

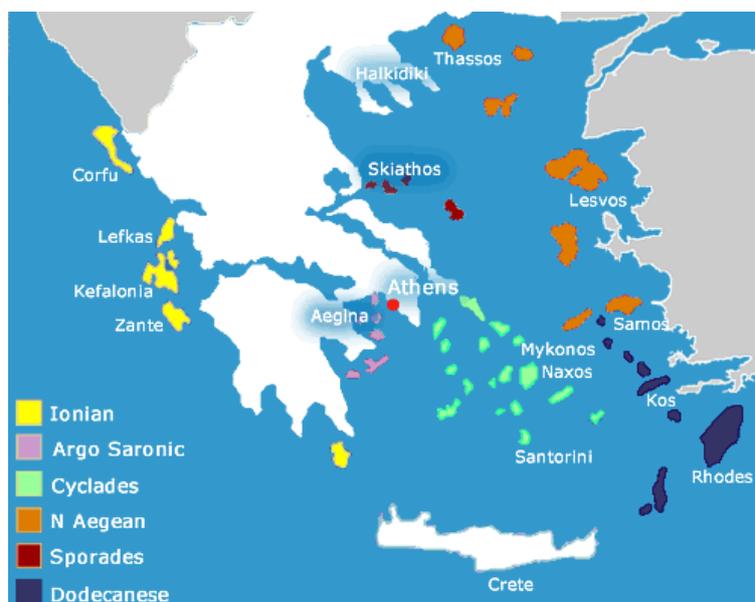
A TRIP TO THE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL OF PETRA, LESVOS, GREECE (HELLAS) -  
A TRIP TO THE NORTH AEGEAN ISLAND OF LESVOS, ITS HISTORY AND CULTURE

Erasmus+ European Programme

Visit to the Junior High School of Petra, Lesvos, Greece (Hellas)

14-20 May 2017

Participant countries: England - Greece (Hellas) - Italy - Portugal - Turkey



Maps of Greece (Hellas)

Source: <https://www.google.gr/search?q=map+greece&rlz=1C1AOHY>



Map of the island of Lesbos

Source: <https://www.google.gr/search?q=map+lesvos>

### WEATHER ON LESVOS IN MAY

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE		20°C 68°F
HIGH TEMPERATURE AROUND NOON		24°C 75°F
LOW TEMPERATURE IN THE MORNING/AT NIGHT		15°C 59°F
SUNSHINE HOURS		12 HRS
RAINFALL DAYS		6 DAYS

Source: <http://www.holiday-weather.com/lesbos/averages/may>

Participant students and teachers  
from the Junior High School of Petra, Lesvos, Greece (Hellas)

ΜΑΘΗΤΕΣ

Αγγελή Στρατούλα  
Αγιασώτη Δέσποινα  
Γεωργέλλης Δήμος  
Γεωργία Γεωργέλλη  
Ευαγγέλου Ιγνάτης  
Ζίλι Αντζελα  
Θεολόγου Γαβριέλα  
Κάιπατζη Σοφία  
Καλπάκη Αλεξάνδρα  
Καταξινού Μιχαέλα  
Κοβάτσι Ιζαμπέλα  
Λεοντή Λίνα  
Παπάζογλου Παρασκευή  
Παυλίδη Βασιλική  
Σταυρινού Ιφιγένεια  
Τσαϊρη Όλγα  
Τσοπλάκη Τσαμπίκα  
Χιωτέλλη Κωνσταντίνα

ΚΑΘΗΓΗΤΕΣ

Βελλέ Μαντώ  
Βερβέρη Ελένη  
Θηβαίου Παναγιώτα  
Κάβουρας Χαράλαμπος  
Κοκκινογένη Γεωργία  
Παπαριστεΐδη Μαρία

Schedule planned by the teachers of the Junior High School of Petra, Lesvos

Text written by Panayiota Thiveou, English teacher of the Junior High School of Petra, Lesvos

## Sunday 14th May

### IN MYTILENE AND PETRA

Erasmus+ groups arrive at Mytilene's airport "Odysseus Elytis"\*. Mr. Babis Kavouras - teacher of Ancient/Modern Greek and History, will be at the airport to welcome you. For early arrivals, Mr. Kavouras can take you on a tour in Mytilene -, the capital town of the island of Lesvos, home of The University of the Aegean.

A coach will take you to Petra to your guesthouses (check time). It is a 65 km drive which will take about an hour 15 minutes. You will leave the airport located on the coast (see the beautiful mansions as you will head to Mytilene), pass through Mytilene - the capital city of the island and then through villages and pine forests, then you will arrive at Petra. There, the headmistress of Petra's Junior High School Ms. Georgia Kokkinogeni - teacher of Ancient/Modern Greek and History, will welcome you and take you to your guesthouses.

Welcome to Lesvos and have a nice stay!

\* Poet Odysseus Elytis (1911-1996) from Lesvos was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1979.

## Monday 15th May

### IN PETRA

#### Summary

Breakfast (see details below), "Stelios Pavlis" Cultural and Conference Centre, Vareltzidaina's House (Museum), Church of St. Nicolas, Rock and church of Virgin Mary, Petra's Kindergarten - Primary School and Junior High School.

*All entrances in museums and archaeological sites are free*

#### Details

#### 08:00 a.m.

Good morning! Get ready for breakfast!

You can either prepare your own breakfast with things you can buy at the local market or have it at cafés and restaurants in the main square of the town (you can check prices for both). The little shopping streets which open out onto the main square are only a 3 minute walk from your guesthouses and offer a great variety of products.

*(Bakeries :sandwiches, pastries - cheese pie, spinach pie, sausage pie, local sweets, cookies e.t.c. Mini markets and grocer's: milk, cereals, juices, fruit, salami/mortathella, feta cheese, local yellow cheese e.t.c. You can ask for as many slices/grams you need).*

*Note! It's chilly in the morning so don't forget to get the clothes you need to keep you warm like a light jacket and wear comfortable flat shoes for walking uphill in the cobbled streets. Thank you!*

### **09:00 a.m.**

Meeting at "Stelios Pavlis" Cultural and Conference Centre where the President of the Town Council Mr. Antonis Kelaiditis will welcome you.

*This big stone building which used to be an Olive Oil Press is about 100 metres away from the main square on the seafront, as you are heading to your guesthouses. (There are two old machines at the entrance).*

### **09:10 a.m.**

*We are discovering Petra, one of the most picturesque towns, with well-preserved mansions of the 19th - 20th centuries and the wonderful 3 km sandy beach. Opposite the beach there are three small uninhabited islands which are a protected wild bird area (ecological observatory).*

*According to Homer's Iliad, Lesvos was under the Trojan influence. It is said that Achilles invaded and looted the rich island. His troops stayed in the fertile area around Petra. Near the tiny village of Petri on the mountain there is the legendary "Achilleiopegada" ("Achilles well"). It is claimed that this place was an ancient port where the great hero anchored his ships.*

*Petra is the birthplace of important literary men such as N. Kazazis, K. Michaelides, Th. Stavrou e.t.c., important painters such as Or. Kannelis and T. and N. Eleftheriades, as well as artists like the famous young director N. Arcel ("A Royal Affair", 2012 historical drama film, e.t.c.).*

- Varelzidaina's House (Museum)

First, we will pass by Varelzidaina's House (Museum) near the market street.

*It is one of the few surviving examples of a traditional mansion on Lesvos. This 18th century house has an architectural form common in Macedonia (North Greece), with a beautiful interior decoration including wall-paintings with scenes of people's life, flowers e.t.c., furniture and richly decorated wooden ceilings.*

*It is open to public except for Mondays (Greek museums are closed this day, sorry!), so make sure you visit it another day (Opening hours for this season are written at the entrance).*

- Church of Agios Nikolaos

After a few metres walk, we will visit the atmospheric 16th century Church of Agios Nikolaos (St. Nicholas).

*This tiny 16th century church has been declared a national monument due to its unique wall-paintings. It is located in a square with neoclassic buildings and huge plane trees.*

- The Church of our Lady of the Sweet Kiss (Panayia Glykofilousa)

A few metres up in the cobbled street, we will see the huge volcanic rock after which the town was named (Petra means "rock" in Greek). On the top of the rock, the early 18th century church of Virgin Mary is built.

*114 steps carved into the rock lead up to the lovely church. From there, the view of the surrounding olive groves, the blue Aegean Sea, the roofs of the houses and the coast of Asia Minor is breathtaking. A great festival for Panayia is held annually on August 15<sup>th</sup>.*

Walking uphill for about 20 minutes, through narrow streets with stone houses and gardens with flowers, we are heading to Petra's Junior High School!

But before we arrive at our school, we will have a short stop at Petra's Kindergarten and Primary School to see our small children there! *Don't forget to see the fantastic view from the school yard.*

### **11:10 a.m.**

Students and teachers are expecting you at the Junior High School of Petra!

WELCOME!

- ✓ Welcome activities: See - Smell - Dance!
- ✓ Explore the school! Guided tour by students.

**Student workshop: We "break the ice" - We get to know each other - We cooperate - WE ARE ONE TEAM!**

Ms. Manto Velle - the Biology teacher will cooperate with the students

### **1:00-2:30 p.m.**

Lunch at school

*Greek schools start at 08:00 a.m. and finish at 1:45 p. m.. So, students have lunch at home. Consequently, there are no dining rooms but canteens selling a variety of snacks.*

### **2:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Student workshop: Presentation of Erasmus+ Projects**

Time for the presentations of each group: 10-15 minutes.

## **Free evening.**

*You can organise your free time as you wish. We will be more than happy to give you any information you need to have a good time.*

*You can spend your free evenings in Petra or Molivos to watch the fantastic sunset, have some coffee and enjoy the delicious home made food the taverns offer. At night Virgin Mary's church in Petra and the castle of Molivos are illuminated. Don't miss them!*

*You can go to Molivos either by taxi or by the Molivos Village Train (check timetable and cost). There are taxi ranks at Petra's main square and Molivos' entrance. But it is rather necessary to arrange your transport earlier since you usually can't find a taxi waiting at the rank or you may not find as many as you need. A taxi can carry 4 people and costs about 7 Euros.*

*You can also visit Anaxos, located 2.5 km from Petra. It has a great beach and a lot of taverns and cafes. Avlaki located 1 km from Petra has also a beach and nice restaurants. About 5. 7 and 13 km away from Petra, you will find the beautiful charming mountainous villages of Lafiona, Skoutaros and Stypsi, respectively.*

*Have a nice night!*

## **Tuesday 16th May**

### **IN METHYMNA (MOLIVOS)**

#### **Summary**

Visiting Methymna or Molivos: The Public Historic Library of Methymna "Argyris Eftaliotis" - the Cultural and Conference Centre - the Fountains - the Old Public Bath (Museum) - The School of Fine Arts - the Basilica Churches (on our way) - The Municipal Art Gallery - The Byzantine Castle - the ancient harbour

*All entrances in museums and archaeological sites are free. Some of the above museums and sites may not be open yet (tourist season) but we will do our best, so that our Erasmus+ groups will get access to them! Remember to wear comfortable shoes (you will walk steeply rising stone-paved lanes up to the castle), a sun hat (sun cream), light clothes for the afternoon but also have some warm clothes for the chilly early/late hours and windy weather at the castle and harbour.*

#### **Details**

Erasmus+ groups arrange breakfast time in Petra

**09:15 a.m.** The bus is taking us from our guesthouses (please wait in the street, on the seafront) and we are driving to Methymna or Molivos (4 km away, about 10 minutes). Ms. Georgia Kokkinogeni will escort you.

Ms. Yiota Thiveou - teacher of English will welcome you in Methymna, or Molivos as the town was called during the Middle Ages, to show you around. *The traditional settlement of protected status, as well as the hospitality of the inhabitants, makes it one of the best destinations. Archaeological finds show that this town has been inhabited since the Bronze Age. It was an important city-state in antiquity with glorious history and birthplace of ancient philosophers, musicians (Arion), astronomers, historians, scientists e.t.c. But it is also the birthplace and place of inspiration for great modern writers and poets such as Argyris Eftaliotis, Stratis Myrivilis, Ilias Venezis e.t.c., painters e.t.c. It has been the leading town for tourist organisation on Lesbos since late 50's. Its cosmopolitan style tourism attracts a lot of intellectuals, scientists and artists.*

- The Public Historic Library of Methymna "Argyris Eftaliotis"

We are walking up the market street, which has been voted on the Net as one of the world's most magical streets shaded by flowers and trees (when the wisteria is in bloom in early April), to visit The Public Historic Library of Methymna "Argyris Eftaliotis".

*The Library was established in 1859 - during the Ottoman Occupation - in order to educate, awake spiritually and strengthen the Methymnians to fight for their freedom and national independence. Today, its collection includes about 14,000 items. About 1,000 of them are old and rare books which date back to 1670 and they are printed in renowned printing-houses of Europe and the Orient.*

*The Library also hosts an old collection of archives, newspapers, magazines and documents which record the historical, political, economic and social conditions, not only of Methymna and Hellas, but of Europe as well. It is the tenth Historical Library in Greece, due to its long life and valuable collection.*

#### Activities at the Historic Library

- ✓ Presentation of the Historic Library (Power Point), Panayiota Thiveou, President of the Board of the Library
- ✓ Student workshop: Surfing the Library's digitised archives concerning the Greek refugees of 1922 - Activities, Maria Gregora - Director of the Library.

Students are surfing the Library's digitised archives on the Net (<http://dspace.cplm.gr>), especially those concerning the Greek refugees who had to flee the Anatolia region of Minor Asia in 1922: newspapers, magazines, school certificates, photos, objects e.t.c.

Anatolia's Greek culture ended abruptly after about 3,000 years by the Greek-Turkish population exchanges of 1923. Interestingly, the people had to switch countries not on the basis of their ethnicity or language, but of religion. Christian Orthodox people - natives of Asia Minor had to go to Greece, and Muslims living in Greece for as long as the Ottoman Occupation lasted (about 400-460 years) had to go to Turkey. The two peoples never overcame this ordeal and even today they narrate their sufferings to their grandchildren. A lot of them visit their ancestors' birthplace in both countries and sincere family relationships are developed among them.

- ✓ The view from the Library's windows - A "view" into the history and literary tradition of North Lesvos

From the windows of the upper floor of the Library enjoy the view of the sparkling blue bay and the ancient city-states on the opposite coast - birthplaces of great women and men of the ancient world whose spirit influenced the modern civilisation of the western world:

Arion from Methymna (7th century B.C.), Aristotle considers him the father of the ancient Greek tragedy as he perfected the dithyramb (music and dance)

Terpander from Antissa (approx. 710 B.C.), creator of choral poetry and great musician. He invented the Lesbian System of Music (notes) and perfected the kithara (harp) by making it a seven-stringed instrument, as until that time it had only four strings.

Sappho from Eressos (approx. 630 - 570 B.C.), first lyric poetess of the world, founder of a school for girls from Lesvos and the coast of Minor Asia\* opposite the city-state of Mytilene, who were taught music, poetry and etiquette (good manners).

\* Remember Minor Asia's Greek refugees (1922) mentioned above?!

Theophrastus from Eressos (approx. 373 - 287 B.C.), student of Aristotle, father of botany, ecology and mineralogy

- The Cultural and Conference Centre of Methymna

We are visiting The Cultural and Conference Centre of Methymna, next to the Library, where the President of the Town Council Mr. Thanasis Andreotis will welcome you. This impressive building used to be the Great Mosque during the Ottoman Period (1462-1912).

- The Ottoman fountains

There is one outside the former Mosque. You can see a lot of these stone or marble fountains of the Ottoman period scattered around the town. They were built probably for religious reasons as well as to provide drinking water. Some of them are particularly beautiful with carvings of birds, trees and flowers as well as inscriptions in Arabic.

- The Old Baths (Museum)

Only a few metres up the market street, the Old Baths building is another architectural monument of the last century. In the museum the students can see how they functioned (supply of hot water). Since the seventies the people of Molivos used them to have a bath.

- The School of Fine Arts

We are visiting the Annex of the Polytechnic School of Athens in Methymna (former Komninakis Krallis' mansion), just a few metres away. It is a two-storey impressive mansion, typical example of the local architecture of the 19th century with elaborate frescoes on the walls and ceilings that date back to 1833. It represents the social and economic life of the wealthy and notable people of Molivos. Students and professors from Schools of Art from Greece and abroad can stay here free and work throughout the year.

### Activities at The School of Fine Arts

- ✓ Students listen to the stories depicted on the frescoes
- ✓ Photograph taking (no flash)
- ✓ Drawing/Painting (Students can copy parts of the frescoes, if there is time)
- ✓ Enjoy the beautiful view of Molivos' harbour from the windows

- The Byzantine Castle

It is one of the most impressive and well-preserved castles in Greece built by the Byzantines and renovated by the Gattelusis from Genoa. The Gattelusis came peacefully to the island when the Byzantine Emperor Ioannis Palaiologos gave Lesvos as a dowry to her sister Maria Palaiologina, wife of Francesco Gattelusi.

The castle was built on the archaic walls of the ancient city. Handsome Achilles during the Trojan war conquered the castle. He came from Troy which is right across the narrow straits between Molyvos and Turkey (8 miles away), the very same coast where refugees and immigrants start their journey today!

The view from the castle is spectacular and the sunset unique. A lot of cultural events (festivals of classical music and guitar, dances, concerts e.t.c.) are being held in the castle in the summer.

- The Municipal Art Gallery of Methymna

It is housed in a beautiful traditional two-storey building made of stone and wood. Its entrance is made of black and white sea pebbles which depict a vase with flowers. The gallery was set up in 1981. Some of the most famous artists in Greece - some of them had worked in Methymna at the end of 1950's during the period of the touristic and cultural development of the town - donated their paintings and sculptures. Today, the impressive collection of the gallery also includes new works of modern artists, installations, constructions and conceptual projects. Recently there have been exhibitions and installations concerning the refugee crisis on the island.

*Note: It normally opens later in the tourist season*

## Activities at The Municipal Art Gallery

✓ Students can see:

- ❖ Old and modern Greek Art (painting and sculpture)
- ❖ The ancient marble pillar with the carved harpoon at the gallery's entrance, part of the door of an ancient temple in Methymna dedicated to Poseidon - the god of the sea.
- ❖ In the yard of the gallery, the bronze bust of the local writer Argyris Eftaliotis - a great patriot and fervent supporter of Demotic (Vernacular) Greek who spent most of his life in England and France.

✓ Photograph taking (no flash)

✓ Enjoying the view of the clear blue Aegean Sea from the windows

### 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Lunch. A gastronomical experience: enjoy the delicious local cuisine of Lesvos, at Molivos' harbour!

Kali orexi (Good appetite)!

- The ancient harbour

*It is the ancient harbour where the war ships of Methymna anchored. Today it is a picturesque fishing harbour with a lot of taverns and cafés just next to the fishing boats, with a great view of Molivos on the hill - an ideal place to relax and enjoy yourself!*

### 6:00 p.m.

We are going to Petra's Junior High School. It's time for work!

### 6:30-8:00 p.m.

#### Student workshop: Rehearsing Euripides' "Helen".

Ms. Georgia Kokkinogeni and Ms. Helen Ververi - Ancient/Modern Greek and History teachers, will help you learn and perform an 8 line extract (in ancient Greek!:) from Euripides's "Helen". You will present your performance tomorrow at the ancient temple of Messa!:)

"Helen" (Ελένη) is a tragedy (but perhaps more of a romance) written by the ancient Greek playwright Euripides (Ευριπίδης) in 412 BC. According to the play, Helen of Troy, who was accused of initiating the ten-year Trojan War, had never in fact arrived at Troy, but she was in Egypt. The Helen who escaped with Paris, betrayed her husband and her country and initiated the ten-year conflict was actually an eidolon, a phantom look-alike.

In this play, Euripides condemns war, the root of all evil. People lose their lives and motherlands and become refugees in foreign lands. There is an underlying message about the pointlessness of war. During the ten-year Trojan war, thousands of people were killed for the sake of a mere phantom!

## Free evening

### Wednesday 17th May

#### IN KALLONI, AGIA PARASKEVI, MYTILENE and PANAGIOUTHA

##### Summary

Sanctuary of Messa - "Lesvos Refugee Camp for Children and Teenagers" - Thermal (hot) Springs of Gera

##### Details

Erasmus+ groups arrange breakfast time in Petra

##### 8:00 a.m.

The bus will pick us up from our guesthouses (please wait in the street, on the seafront) at 8:00 a.m. After driving for about 20 km (25 minutes) through the pine forest and hills, we are reaching the town of Kalloni and the ancient city-state of Arisvi. After 1,5 km, we are driving along Aristotle's lagoon to admire migrant birds which have travelled all the way from Africa heading to Russia. The Bay of Kalloni is one of Greece's unique wetlands containing more than 130 species of birds, such as flamingos, herons, ducks e.t.c..

About 5 minutes later we are arriving at our destination, one of the most beautiful archaeological sites on Lesvos: The Sanctuary of Messa. *The Temple of Messa was built in the 4th Century BC and dedicated to the Gods Zeus, Dionysus and Hera. Later, in early Christian times a Byzantine church was built within the temple and the remnants can still be seen. Women on ancient Lesvos, in contrast to those in Athens, enjoyed freedom, got educated (Sappho's school), spoke freely in public, participated in politics (Sappho) e.t.c. In 700 B.C., here, at The Sanctuary of Messa Female Beauty Contests were activated with enthusiasm, choreographed by Sappho's school.*

##### Student workshop: Performance of Euripides' "Helen"

At the modern little theatre within the archaeological site next to the temple, the students will perform the extract memorised from Euripides' "Helen".

We continue our trip to Mytilene (about 50 minutes) to visit the "Refugee Camp for Children and Teenagers" at Kara Tepe (opening hours: 12:00-3:00 p.m.).

##### Student workshop: Meeting the young refugees

Students meet, communicate and do activities with the children and teenagers at the Refugee Camp.

## Lunch

If you are permitted to have a bath at the hot spring later, YOU MUSTN'T EAT A LOT BECAUSE YOU NEED ABOUT 3 HOURS TO DIGEST! You can have some snack for lunch and eat something again after your bath, there.

Driving back, 10 km away from Mytilene, we are visiting the beautiful Thermal Springs of Gera. *These healing springs are situated at the Gulf of Gera. Hot spring waters (39.50 C, 1.18 units of radioactivity), due to the volcanic activity on Lesvos 20 million years ago, flow into two public, domed bathing-pools, one for men and the other for women. There is a restaurant and refreshment bar (reasonable prices).*

*In case students are permitted to have a bath, they need their swimming wear, flip-flops, soap (you need to take a shower before entering the pools) and towel. Except for the swimming wear, you can get all the rest on the spot for about 3, 1 and 1 Euro, respectively. YOU MUSTN'T SWIM IF YOUR STOMACH IS FULL. WE NEED ABOUT 3 HOURS TO DIGEST FOOD! So, if you are going to swim, have some snack for lunch and eat again after your bath.*

## Thursday 18th May

### IN PETRA

Erasmus+ groups arrange breakfast time in Petra

### 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

#### Student workshop: "Traditional dances of Lesvos and Asia Minor"

You will be picked up from your guesthouses (please wait in the street, on the seafront, as always!) at 9:00 a.m.. We are going to *Petra's Fitness Centre* (10 minutes walk through olive fields and farms) where the P.E., Tae-Kwon Do trainer and dance teacher Mr. Yianis Papoutsanis will teach you traditional dances of Lesvos and Asia Minor - home of the Greek refugees (1922).

### 11:30 a.m.- 01:00 p.m.

#### Student workshop: "Learning Greek!"

We are going to *Petra's Frontistirion "Horizons"* (private evening school, next to your guesthouses) where the English teacher Ms. Elpida Stypanou will help you learn your first Greek words!

### 01:10 - 03:30 p.m.

Lunch at Petra

### 03:30 p.m.

The bus will pick us up from Petra's main square to take us to the Junior High School of Petra.

### 04:00 - 06:00 p.m.

### Student workshop: "Every Child Matters: Refugees and Immigrants in the Educational System", Writing a poem/story/book with illustrations

Teachers Ms. Georgia Kokkinogeni and Ms. Helen Ververi will be there to help and monitor

### Evening feast

At a restaurant by the sea, looking at Methymna (Molivos) and Petra in the horizon, we experience a real Greek Night!

## Friday 19th May

Erasmus+ groups arrange breakfast time in Petra

### 9:00 a.m.

The bus will pick you from your guesthouses (please wait in the street, on the seafront, as always!) to take you to the Junior High School of Petra.

### 9:30 a.m.

### Students' workshop: Completion of Projects

Confirmations to Erasmus+ Lesvos participant teachers and students

Organising the next Erasmus+ meeting in Essex, England!

### Free evening

## Saturday 20th May

We are sad you have to leave! We wish to see you again soon! Please confirm the time of your very early departure by bus from Petra to catch the first flight to Athens. Have a nice and safe trip back home and see you again!

**Yia sas ke kalo taxithi!**

(Goodbye and have a nice trip!)