Mode	Description	Highlights / Tips
 By Air	Fly directly to Thessaloniki International Airport (SKG) from Europe, the Middle East, and select global destinations.	Frequent flights from London, Rome, Paris, Vienna, Tel Aviv, and more. Only 14 km from the city center, with taxis, buses, and shuttles available.
 By Train	International rail connections from Sofia (Bulgaria) and seasonal links from North Macedonia.	Arrive in Thessaloniki Railway Station in the city center while enjoying a scenic train journey.
 By Bus	Cross-border intercity buses from Skopje, Sofia, Belgrade , and other Balkan cities.	Comfortable, affordable, and frequent.
 By Car / Private Transfer	Drive from neighboring countries via highways E75 / E90 .	Flexible option for small groups or private tours. The duration is approximately 3 hours from North Macedonia, 5 hours from Sofia and 6 hours from Serbia.

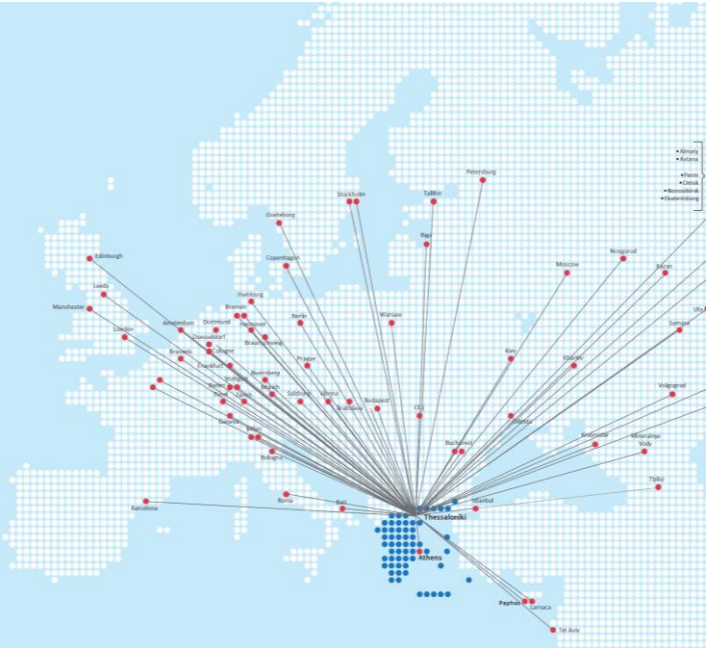
Region	Country	Key Direct Flight Cities
Central Europe	Austria	Vienna
	Switzerland	Zurich, Geneva
	Germany	Berlin, Frankfurt, Düsseldorf, Munich

Western Europe	Belgium	Brussels, Charleroi
	France	Paris, Basel
	Netherlands	Amsterdam, Eindhoven
	Luxembourg	Luxembourg City
	Ireland	Dublin
Southern Europe	Italy	Rome, Milan, Naples, Bologna, Bergamo, Treviso
	Spain	Barcelona
	Malta	Luqa
Northern Europe	Denmark	Copenhagen
	Sweden	Stockholm, Gothenburg
	Norway	Oslo
	Finland	Helsinki
Eastern Europe & Balkans	Croatia	Dubrovnik, Zagreb
	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Sarajevo
	Serbia	Belgrade, Kraljevo
	Romania	Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Iasi, Timisoara
	Poland	Warsaw, Krakow, Poznan
	Czech Republic	Prague
	Slovakia	Bratislava
Caucasus & Middle East	Georgia	Kutaisi
	Armenia	Yerevan
	Israel	Tel Aviv

United Kingdom	UK	London, Manchester, Newcastle, Birmingham
Cyprus	Cyprus	Larnaca, Paphos



<https://www.flightconnections.com/flights-to-thessaloniki-skg>



TRANSPORTATION:

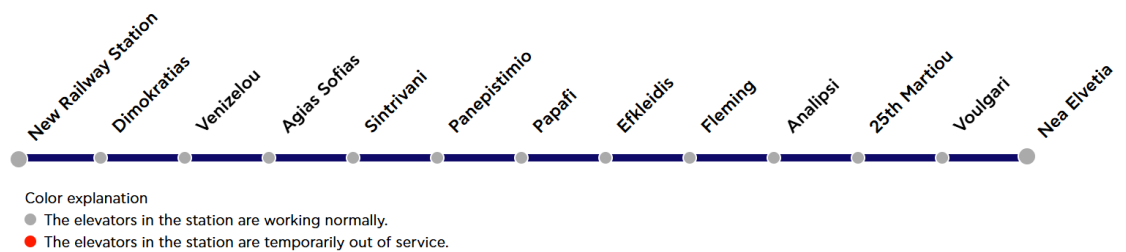
- **From the airport:**

- Taxi: ≈25-30 minutes to city center
- Public bus available (24/7): No 01X “KTEL – Airport” & No 01N “KTEL – Airport” (Night Line)

- **Within the city:**

- City center is **walkable**
- Public buses and taxis are reliable
- Metro system available

Thessaloniki Metro Stations (Line 1)



- **Taxis:**

- Numerous taxi stands available; can be stopped on the road; cash or card usually accepted

From SKG Airport to Grand Hotel Palace

Transport Option	Bus / Route Numbers	Route	Approx. Time	Approx. Cost	Notes
Taxi	—	Direct airport → Grand Hotel Palace	20–35 min	€25–45	Fastest and easiest
Private Transfer	—	Pre-booked direct transfer	20–35 min	€30–60+	Good for groups/business travel
Public Airport Bus (day)	01X / 1X	Airport → City Center → Railway Station → KTEL Macedonia → short walk/taxi to hotel	50–65 min	~€2	Main daytime airport express bus
Public Airport Bus (night)	01N / 1N	Same route as 01X with more stops	60–75 min	~€2	Night service after ~23:00
Bus + Metro	02X / 2X + Metro Line 1	Airport → Nea Elvetia Metro → metro toward city → short taxi/bus to hotel	50–75 min	~€3–5	More comfortable during traffic
Ride-hailing App	Uber Taxi / FreeNow	App-booked licensed taxi	20–35 min	€23–40	Popular app-based option
Rental Car	—	Drive airport → hotel	20–30 min	Rental + fuel	Parking available
Shared Shuttle Van	Shared airport shuttle	Airport → multiple hotel stops	30–60 min	€10–25	Budget-friendly group option

Best bus stop for the hotel

- Omospondia
- KTEL Macedonia (short taxi/walk afterward)

Important bus notes

- 01X / 1X = daytime airport express bus.
- 01N / 1N = nighttime airport bus.
- 02X / 2X = airport ↔ Nea Elvetia metro connector.
- There is currently no direct metro to Thessaloniki Airport "Makedonia".
- Airport buses depart from outside Terminal 1 arrivals.
- 01X/01N buses usually run every 20–30 minutes.

Note: the hotel sits on Monastiriou Road near the KTEL area, which is very vehicle-oriented. Many locals recommend taking a taxi instead of walking long stretches there with luggage, especially very early or late.

From the White Tower to Grand Hotel Palace

Transport Option	Bus Number(s)	Departure Bus Stop (White Tower Area)	Arrival Stop (Near Hotel)	Route Summary	Approx. Time	Approx. Cost
Taxi	—	Anywhere around White Tower of Thessaloniki	Directly at Grand Hotel Palace	Direct ride	10–20 min	€8–15
Ride-hailing App	Uber Taxi / FreeNow	White Tower area	Direct hotel drop-off	App-booked taxi	10–20 min	€8–15
Direct Public Bus	2K	White Tower / Lefkos Pyrgos stop	KTEL Macedonia or Omospondia	East-west city route toward Monastiriou	20–35 min	~€0.90–2
Direct Public Bus	8	White Tower / Lefkos Pyrgos stop	KTEL Macedonia → Short taxi/walk	Via Egnatia toward western Thessaloniki	25–40 min	~€0.90–2

Transport Option	Bus Number(s)	Departure Bus Stop (White Tower Area)	Arrival Stop (Near Hotel)	Route Summary	Approx. Time	Approx. Cost
Direct Public Bus	12	White Tower / Dimarchiako Megaro stop	Grand Hotel Palace / nearby Monastiriou stop	Direct corridor toward KTEL area	20–35 min	~€0.90–2
Direct Public Bus	31	White Tower / Lefkos Pyrgos stop	KTEL Macedonia → Short taxi/walk	Central-western line	20–35 min	~€0.90–2
Direct Public Bus	45	White Tower / Dimarchiako Megaro stop	KTEL Macedonia → Short taxi/walk	KTEL-to-KTEL connector	20–35 min	~€0.90–2
Walking	—	White Tower promenade	Grand Hotel Palace	Waterfront + Monastiriou Road	50–70 min	Free
Bicycle / E-scooter	—	White Tower waterfront	Grand Hotel Palace	Via waterfront/west city roads	20–35 min	€3–10

- Bus lines **2K, 8, 12, 31**, and **45** all serve the broader KTEL/Monastiriou corridor near the hotel.
- The White Tower area’s main tourist departure point is the **Lefkos Pyrgos** stop.
- Locals often recommend taxis instead of walking around the KTEL/Monastiriou area with luggage, especially late at night.

From the Aristotelous Square (on Egnatia street) to Grand Hotel Palace

Transport Option	Bus Number(s)	Departure Bus Stop (Aristotelous Square Area)	Arrival Stop (Near Hotel)	Route Summary	Approx. Time	Approx. Cost
Taxi	—	Anywhere around Aristotelous Square	Directly at Grand Hotel Palace	Direct ride via Egnatia/Monastiriu	10–20 min	€8–15
Ride-hailing App	Uber Taxi / FreeNow	Aristotelous Square area	Direct hotel drop-off	App-booked licensed taxi	10–20 min	€8–15
Direct Public Bus	12	Aristotelous stop	Omospondia	Direct Monastiriu corridor route	20–30 min	~€0.90–2
Direct Public Bus	2K	Aristotelous Square / Aristotelous stop	Omospondia or KTEL Macedonia → Short taxi/walk	East-west central line	20–35 min	~€0.90–2
Direct Public Bus	45	Aristotelous stop	KTEL Macedonia → Short taxi/walk	KTEL connector route	20–35 min	~€0.90–2
Direct Public Bus	01X / 1X	Aristotelous stop	Hotel or KTEL Macedonia	Airport express passing through Monastiriu	20–35 min	~€2
Direct Public Bus (night)	01N / 1N	Aristotelous stop	Hotel or KTEL Macedonia	Night airport line	20–40 min	~€2

Transport Option	Bus Number(s)	Departure Bus Stop (Aristotelous Square Area)	Arrival Stop (Near Hotel)	Route Summary	Approx. Time	Approx. Cost
Metro + Bus	Metro Line 1 + local bus	Agia Sofia Metro → New Railway Station → Bus No 51 or No 01X (short walk from square)	Omospondia	Metro westbound + short transfer	20–35 min	~€2–3
Walking	—	Aristotelous Square	Grand Hotel Palace	Via Egnatia + Monastiriou	45–60 min	Free
Bicycle / E-scooter	—	Aristotelous waterfront	Grand Hotel Palace	City-center westbound route	20–30 min	€3–10

SHOPS WORKING DAYS & HOURS

Weekly	Saturday	Sunday
09:00–14:30	09:00–15:00	Closed (except tourist areas & special Sundays)
Tue/Thu/Fri also 17:30–21:00. <i>Chain stores remain open throughout the day.</i>		

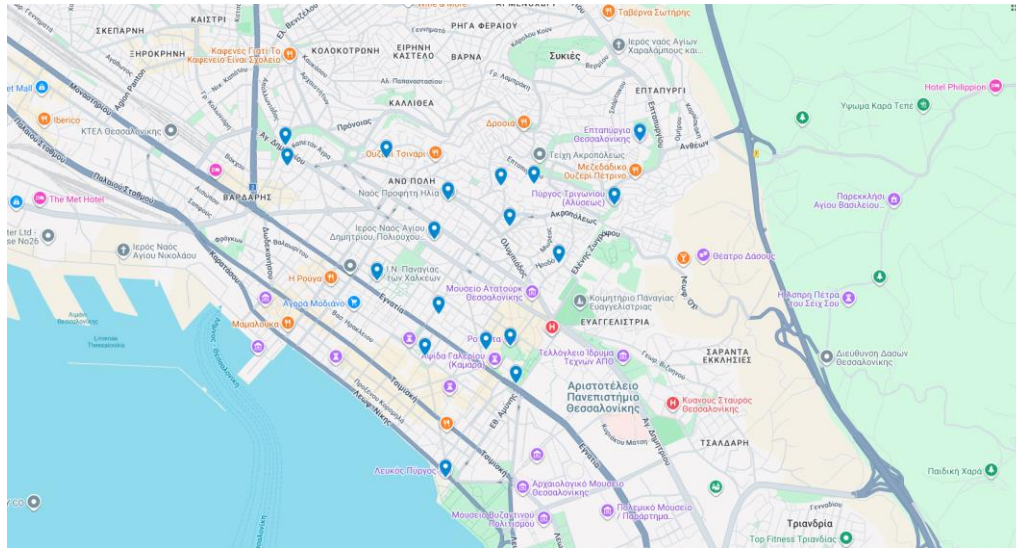
Malls & supermarkets:

- Mon-Fri: **09:00–21:00**, Sat: **09:00–20:00**, Sun: **Closed**

Useful Tips for Visitors

- Tourist shops and convenience stores often keep **extended hours**
- Pharmacies operate on a **rotating duty system** for nights, weekends, and holidays
- Cafés, restaurants, and bakeries are usually open **daily, long hours**

UNESCO MONUMENTS OF THESSALONIKI



- ✚ Rotunda
- ✚ Moni Latomou - Ieros Naos Osiou David
- ✚ Basilica of Aghios Dimitrios - Crypt
- ✚ Basilica of Panagia Acheiropoietou
- ✚ Church of Aghia Sofia
- ✚ Church of Panayia Chalkewn
- ✚ Byzantine bath
- ✚ Church of Aghios Panteleimon
- ✚ Church of Aghioi Apostoloi
- ✚ Church of Aghios Nikolaos Orphanos
- ✚ Church of Aghia Ekaterini
- ✚ Church of Metamorphosis tou Sotiros
- ✚ Vlatadon Monastery
- ✚ Church of Profitis Elias
- ✚ East Byzantine Walls of Thessaloniki
- ✚ Western Walls of Thessaloniki
- ✚ Trigonion Tower (Alyseos)
- ✚ White Tower of Thessaloniki
- ✚ Heptapyrgion

ONLY FOR STUDENT SEMINAR

Common ways you can travel from Thessaloniki Airport (SKG) to Telioni Hotel:

Option	Duration	Cost	Convenience
Taxi / Ride-hailing*	≈25-35 min	€25–€35+	★ ★ ★ ★
Public Bus** + short local taxi	≈50-70 min	≈€2 + small taxi fare	★ ★
Pre-booked Private Transfer	≈25-35 min	Varies (often €30+)	★ ★ ★ ★
Car Rental	≈25-30 min	Depends on rental	★ ★ ★

*Taxi stands clearly marked outside arrivals

Buses run frequently; tickets purchased on board or via specific counters on the bus stations. Airport buses **01X (day) and **01N (night)** run between SKG and central Thessaloniki. Offboarding station: Colombus

From the bus stop you can either:

- **Walk** approx. 10 min to the hotel (about 0.5 m), or
- Take a **short local taxi** to the hotel.

For routes' information, you may use the official platform for real-time data:

<https://www.oasth.gr/en/>

Are you travelling from Athens to Thessaloniki? Below are the travel options to reach the final destination:

Option	Duration	Cost	Comments
Airplane	≈3.5 hrs (including waiting, boarding etc)	€50-€100+	From SKG airport choose one of the options above to reach Telioni Hotel
Public Bus + KTEL (long-distance) Bus*	≈6.5-7.5 hrs	€35-€65	Take X93 airport bus to Kifisos station and then the KTEL Bus to Thessaloniki Train Station.
Train*	≈6.5-7.5 hrs	€50-€65	Take the Suburban Railway (Proastiakos) to Larissis Station and then the Intercity train
Private transfer / car	≈5.5-6.5 hrs	€90-€130	

* From the train station you have the following options to reach Telioni hotel:

- Taxi: ≈ 5-10 min drive for the cost of €7-€10
- City Bus: Lines 2K, 14, 01N (night) etc. to Kolombou stop (≈10 min) and then walk to the hotel for about 8 min.
- Walk for about 17 min the train station to the hotel.