



P.O. Box 56
Skopelos Island, Greece 37003
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GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET

Arriving in Athens

- Taxis should be approximately 35 - 50 euros and it takes about 40 minutes to the heart of Athens.
- You can take a city bus, which costs around 5 euros and takes about 45 minutes to an hour to heart of Athens.
- Another option is to take a train (part of the metro) that gets you to the heart of Athens where you can transfer to the metro. The cost is approximately 10 euros.
- Please protect your valuables; overall, Athens is safe but there are many pickpockets so you should not carry everything with you (credit cards, passports, etc.). It is safer to leave things in the hotel.
- Hotels that we recommend that are moderately priced and centrally located are:
Athos Hotel: <http://www.athoshotel.gr/>
Hermes Hotel: <http://www.hermeshotel.gr/>
Omiros Hotel: <http://www.omiros-hotel.com/>

Traveling to Skopelos

- The trip takes approximately 5.5 hours from Athens by bus and Flying Cat.
- There are airplanes that run from the airport in Athens to Skiathos (island next to Skopelos). Please contact Aegean Airlines <https://en.aegeanair.com/e-services/e-ticket/?gclid=CMH7jflLP1sACFStk7AodUXAAZQ> for schedules and fares. From Skiathos it is a 35-minute boat ride with the hydrofoil or about an hour by ferry. Boats run very often between islands so unless you arrive late at night, you should not have a problem getting to Skopelos once you arrive in Skiathos.
- You can also take a bus and a boat to Skopelos. There are three ports to get to Skopelos; the closest port is Mantoudi in Evia (2.5 hours by bus), then there is Agios Konstantinos (3 hours by bus) and the furthest port is in Volos (4.5 hours by bus). The hydrofoil and ferry companies change each year so the best way to find out the boat schedule is to go here: www.openseas.gr.
- In order to get a bus ticket you must go to the Lioson Bus Station which is the city bus station in Athens. You can ask your hotel to help you book a bus ticket to the appropriate port. Google Maps:
<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1Kd6P1IBzPxQSbvQ3L93fvpM1gSM&hl=en&ll=38.00972300000002%2C23.721187999999984&z=15>.
- The other option is to purchase your tickets (bus and boat) from Alkyon Travel http://alkyontravel.gr/page_en/sporades which is located at 97 Akadamias Street (Kannigos Square) and the telephone number is 210 3843220. You may reserve your tickets ahead of time with Alkyon by writing to them at

athens@alkyontravel.com. DO NOT GO TO PIREUS which is another port in Athens to take people to the southern islands.

- Please note that the hydrofoil/ferry will stop at Skiathos first and then you will typically go to the town of Glossa, which is part of the island of Skopelos. DO NOT GET OFF in Glossa because this is a 40-minute taxi ride to the town of Skopelos.
- If you are traveling in inclement weather such as high winds and rain, the boats will take you to the town of Agnontas.

Clothing

- Sturdy walking shoes
- Light clothing
- Jackets for the evening
- Being able to layer your clothing is the best solution because the evenings can get cool.
- PACK LIGHTLY! You will be bringing work back with you and maybe other items. Do not bring suitcases that you cannot manage yourself.

Skopelos

- This is a small island with approximately 6000 people. The attitude is very small town and people leave their doors open, let children run in the streets, they are very trusting. You always want to be careful but in our experience, the island is very safe.
- We would appreciate it if you would make an effort to say, “kalimerasas” (the formal way to say “good morning”) to the townspeople. You could also say “yiasas” which is the formal way to say “hello”. The islanders know some English but they really appreciate it when you make an effort to speak a little Greek.
- When you are paying for goods and meals, try to make an effort to give exact change. The storeowners will appreciate it.
- Most places now accept credit cards but be prepared to pay cash at times. There are several ATM’s on the island and it is safe to carry cash.
- It is not customary to tip in restaurants but is appreciated. The crisis is in full swing and the waiters work for very little money.
- Important telephone numbers to keep with you:
 1. The Skopelos Foundation for the Arts – 24240 24143
 2. Jill Somer – mobile 6977729233
 3. Police – 24240 22235
 4. Health Center – 24240 22222
- Taxi drivers are plentiful. The cost is 8 euros (10 euros if you have extra people or suitcases) from the town of Skopelos to the Foundation. You may want to befriend one of the cab drivers by giving him a little extra and getting his card so you can call him. If you tell the drivers you are going to “Gloria’s house”, they know where to take you.
- We do not recommend renting a motorcycle but you can if you have a motorcycle license. Driving in Skopelos is only for people who are experienced in handling steep hills. You may rent a car (**stick shift only**) at your own risk. You **MUST** have an international driver’s license to rent a car.

Health Issues

- The Foundation is approximately 15 minutes uphill from town. The beautiful of Skopelos is that it is hilly but it does mean a hike to the studio. You should be fit to make the walk. You do not want to come to the island if you have difficulty walking or major health issues. If you feel you cannot walk up and down the hills, you can take a taxi back and forth at your expense.
- We do not have a hospital on the island. If you are aware of a health issue that cannot be handled by a general practitioner, it could be very risky to visit Skopelos. If for any reason you have a serious health issue while you are on the island, you will have to be taken by helicopter off the island to Volos (mainland) at your expense.
- You must have health insurance to be treated anywhere in Greece. Please bring your medical card with you.