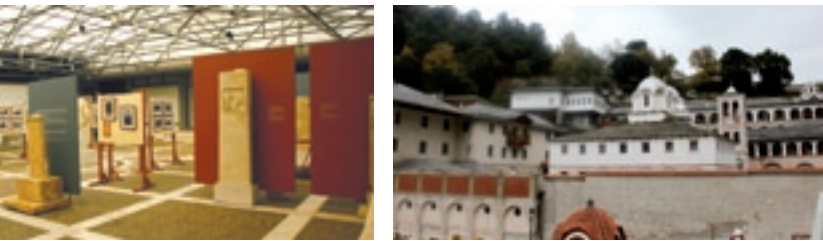


The City of Drama

The municipality of Drama belongs to the prefecture of Drama and is part of the Region of East Macedonia and Thrace established by Kallikratis Program. The Municipality of Drama resulted from the merger of the pre-existing Municipality of Drama and the Community of Sidironero. The extent of the new municipality is 833.01 square kilometers and has a population of 58.944 inhabitants according to the 2011 census. The municipal and local communities are the following: Drama, Xeropotamos, Horisti, Kallifytos, Kalos Agros, Koudounia, Livadero, Makryplagio, Mavrovatos, Mikrochori, Monastiraki, Mylopotamos, Nikotsara, Sidironero and Skaloti. Drama is bordered to the north with Bulgaria, to the east with the prefecture of Xanthi, southeast with the prefecture of Kavala and to the west with the prefecture of Serres. The city of Drama is 150 km from Thessaloniki (Macedonia Airport) and 175 km from Kipi Evros (border post with Turkey).



Wine from Drama:

Among the best Greek wines

Drama has a special micro-climate: it is fortunate to be protected from the strong northern winds by the Rodopi mountain range, while the lower surrounding mountains also create a strong protective shield. Specialists compare Drama to the Marlborough region of New Zealand, due to its fame but also due to the aromatic white wines that brought about a "wine revolution" in the early 90s. Impressive aromatic wines quickly attracted a devoted following throughout Greece and abroad, often monopolizing wine lovers' preferences. However, viniculture in Drama is not a recently developed activity. Excavations in the Neolithic settlement of Sitagroi and Dikili Tash brought to light grape seeds, perhaps the oldest in the world, as well as ancient wine presses, proving that viniculture in Drama was already wide-spread, thousands of years before Christ.

The systematic efforts of the wine producers in the region are starting to bear fruit, since they are receiving more and more distinctions in recent years. Those involved with wine making are producing high-quality wines, and this is evident in the excellent standards of their production facilities, their interest in high wine-making art, and in the exceptional natural conditions provided by the land of Drama.

The most distinguished winery in the Municipality of Drama is:



City Break

Depending on the season, the city of Drama offers a wealth of choices and experiences, making it a very attractive destination for weekend getaways, as well as for visitors who seek out and enjoy city tours.

Drama is home to one of the most important parks in Greece, at the springs of Agia Varvara. Visitors to the park will discover the peace and serenity of the countryside only a short distance from the city centre. On December 4th, when the city of Drama celebrates its patron saint, Agia Varvara (Saint Barbara), a large crowd gathers at the springs where young children float small boats decorated with candles on the spring lake. This custom is impressive to witness, like an image taken out of a dream.

Every year, from before the Christmas holidays and until after the Epiphany [Jan. 6], Drama becomes the centre of interest for visitors from all over Greece. The festive lights of Oneiroupoli [Dream City] are lit, attracting both young and old. Take a walk through Santa Claus' workshop and the houses of the elves, visit the workshop where Christmas decorations are made from eco-friendly materials, enjoy face-painting, see the post office of Oneiroupoli and the pastry workshop – the city is transformed into a dreamy fairy tale. Naturally, as is fitting for the birthplace of the god Dionysus, in the region of Drama many rituals and customs are observed. In Kallifytos, on the 2nd of January, the custom of "Momogeroi" is revived, with the participation of dancers dressed as old men. Also renowned is the custom of "Arapides", held every January on the Epiphany, in Xeropotamos and Monastiraki, people of every age, dressed in animal skins with cow bells around their waists and carrying wooden swords, "hit" those they come across "for good fortune" and wander the streets singing, dancing and drinking.

During the Apokria, the carnival before Lent, in the village of Horisti, just 10 minutes by car from the centre of Drama, cultural events are held from Tsiknopempti, the Thursday 11 days before Lent commences, until Clean Monday, the first day of Lent. Carnival participants set the tone for the celebrations with imaginative costumes and the mood for endless dancing and partying. It is no accident that the modern-day carnival of Horisti is considered one of the largest and most successful in the entire country. All that is required is the desire for Dionysian revelry!

The residents of Drama climb up the hill of Korylovos to fly their kites; on Clean Monday, visitors encounter a swarm of colourful airborne kites. The local associations and organizations hold a traditional "gaitanaki" [maypole], dances, and workshops for making kites, and every year the



- Ktima "Art of Wine" ("Techni Oinou") Microchori Drama, open to the public (5)
- Ktima K. Lazaridis – Adriani (Municipality of Paranesti); the winery is open to the public (2)
- Ktima Michailidi – Agios Athanasios (Municipality of Doxato) (3)
- Ktima Pavilidi – Kokkinogeia (Municipality of Prosotsani); the winery is open to the public (4)
- Lazaridis Nikos – Agora (Municipality of Doxato); the winery is open to the public (7)
- Oinogenesis – Adriani (Municipality of Paranesti); the winery is open to the public (6)
- Ktima Gennima Psichis – Adriani (Municipality of Paranesti); the winery is open to the public (1)

Also active in the area are businesses producing tsipouro and ouzo:

- Makedoniki Distillery – Winery, Drama Industrial Zone: retsina Varelaki, tsipouro Klima, ouzo 14 & Eroviros (1)

- Ouzo Ice, Kampantai Bros Distillery, Mylopotamos, Drama (2)

In the wider region of Drama there are several wineries:



boy scouts serve tasty fasolada, a traditional bean soup.

In the summertime, Drama is flooded with music: first in June, with the Festival of Youth Music Ensembles in the Park of Kalos Agros, then in August with the Traditional Dance Festival in Xeropotamos. But the event that transforms the city of Drama into a large celebration of music is the "Dramaica Youth Festival". The stage is set in the park at the springs of Agia Varvara and includes performances by new music groups seeking recognition from a wider audience.

In September, the city attracts large numbers of film fans from all over the world, who come to enjoy an event that continues to grow larger and stronger: the "International Short Film Festival of Drama". The festival runs for a week and includes parallel events, film tributes, seminars, lectures, art exhibitions, music concerts, etc. The Drama Film Festival is among the best of its kind, internationally acclaimed, and an important forum that showcases young cinematographers.

Drama is a city that knows how to party and have fun. Dozens of taverns and restaurants cater to every taste and budget, serving traditional meats, cold cuts and dairy products from the region, accompanied by the exceptional, distinguished local wine and by tsipouro from local producers. At night, the city parties on, with bars and music venues setting the tone.



Outdoor Activities

For those who enjoy outdoor activities, that take place in nature, Drama is heaven. It is, without a doubt, one of the most exciting eco-tourism destinations in Greece, with a large variety of natural landscapes that are ideal for walks, hikes, mountain biking, mountain climbing, trekking, etc.

In Drama there are three (3) established companies offering alternative tourism and eco-tourism activities. The options on offer will satisfy even the most demanding devotees of outdoor activities:

- Rafting
- Canoe
- Rappel
- Canyoning
- Skiing
- Archery
- Mountain climbing, fishing and hunting in controlled natural preserves, observing all the restrictions that are in force depending on the season
- Walking tours or mountain biking
- Nature observation: it is an activity that is quite wide-spread in Europe and involves primarily bird-watching
- Aerial passages (e.g. flying fox)
- Horseback riding
- Car touring and 4X4 routes. The existing road network offers many different options for day-long excursions combined with visits to important local landmarks.

Also within the confines of the Municipality of Drama you will come across path E6. E6 is the European long-distance hiking trail that traverses and connects the European countries. For the Regional Unit of Drama, the entry point is the region of Kato Vrontou and the exit point the region of Paranesti, after crossing Falakro Mountain. The lowest elevation of the route is in Paranesti, at 120m, while the highest is on Falakro Mountain, at 1,800m. The route is over 90 kilometres long, and the total hiking time is estimated at 35-40 hours.

On the road towards the central and northern parts of the Municipality of Drama, you come across the forest of Elatia. The beauty of this unique ecosystem, wooded with Norway or European spruce, is breath-taking. After approaching the forest village by car, passing through Sidironero, visitors continue on foot for about an hour to reach the area of the old Ano and Kato Mandria settlements. It is a lovely hiking trail that takes a little over an hour. There are also many interesting biking trails in the mountains surrounding the Municipality of Drama.

Nevertheless, it was skiing that established Drama as a centre for winter tourism in Greece. The Falakro Ski Resort is located at an altitude of 1,720m. It is the northernmost ski resort in Greece, which practically means that the climate conditions favour the longest skiing season in the country. Its



alpine slopes offer ideal natural pistes of every level of difficulty, satisfying both beginners and experienced skiers. Access to the ski resort is ensured via an excellent paved road network which has been widened and has protective safety bars along the route (approximately 45 minutes from the centre of the city of Drama).

Another quite popular activity at Falakro is mountaineering ski, with routes usually commencing at the ski resort. The gentle northern slopes of the mountain create interesting pistes through powder snow. In addition to offering outdoor recreation and hiking options for nature devotees and hikers, the mountains of Drama are also of great interest for avid mountain climbers. Falakro Mountain, especially its eastern and southern sides, is ideal for lengthy climbs.

For those who love adventure and high-risk activities, Falakro is also one of the most exciting rock climbing ranges in all of Greece. It is formed by the vertical slopes enclosed by (from west to east) the summits "Kartalka", "Faraggi", "Hionotrypa", "Prophet Elias", "Pseftodonti", "Vardena" and "Sitna", which create a 3-km horseshoe. The area offers many options for long and difficult mixed climbs, or endless gutters.

The area surrounding Drama also offers noteworthy natural pistes to practice hand gliding and paragliding, such as the slopes of Falakro and Menoikio, the Lekani mountains, and the Korylovos hill. The plain of Drama is ideal for landings. The relationship of the city of Drama with air sports is not new; the first Air Club of Drama, "Aeolus", was established in 1986.

Finally, the Virgin Forest Trail (VFT) race at Paranesti is another very popular event. It is an annual sporting meet for athletes, volunteers, running mates, friends and organizers on the Rodopi mountain range, and specifically at its central part, in the mountain region of Paranesti with its unique biodiversity, which is also the location of the only Virgin Forest in Europe. The first race was held in 2006 and it continues to be held every year.



MUNICIPALITY OF DRAMA

Municipality of Drama - Prefecture of Drama - Greece

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Hospital	Center: +30 25210 23351 up to 55
Police	Center: +30 25210 22818 +30 25210 55299
Bus station	+30 25210 58168
City bus station	+30 25210 31813
Train station	+30 25210 32444
Tourism Office, Tregional Unity of Drama	+30 25213 51417
Tourism Office, City of Drama	+30 25213 50741
DEKPOTA	+30 25210 48304 - 5
Short Film Festival in Drama	+30 25210 47575
Taxi	+30 25210 22022
Hellenic Telecommunications Organisation	+30 25210 22399
Drama Cathedral	+30 25210 32362
Holy Monastery of Analipsi Sotiros	+30 25210 45023
Panagia [Virgin] Eikosiphoinissa	+30 25920 61566
Greek Post	+30 25210 47957
Hotel Association of Drama	+30 25210 39372
Archäologisches Museum	+30 25210 31365
Folk Museum	+30 25210 39167
Falakro Ski Resort	+30 25220 41811, +30 6944 798758
Greek Mountaineering Association of Drama	+30 25210 33049
Drama Aeroclub "Eolos"	+30 25210 55045
Bike Association of Drama "Dedalos"	+30 25210 26617
Drama Forestry	+30 25210 57821
Mylopotamos Aquarium	+30 25210 81579
Chamber of Commerce	+30 25210 22392

PREFECTURE OF DRAMA- GREECE - TOURIST MAP

PREFECTURE OF DRAMA population: 98.287- prefecture capital: Drama

PREFECTURE OF DRAMA: area 346.830 Ha

Forest	193.649 Ha	55,8 %
Shrubs and Grasslands	69.851 Ha	20,1 %
Agricultural area	74.909 Ha	21,6 %
City area	4.215 Ha	1,3 %
Waters etc	4.206 Ha	1,2 %

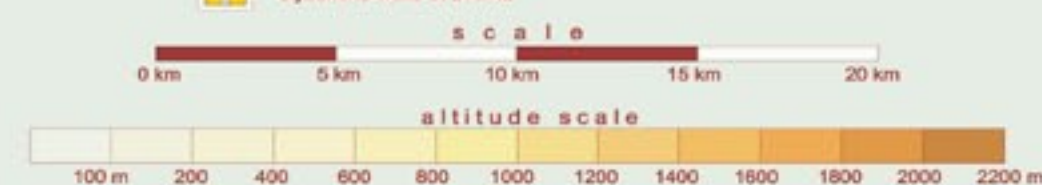


LEGEND:

- National borders
- Prefecture limits
- National road
- Provincial road (asphalted)
- Provincial road (dirt road)
- Forest road
- Railway network
- European pathway E6
- Scenic route
- Prefecture capital
- Municipality site
- Community site
- Settlement
- Settlement pop. <100 resident
- City area
- Sight-seeing settlements
- Abandoned settlements
- Place-name
- Altitude

- Hotels
- Mountain shelter
- Forest shelter
- Touring sites
- Mountaineering sites
- Mountain climbing sites
- Mountain bike sites
- Enduro motorcycle sites
- Ski resort
- Mountaineering ski sites
- Air sports sites
- Kanoe-Kayak sites
- Easily accessible Waterfalls
- Significant springs
- Significant ecosystems
- Post-Byzantine churches
- Monasteries
- Archaeological museum of Drama
- Ecclesiastical museum of Drama
- Environmental centre of Paranezi

- Paleolithic site of Aggitis
- Prehistoric settlement: Sitagri - Arkadiko
- Castles: Aggitis - Xiropotamos - Pyrgi - Adriani - Platania
- Hellenistic antiquities: Temple of Dionysos / Kali Vrysi
- Tomb of Drama / Trias street
- Byzantine church: Agia Sofia / Drama
- Taxiarxon / Drama
- Byzantine walls of Drama



DISTANCES FROM DRAMA (km)

Aggitis	25	Kali Vrysi	24	Paranezi	39
Agios Athanasios	13	Kalitheia	26	Perithori	54
Agora	15	Kalifytos	8	Petroussa	14
Adriani	11	Katafyto	58	Platania	26
Vathyspilo	19	Kefalari	15	Potami	69
Volakas	38	Koudounia	7	Prosotsani	16
Granitis	31	Kyria	18	Pyrgi	21
Dipotama	61	Leftogia	50	Serres	69
Doxato	10	Livadero	25	Sidronero	47
Elatia Forest Village	78	Thermia Springs	73	Sitagri	12
Exochi	51	Mikromilia	80	Skaloti	56
Thessaloniki	153	Mikropoli	29	Dam of Thisavros	60
Kato Vrontou	59	Nikiforos	16	Frakto (forest shelter)	90
Kato Nevrokopi	42	Xanthi	89	Fotolivos	16
Kavala	38	Ochyro	41	Ski resort of Falakro	49
Kalabaki	13	Pagoneri	62	Chrysoupoli - airport	68