



Study Visit in Greece

Debating the Learning
Success Stories of Cities
and Regions





The Study Visit will be implemented in two different cities (Municipalities) and will last 2 days. The main objectives of the Study Visit are:

- To become familiarized with the ways that the concept of a Learning City is conceived in Greece.
- To understand and experience the local strategies that are applied to foster a learning culture in different settings within the same overall culture.
- To become acquainted with the efforts needed to develop the necessary political and social consensus to create a learning city by exploring the case of the Municipality of Larissa.
- To become acquainted with a methodology that is proposed as a governing process (i.e., sociocracy or democratic governance) that may attract young adults in becoming involved in the creation of a learning city (the case of the Youth Council of the Municipality of Thermi).

The center of operations is the city of Thessaloniki. The Municipality of Thermi is almost attached to the city of Thessaloniki and from the Central Train Station of Thessaloniki it is rather easy to reach the Municipality of Larissa ([/ləˈrɪsə/](#); [Greek: Λάρισσα, Lárisa, \[ˈlarisa\]](#)). From the airport of Thessaloniki there are many ways to reach the center of the city. The cheapest choice is by public bus no 01X (you may buy tickets on the bus, check www.oasth.gr) We recommend booking a hotel in the center of the city. The city is vivid and since the largest university of Greece (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki with more than 80.000 students) is situated here, there are many interesting recreational choices working 24/7. Some hotels may be expensive while others are of reasonable price and the walking distance from the center is not an issue (max 20-25 minutes).

Day 1 – Excursion to the Municipality of Larissa - Wednesday, 28th of September 2022

From Thessaloniki to Larissa, we will move by train. You may check the lines and tickets on-line. <https://tickets.trainose.gr/dromologia/> We will take the morning train that leaves the train station at 8:15! There are rare delays, so make sure you are on time to buy tickets. The number of the train is 1595.

Duration	Train	Route	Depart	Arrive
1:35	1591 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 05:30	28/09 07:05
1:34	1593 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 06:20	28/09 07:54
1:19	51 (ICE)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 07:08	28/09 08:27
1:35	1595 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 08:15	28/09 09:50
1:20	53 (IC)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 08:56	28/09 10:16
1:35	1597 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 10:13	28/09 11:48
1:20	55 (IC)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 10:56	28/09 12:16
1:35	1599 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 11:35	28/09 13:10
1:20	57 (IC)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 12:56	28/09 14:16
1:35	2591 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 13:40	28/09 15:15
1:20	59 (IC)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 14:56	28/09 16:16
1:35	2593 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 15:40	28/09 17:15
3:35	C95 (AEQΦ)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 16:40	28/09 20:15
1:19	61 (ICE)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 17:08	28/09 18:27
1:35	595 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 17:40	28/09 19:15
1:20	63 (IC)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 19:01	28/09 20:21
1:35	2597 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 20:36	28/09 22:11
1:35	2599 (NPOA)	Thessaloniki Larissa	28/09 22:23	28/09 23:58

There are plenty of buses taking you from the center to the train station (NEOS SIDIRODROMIKOS STATHMOS). The most frequent are numbers 02 and 03 depending on the location of your hotel. Check the web page <https://oasth.gr> for more info in English. Taxi is also a reasonable choice.

Provisional program of day 1

08:15 - 09:50	Travel from Thessaloniki to Larissa
10:00 - 10:15	Arrival at Larissa train station - transport by minibus to the Larissa Town Hall
10:15 - 11:15	<p>Venue: Larissa Town Hall (address: lonos Dragoumi 3) https://www.larissa-dimos.gr/en/the-city)</p> <p>Introduction to Larissa as a Learning City Presentation & discussion by Dr. Dimitris Deligiannis, Vice-Mayor of Larissa (administration, education, and lifelong learning) Youth Council</p>
11:30-12:45	<p>Culture and Learning - presentation of the Mill of Pappas Learning programs for vulnerable groups - Lifelong Learning Department Interventions for Roma in Larissa - Community Center for Roma Coffee break Venue: Mill of Pappas, Dionisou 13, Larissa</p>

	http://culture.larissa-dimos.gr/article.php?article_id=125&topic_id=115&level=&belongs=&area_id=1&lang=en
13:00 – 13:30	Venue: Ancient Theater of Larissa Brief presentation of the history of the Theatre and its symbolism as a center for fostering democracy, participation, and learning http://www.larissa-theatre.com/theatro-larissas/
13:30 – 15:30	Lunch break
15:30 – 16:30	Visit at the Organisation Against Drugs (OKANA) Presentation & discussion about its role in the Learning City project (address: Manolaki 11, Larissa) https://www.okana.gr/el/information-english
16:45	Return to the train station

For dinner there are two options (we may decide on the spot!)

Option 1: Return to Thessaloniki and have dinner at around 20:00 (we will announce the restaurant choice later)

Option 2: Stay in Larissa, enjoy a walk in the city, have a coffee and then dinner there and return later in Thessaloniki (under discussion). In this case you may consider carrying a medium-sized backpack with items that you may need.

Day 2 – Visit the Municipality of Thermi - Thursday, 29th of September 2022

Thermi is located at the periphery of Thessaloniki, but practically it is part of the larger metropolitan area. Keep in mind that the Thessaloniki Airport is located at the Municipality of Thermi. So, if you plan to travel immediately after the visit in Thermi, it is better to carry your luggage with you rather than leave them at the Hotel. From the venue of our meeting the Airport is 8-12 minutes by taxi while there also bus options. Please keep in mind that the venue for the whole day is [Noesis Science Center & Technology Museum](#).

Provisional program of day 2

09:00 – 09:30	We meet at the White Tower (the emblem of Thessaloniki) and we take mini-buses to the Municipality of Thermi (free of charge)
10:00 – 10:30	Venue: Noesis Science Center & Technology Museum , Municipality of Thermi https://www.noesis.edu.gr/en/ Introduction by the Mayor of Thermi, Hon. Theodore Papadopoulos and the Vice-Mayor for Education, Mr. Stylianos Apostolou

10:30 – 11:00	Lifelong learning and Local Administration in Greece. Dr. George Koulaouzides, Hellenic Open University & Hellenic Adult Education Association
11:00 – 11:30	Presentation of the Directorate for Education and Social Affairs of the Municipality of Thermi. Ms. Chryssa Klimatsouda, M.Sc., Head of the Directorate for Education and Social Affairs
11:30 – 12:00	Presentation of activities that are implemented within the concept of the Learning City at the Municipality of Thermi.
12:00 – 12:30	Coffee Break and Light Lunch
12:30 – 13:30	Presentation of the Youth Council of Thermi: the idea, the challenges, the strategy, and the implementation (presenters TBC)
13:30 – 15:30	Workshop on Sociocracy as a governance approach. Dr. Naya Tselepi and Mrs. Sofia Kyprianidou Hellenic Sociocracy Center https://www.sociocracy.gr/
15:30 – 16:00	Evaluation of the study visit
16:00	Farewell Mrs. Katerina Palaiologou, Hellenic Adult Education Association.

After the farewell we may propose options regarding on the travelling plans of the participants

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