

1 PANAGIA OF VLACHERNA
This monastery was established in the early 10th century. Here are situated the tombs of the Komnenodoukes – or, according to other scholars – of the relatives of queen Theodora. The impressive mosaic floor at the central aisle is exceptionally interesting.



2 SAINT VASILEIOS OF THE BRIDGE
Its establishment is placed at the second half of the 9th century. The dome, the ceramoplactic decoration and the unique mural paintings are particularly impressive.



3 FAÏK PASHA MOSQUE
It was built during the second half of the 15th century and it belonged to a broader complex of charitable buildings (maret). It included a madrasa (religious school), a hamam, porthouse, and inn.



4 PANAGIA AT KORONISIA – OSIOS ONOUFRIOS
It was built in the 10th century. It lies adjacent to the chapel of Osios Onoufrios. The wood-carved templon and its portable icons, as well as a reliquary with the Saint's bones are of extreme interest.



5 KOULIA AT KORONISIA
It is a 19th century fortress with unique architecture, which has been conserved and functions as a reading library, while it often hosts cultural events.



6 PANAGIA OF RODIA
A monastery was established at this site in 970, which at one time flourished, but during the Revolution it was completely destroyed. The area had been abandoned by 1860, and the present Church was built in its place.



7 SAINT NIKOLAOS OF RODIA
This church was founded in the early 13th century, while the excavations unearthed the foundations of an older building. The mural paintings are extremely interesting, and some of their themes are only found on Mount Athos and in the Vatican.



8 SAINT DIMITRIOS OF KATSOURIS
This is possibly the most ancient Byzantine monument in the area (9th century). The extant mural paintings belong to the 17th – 18th century and cover two more layers. The first one dates from the 12th century, thus constituting a specimen of the older mural paintings in the area.



9 PANTANASSA
This Monastery was founded in the 13th century. The representation of Virgin Mary with Jesus in front of her bust crowning a hegemon couple with two children is of particular interest. At this time, it may well have been the largest monastery of the Despotate.



10 SAINT PARASKEVI OF THE DRAGON
It was built in the 2nd half of the 11th century and is one of the most important Byzantine monuments in the region. The church is built next to the entrance of a cave, where according to tradition Saint Paraskevi slayed a dragon.



11 ORRAON
This was the Acropolis of the Molossians, founded in the 4th century B.C. It was fortified with a double wall and numbered 2,000 residents. In 168 B.C. the settlement was destroyed but continued to be inhabited until 31 B.C.



DESTINATIONS

THE CITY OF ARTA

Built on the ruins of ancient Amvracia, Arta was the capital of the State of the Molossians of King Pyrrhus. In 1204, after the siege of Constantinople by the Franks, Arta was made capital of the Despotate of Epirus. Today, the city is accessible through the Egnatia and Ionian Motorways (A2 and A5), the port of Igoumenitsa, as well as the airports of Preveza (Actium) and Ioannina. Arta is an excellent choice for the visitor who wishes to get acquainted with a city of an uninterrupted history of 2,500 years and which, beyond its indisputable Byzantine character and renowned Bridge, boasts also the Amvracian gulf with its unique beauty and the authentic color of Tzoumerka.

KORONISIA

A traditional fishing village at the heart of the Amvracian gulf. It is linked to the mainland only through a narrow strait, whose crossing is in itself a unique experience. Koronisia is ideal for alternative activities such as wind and kite surf, cycling, hiking, fishing tourism, bird watching, sea kayak, etc.

RODAVGI

Rodavgi is built on a verdant slope of Xirovouni and features a unique aspect towards Tzoumerka, Agrafa and the artificial lake of Pournari. The region is an ideal starting point for alternative activities (rafting, canoe – kayak, biking, hiking, etc.), as the visitor is a stone's throw from Arachthos, the trail of Vidra and the villages of Tzoumerka.

THERMAL SPRINGS AT HANOPOULO

A similar composition of waters is only met at Nenndorf in Germany and at the Haute Savoie in France. Here, the visitor is able to enjoy the therapeutic qualities of these healing waters, which have been recognized by the National Board of Tourism, by the Central Health Council and by the Hellenic Association of Municipalities with Thermal Springs.

AMVRACIAN GULF

This is the place to be for bird watching, while flamingoes, dolphins and turtles live and breed in its waters. For those wishing to combine the beautiful scenery with other activities, it is possible to do sea kayak, wind and kite surf, and the Swim Crossing of the Amvracian gulf takes place each July.

TZOUMERKA

The mountainous area of Arta is dominated by the Tzoumerka, with a group of villages and settlements known as Tzoumerko-choria. This is a veritable heaven on earth, where visitors can enjoy all sorts of activities: hiking, rafting and kayaking in the Arachthos, horse riding, cycling, rock and mountain climbing, mountain ski, river trekking, etc. Tzoumerka is the ideal area for visitors to find the authentic Greece.

CULTURAL EVENTS

THE BRIDGE ROAD

In late March, the half-marathon of Arta offers runners the chance to run next to the sites of the region. This event has now become one of the most marvelous sports events in Epirus.

CARNIVAL TIME AT ARTA

The Carnival at Arta, during the penultimate weekend of the Carnival, places the city at the center of these events. The main parades are accompanied by such events as Bantidoi, merry-go-rounds, concerts, etc.

BYZANTINE WEEK

Beginning from the beautiful Byzantine monuments in the area, the Municipality of Arta organizes during the Holy Week a series of religious chants from choirs of church chanters, as well as guided tours, revival of customs, the 'lazarotragouda' with the breaking of pitchers and plates.

ELEFThERIA – CULTURAL SUMMER

From June to September, the Municipality of Arta organizes dozens of events in the city and in the broader area. Moreover, at the end of June we have the 'Eleftheria', events commemorating the liberation of the city from the Ottoman rule.

AMVRACIAN GULF SWIM CROSSING

This swim crossing takes place at the end of July, starting from Vonitsa in Etolia-Acarnania and ending at Koronisia, Arta. Other activities also take place, such as kite surfing, triathlon, beach soccer and volley.

PANHELLENIC COMMERCIAL FAIR – TRADITIONAL FAIR

These two events take place from September 27th to October 3rd, with up to 80,000 visitors from all over Greece, making it one of Greece's most popular fairs!

FESTIVAL FOR GASTRONOMY AND LOCAL PRODUCTS

This festival takes place in late November and is accompanied by one-day conferences and an exhibition for local products, as well as a traditional party, where the area's Cultural Associations offer local delicacies.

SARDINE FESTIVAL

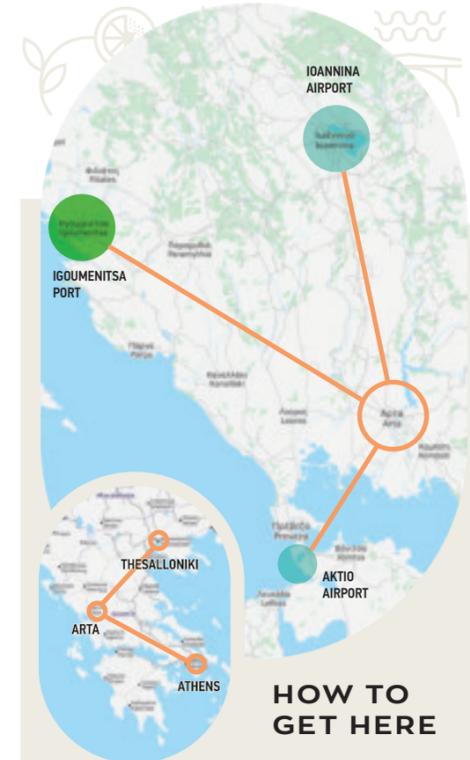
This festival takes place in August, at the Aneza village of Arta. The festival is very popular due to its authenticity, as well as the chance visitors get to taste pure, local products and experience the famed Epirote hospitality.

CHESTNUTS AND TSIPOURO FESTIVAL

In mid-October, thousands come to the villages of Rodavgi and Pistiana to enjoy a traditional fete with chestnuts, pancakes and local tsipouro (beverage extracted from grapes).

ARACHTHEIO THEATER

The theater has operated under a private initiative since 2007 at Palaiochori at Skoupa. In early August it hosts theater performances as well as music shows of unrivalled quality in the region.



ACCOMMODATION

Vizantino Filothei - Arta	Hotel	Tel: +30 26810 52205
KRONOS Kilkis square - Arta	Hotel	Tel: +30 26810 22211
MARATHIA Chanopoulo Baths	Hotel	Tel: +30 26810 85197
MAROUSIO Rodavgi - Arta	Hotel	Tel: +30 26830 71131
ARTA PALACE 5th klm. of Arta - Ioannina	Hotel	Tel: +30 26810 61222
NHEIETA Rodavgi - Arta	Furnished Apartments	Tel: +30 26830 71484
PATENTA GEOR. Koronisia - Arta	Furnished Apartments	Tel: +30 26810 27481
STOLIS VAS. Koronisia - Arta	Furnished Apartments	Tel: +30 26810 24047
SPIROU EV. Koronisia - Arta	Rooms to let	Tel: +30 26810 24042

USEFUL INFO

MUNICIPALITY OF ARTA (DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM)	+30 2681362115
NATIONAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION (LOCAL OFFICE)	+30 2681078551
RADIO TAXI	+30 2681078333
CITY BUSES	+30 2681028314
LONG-DISTANCE BUSES	+30 2681027348
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MORE INFO AT
WWW.DISCOVERARTA.GR