



Summer Camp: Protection of Sea Turtles in Greece



Program overview

We're sure this will be a fun and rewarding experience for you. Plan to have fun, meet a lot of great people, and learn new skills. But above all, prepare to make an impact.

This essential information pack serves as your go-to guide when preparing to depart on your adventure.

Based in Giannitsochori, you will live with an international team of volunteers and staff members. You will work towards the protection and conservation of one of the most important nesting areas for loggerhead turtles in Greece.

The team will conduct daily surveys in the morning and evening (according to nesting activity) to record turtle activity, protect nests from mammal predation and flooding by seawater. Volunteers will also provide important conservation information to foreign

visitors and the local community. You will also have a free weekend to enjoy cultural activities in a beautiful region of Greece known for its mythological history of heroes and their quests.

Life on base

Kefalonia offers a unique combination of marine conservation activities and adventure. You'll work on protecting loggerhead turtles, participate in beach clean-ups, and explore the breathtaking landscapes of the island.

During the summer season (June - September) in Greece, the temperature ranges from 30 to 40°C, which can be uncomfortable for those not used to the heat.

Accommodation

Accommodation is in shared tents with shared (same sex) bathroom facilities within the camp site. There is running cold water available for drinking. Flush toilet facilities (shared, single sex) and hot showers are available at the campsite.

Facilities will be more basic than you are accustomed to – **please travel with an open mind** and a willingness to adapt to local conditions.

Upgrading to an individual room is not available at this location.

Laundry

Argostoli camp site has washing machines that you can use for 5 Euros per load (detergent is included). Hand washing facilities are also available.

Meals

- **Breakfast:** Cereal, yoghurt, and toast.
- **Lunch & Dinner:** Traditional Greek meals provided either at the **campsite or a local restaurant**.
- **Special dietary needs** can be accommodated—please inform us in advance.

Electricity

- **Supply:** 240V, 50Hz.
- **Sockets:** European-style (two round pins).
- **No Wi-Fi at base.** It is recommended to buy a **local SIM card** for mobile internet.

Transportation

Arrival Airport: Kefalonia International Airport (EFL), Greece.

Health and safety

- **Nearest hospital:** General Hospital of Kefalonia, **3.8 km from base.**
- Staff are **first aid trained** and follow emergency protocols.
- **Travel insurance with medical evacuation coverage is mandatory.**
- **Reasonable fitness required** due to extensive walking on beaches.

Packing list

- Backpack (65L+) & Daypack (25L+)
- Reusable Water Bottle (at least 1L)
- Sleeping bag for camping
- Headlamp or flashlight
- Notebook & pen
- Snorkel and mask
- Waterproof phone case

Clothing and Apparel:

- T-shirts (5-7) & Shorts (3-4)
- Long-sleeved shirts & pants (for sun and insect protection)
- Rash guard (for snorkeling)
- Swimsuit
- Hiking boots & sandals (flip-flops)
- Water shoes
- Waterproof jacket

Itinerary

Day 1 Get ready to soak up the sun in Greece! A staff member will meet you at the airport and travel with you to your overnight accommodation.

Day 2 Get comfy at our base and meet your fellow team members from around the world. Get ready for an exciting adventure together!

Day 3 Explore Kefalonia's must-see spots on a hike: visit ancient walls, cool caves, donkey paths, tombs and even a WW2 base.

Day 4 Dive into sea turtle surveys with your snorkel and the eOceans app. You'll make a positive conservation impact while exploring marine life.

Day 5 Get trained to protect important loggerhead and green turtle habitats in Greece. Then hop on a kayak and explore Kefalonia's breathtaking landscapes.

Day 6 Ready for some beach action? Join a nesting beach survey, nest checks and beach clean. After a break, conduct a snorkel survey to monitor the seagrass.

Day 7 Snorkel surveys continue: test your skills and try different roles! Later, relax, grab

an ice cream and join an evening coastal cleanup.

Day 8 Kick off with beach patrols, finding turtle nests and lending a helping hand if needed. Then join a beach cleanup and continue with snorkel surveys.

Day 9 Enjoy an epic day of sea turtle research and protection. Track adults during a harbour survey and explore underwater with a snorkel survey.

Day 10 Wrap up your snorkel surveys and learn about climate change. Later, summarise the project and how you've contributed to sea turtle and wildlife conservation.

Day 11 Adventure time: Explore caves, visit Melissani Lake, swim in an underground lake and visit a ghost village deserted after the 1953 earthquake.

Day 12 Experience the thrill of coasteering – combining hiking, scrambling and sea jumps. Then explore the town and shop for souvenirs at the market.

Day 13 Relax on the beach and reminisce about your adventures and conservation journey. End the day with a farewell dinner, bonding with your new friends.

Day 14 Departure day. Reflect on the connections you've made. The staff will transfer you back to the airport. Safe travels!

*Please note that this itinerary may vary.

Packing List

Essential Gear

- Backpack (65L+) & Daypack (25L+)
- Reusable Water Bottle (at least 1L)
- Headlamp with red filter (or flashlight)
- Quick-dry towels (1 for shower, 1 for swimming)
- Notebook & pen

Clothing & Footwear

- Light, dark-colored clothing (for night patrols)
- Long-sleeved shirts & pants (for insect protection)
- T-shirts (5-7) & Shorts (3-4)
- Rash guard (for sun & water protection)
- Swimsuit
- Hiking boots & sandals (flip-flops)
- Rubber boots (for forest work)
- Waterproof jacket

Toiletries

- Eco-friendly, DEET-free insect repellent
- Reef-safe sunscreen (SPF 30+)
- Personal first aid kit (plasters, antiseptic, antihistamine, rehydration sachets, etc.)
- Prescribed medications (with name, dosage, and reason)

Recommended Extras

- Dry bag (for phone/camera)
- Binoculars (for wildlife observation)
- Sunglasses (100% UV protection)
- Gardening gloves (for community work)
- Money belt (for security)

Pack comfortable, modest, and culturally appropriate clothing for project work, communal living, and time out and about. Be aware that leather items (belts, shoes) are especially prone to mold. **Quick-drying clothes are always recommended** since it can be difficult to dry clothes when it is raining.