

Excursion to the Medieval Old Town of Rhodes, the Grand Master's Palace and Kallithea Springs

Rhodes is an island with 5000 years of history. During the ancient era, it had been occupied by several people: Telkhines, Carians, Phoenicians and Dorians, the latter having built the three major cities of Lindos, Kamiros and Ialysos, which united to establish the city of Rhodes at 408 B.C. The three centuries to follow have been the golden age of Rhodes. One of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World was the notorious artifact of Colossus of Rhodes, which was destroyed at 226 B.C. due to a huge earthquake. Rhodes has been a crossroad of people and civilizations, a fact indicated in every aspect of the island's life and culture, in art, in language and in architecture. Text references and excavations prove the glory of Rhodes and its Greek identity, which was reserved during the centuries, despite the various invasions by Romans, Knights of St John, Ottomans and Italians, until its union, in 1948, with its motherland Greece.

The Medieval Old Town of Rhodes is one of the most beautiful medieval towns of the Mediterranean and, since 1988, declared World Cultural Heritage Site by UNESCO. The Knights of the Order of St John from Jerusalem arrived in Rhodes at 1310 A.D. Since then, the Medieval Town has been enriched with gothic and renaissance elements. The whole set of palaces, towers, churches, arcs and cobble paves fascinates every visitor. The Grand Master's Palace is a great monument from the Knight era. Nowadays, important exhibitions have been hosted in its halls. The Knights street, that magnificent street leading to the Grand Master's Palace, hosts the restored lodgings of the Langues (Tongues) of the Order.



Rhodes is a place blessed, endowed by nature itself with beautiful coasts, several kilometers long, with a rich aquatic environment and a unique variety of plants and animals in its mainland. It has abundance of waters, a diverse landscape and amazing, vast and award-winning beaches, either sandy or with pebbles, that offer hours of relaxation underneath the famous sun of Rhodes. Kallithea Springs are located at the bay of Kallithea, just 9km from the City of Rhodes. Known since antiquity for their therapeutic properties, the thermal springs of Kallithea were utilized by the Italians, in the early 20th century, being very popular and attracting visitors from all over the world. Nowadays the renovated, majestic premises of Kallithea Springs completely restored and tastefully refurbished are welcoming once again hundreds of visitors per day, being one of the most popular attractions on the island of Rhodes.



The excursion starts at 16:30 on Tuesday July 2nd. Dinner will be served at Hatzikelis sea food restaurant in the Medieval Old Town of Rhodes at 20:30.

(Information from the tourist guide "Explore Rhodes" of the Municipality of Rhodes)