

# Marathon Tomb & Archaeological Museum of Marathon

At the battle of Marathon, the Athenians suffered significant losses. Although they won, 192 Athenians died trying to defend their city from the enemy. Their bodies lie there, at the awe-inspiring Marathon Tomb or else known Tomb of the Athenians. On the Marathon plain, the tomb is 9 meters high and has been the place where the Athenians paid tribute to their dead every year. This is one of the monuments that you will see, after reaching Marathon. Immense respect to the ones who gave their life for what they believed in, ever since antiquity.

Near the Archaeological Museum of Marathon, we find another tomb. This time, it is devoted to the Plataeans who gave their life for the same cause during the battle of Marathon. At the museum, of course, you will get the opportunity to find more details about this prestigious battle in history. The museum has been operating since 1975, after the discovery of some important excavations. With the help of the locals and a Greek-American benefactor, the museum was built and now holds a rare collection of findings to display. Pottery and marble works, offerings to the dead and the imposing Trophy Room compose the interior of the museum. There is a lot to see and admire, taking a glimpse at the glorious historic past of Greece.

Explore Marathon and the beautiful scenery, while at the same time finding out more about the historic meaning of the place. Visit the significant sights and attractions, for a journey to Greek history.



# Schinias National Park

One of the most beautiful areas of Athens to visit is the **Schinias National Park** where you will be able to combine great swimming, relaxation, **incredible natural beauty, bird watching**, water sports, canoeing or rowing, **cycling or walking**.

## PART OF THE NATURA 2000 NETWORK

The area encompasses 13.84 square kilometers and includes a wetland, a coastal pine forest, a freshwater spring, a peninsula, a hill and a magnificent bay and is the most important coastal ecosystem of Attica and belongs to the Natura 2000 network.

The Park also includes the [Olympic Rowing and Canoeing Center](#).



The main element here is water and the wildlife that finds refuge here. At the National Park of Schinias one can encounter foxes, badgers, hedgehogs, rabbits, reptiles, turtles, frogs, 115 bird species with a potential diversity of 215 species while there are threatened species of freshwater fish, amphibians and reptiles. The National Park of Schinias boasts **six ecosystems**, The Pine Forest of Schinias, The Cynosura Peninsula, The Schinias Wetland which is home to unique flora and fauna, Lake Stomi, Schinias Bay and last but not least the ancient Makaria Spring. The Wetlands of these ecosystems hosts a large number of migratory birds during the migration seasons **and** attracts thousands of visitors and birdwatchers every year and is equipped with special observatory view posts.

# Marathon Lake

The Marathon Lake is an artificial lake at a distance of about 26 km from the centre of Athens. This lake actually works like a water reservoir that supplies the city of Athens with drinking water. The dam was constructed from 1926 to 1929 to cover the growing needs of the capital for water after the huge immigration wave that followed the Asia Minor War (1919-1922). This was the sole water supplier for Athens till 1959, when water was pumped from Yliki Lake, close to the town of Thebes. The American company Ulen & Co was selected to construct the dam, a 54 m tall and 285 m long gravity dam. The reservoir has a maximum depth of 54 m and it is used since today to cover the needs of Athens. This lake matches perfectly with the natural surrounding and above the dam, there is a coffee restaurant with amazing view. At the time of its construction, the Marathon Dam was a major symbol of modernization for Greece. The dam is found about 10 min drive from the location of the Marathon Battle, signifying the connection of future with the past and was built with high-quality Pentelic marble, the same material that was used in the Parthenon. At the base of the dam, the workers built a replica of the Athenian Treasury Temple in Delphi. The plaque on this reads: To commemorate their victory at the battle of Marathon, the Athenians erected a treasury at Delphi. This building is a replica and commemorates a victory at Marathon in wrestling from nature its life giving water for the citizens of Athens.





# Marathon Startline of Original Classic Marathon Race

The Marathon has always had a prominent place in the hearts and minds of athletes. It represents the ultimate athletic effort —where the human body, mind and soul are tested to their limits. The Athens Marathon is the ultimate Marathon experience, recreating each year the incredible run that started it all 2,500 years ago. Whether you're a runner or not, we hope you'll take a few minutes to explore this site and learn more about the Athens Marathon, and why it has such a special place in the hearts of runners throughout the world.

Among all the Olympic sport events, the Marathon Race stands out as it was born by a true historic and heroic event. It was a true triumph accomplished by a news-bearing foot soldier from ancient Athens, who announced - with his last words - the victory of the Greeks against the Persians during the Marathon Battle in 490 BC. The 42,195m Marathon Race became one of the most competitive events during the revival of the Olympic Games in 1896. A Greek athlete named Spyros Louis, running what has ever since been referred to as the Original Marathon Course from the ancient city of Marathon to the Panathenaic Stadium in Athens, won the gold medal of the first modern Olympic Games and became a legend of Greek and International Athletics.



# St. Ephraim Monastery

In Nea Makri, a sacred place for pilgrims is indisputably that of St. Ephraim Monastery. The body of a relatively new Saint has been revealed in this place, after the illuminated dreams of a nun. Ever since, people have prayed there and have honored St. Ephraim, by building this monastery. Every year, many travel from all over Greece and abroad to pray and ask for a miracle, since the Saint was believed to perform miracles throughout his life. This is definitely a place of sacred significance, a place where people find peace and serenity.

The body of the Saint is placed at the monastery of the Annunciation of Theotokos, located at the Hill of Amomon in Nea Makri. The scenery in the wider area is inspiring and peaceful, with trees all around and with the fresh air filling your lungs. Whether you are a believer or not, you will feel rejuvenated and hopeful as soon as you reach the site. Nobody can argue that this is one of the oldest monasteries in Attica and holds a special place in the hearts of the locals. The story of the nun that discovered the body of St. Ephraim is shocking, as a series of dreams have indicated the exact place where he would be and his actual name. It is worth paying a visit to Nea Makri and the Monastery of St. Ephraim at the Hill of Amomon. It will give you the chance not only to pray and ask for divine consult, but also to enjoy a place of amazing natural beauty.



# Excursion Program

Every Tuesday and Thursday.

Departure from Marathon Beach Resort 9:00

Stop to Schinias National Parc for picnic and lunch : 12:30

Return to Marathon Beach Resort 17:30

**Rate: 55 euros per person**

The above rate does not include the lunch box.

For further information regarding the lunch box content and your participation to the above excursion, please contact our Front Desk.