



THE ROMANOS  
RESORT  
COSTA NAVARINO

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### **Ekies All Senses Resort**

Sitting comfortably on an unspoiled beach in Vourvourou Bay in Sithonia (one of the three peninsulas of Halkidiki), [Ekies All Senses Resort](#) is surrounded by rocky islands, caves, crystal waters, sandy beaches, and pine tree forests. If you want to experience nature in all its magnificent forms, you have found your ideal destination!

To get to Ekies, you fly into Thessaloniki (SKG). It is a quick 55-minute flight from Athens, or there are daily direct flights from many European cities. A little over an hour transfer from the airport you come to region of Halkidiki. Surrounded by pristine waters and sandy beaches Ekies embodies the concept of sustainable luxury throughout its 76 rooms and suites, making it the perfect haven for solo travelers, couples, families, or multi-generational travel.

The hotel is a childhood dream turned into an award-winning, eco-friendly barefoot luxury escape that blends Greek heritage with international design (part of Design Hotels). The hotel celebrates its Greek roots in a contemporary way, using natural and unrefined materials combined with unique pieces by notable international designers. Each room is laid out for either a couple or family, ranging from a superior double to suites and even the Herb Villa. There are terraces, patios, private pools and garden view options across these room categories.

The owners believe that real luxury is the quality time we spend with each other, and respecting the endless beauty of our natural surroundings will always be at the core of the team's efforts. Immersive activities include snorkeling, kayaking and boating showcasing the lush, verdant beauty of Halkidiki. In addition to the exquisite surroundings, guests will delight in the award-winning restaurants and contemporary Greek cuisine using the freshest locally sourced ingredients, many of which are picked from their onsite garden. The owners also have strict sustainability objectives for low environmental impact procedures with an eco-commitment to become zero waste by 2025.

As your stay comes to an end at Ekies, travelers have direct flights from Thessaloniki to many destinations such as Athens, Santorini, Mykonos, Crete or Rhodes. May we offer a suggestion of another mainland coastal region?

### **Costa Navarino**

We boarded a 1 hour and 20-minute flight from Thessaloniki (SKG) to Kalamata (KLX). Yes, you know Kalamata, as this is where the Kalamata olives are from. And, yes, when you get off the plane you can smell the olives in the air. A 45-minute transfer brought us to the destination of Costa Navarino.

Costa Navarino is a sustainably driven destination located in the Greek region of Messinia in the southwest Peloponnese. One of the most unspoiled and breathtaking seaside landscapes, this is a region shaped by 4,500 years of history. The Costa Navarino philosophy is led by a genuine desire to preserve the natural beauty and heritage of Messinia.

We like to say this area is the Greek version of the Mayakobas in Mexico, with four luxury resorts (Romanos, Westin, W Costa Navarino, Mandarin Oriental), four signature golf courses, private residences, more than 40 dining and entertainment venues, and an abundance of sports and experiences, Costa Navarino has established Messinia as a great example of entwining history, culture, sustainability, and tourism.

### **The Romanos, A Luxury Collection Resort**

Enjoying a privileged position by the Ionian Sea in the Navarino Dunes area of Costa Navarino, [The Romanos, A Luxury Collection Resort](#), captures the authentic and exceptional qualities of Messinia through its award-winning architecture, combining grand column-lined walkways with elegant, contemporary design, uninterrupted views of the coastline, and a wonderful backdrop of the golf landscape.

Select among exquisite guestrooms – many with individual pools or indulge in fine living at any of the superb Ionian exclusive suites and beachfront villas with dedicated butler service and a series of elite amenities. The two and three-bedroom villas here are spectacular, offering peace by the sea, with the access and amenities of the resort. Bonus: Villa stays of five nights or more receive included airport transfers, a complimentary select Costa Navarino experience, and VIP beach access.

Savor refined flavors across splendid venues with menus curated by acclaimed chefs. Our favorite dining experiences included the outstanding breakfast buffet at Pero, lunch beachside at Barbouni, and dinner in the Agora enjoying delicious Italian comfort food at Da Luigi Restaurant.

Guests can vacation their way, whether on the beach, rejuvenating at the multi-awarded Anazoe Spa with signature oleotherapy® treatments, engaging in an impressive array of sports, including four world-class golf courses and Europe's first Mouratoglou Tennis Center, or discover the region's natural beauty and rich cultural heritage through authentic local experiences.

After our two-night stay in the Navarino Dunes area, we took the 10-minute shuttle (offered to resort guests throughout the day to experience the restaurants/stores/activities of each area) to have two nights at W Costa Navarino in Navarino Bay.

### **W Costa Navarino**

Right where the region's rolling hills meet the glistening waters of the Ionian, the [W Costa Navarino](#) has a privileged beachfront location in Navarino Bay and marks the debut of W Hotels in Greece. This Escape, exclusively for adults and young adults over 12 years old, opened in August 2022 to bring contemporary design and inspiring energy to the Navarino Waterfront. Vivid and bright, with a distinctive design inspired by the region's architecture, W Costa Navarino offers 226 stylish accommodations with swim-up rooms, airy one and two-bedroom suites with their own pools, and fantastic beachfront villas with their private pools set against the stunning Ionian sunset. Enjoy playful public spaces, five dining venues, including a vibrant Beach Club, and a wellness area with AWAY® Spa and FIT gym to fuel body and mind.

From the Greek word “Platia” - town square - four unique points (the Coffee Shop, the Deli, the Bakery & the Cookery) bring breakfast into a new level of fine dining experience that is not to be skipped during your stay. And from the Greek words “Parea” - group of people hanging around together & “Paralia” - beach, came Parelia, the Greek inspired Beach Club designed to be the beach side hangout of the resort, offering Greek contemporary cuisine with a Mediterranean twist for lunch and dinner.

### **Costa Navarino Activities**

It is highly recommended that guests download the Costa Navarino app for access to everything the community has to offer, including a map to navigate the properties and ensure no available opportunity to enjoy and experience the region is overlooked.

Both the Dunes and Bay have an Agora (meaning gathering place) that is an innovative fusion of art, culture, shopping and more. The marketplace offers a shopping experience of quality and sustainability along with restaurants and entertainment for guests and locals.

Outdoor enthusiasts have a range of choices from a world-class golf experience on the first four signature golf courses in Greece, tennis at the Mouratoglou Tennis Center, or even padel, squash, or pickleball. Others may choose to enjoy land activities such as cycling, hiking, or climbing with the guidance of Narvarino Outdoors. Watersports include diving, snorkeling, kayaking, SUP, sailing, and more. Or explore on your own one of the most unspoiled and breathtaking Mediterranean seaside landscapes, including waterfalls. Cultural activities include olive oil and wine tastings, and even visiting a picturesque village home to discover traditional Messinian cooking with the help of two wonderful local women that share their family recipes, stories and dances.

Departing from Costa Navarino guests have a few options. Kalamata Airport (KLX) offers flights to London, Zurich, Munich, and Geneva. May through September there are flights to here from Athens, Thessaloniki, and Crete. If headed towards Athens, I recommend a ground transfer, as on your driver that is a little under three hours, you could visit UNESCO sites, see the Corinth Canal, or even stop at a winery and enjoy a tasting and lunch. You can then either continue into Athens and spend time in the city, relax on the Athenian Riviera, or have a range of international flight options out of Athens airport.

The areas we stayed on this FAM are developing luxury tourism in full harmony with nature, believing that sustainable actions are so important in preserving their lands and coastlines for future generations and travelers. We are proud that the properties we represent ensure their footprint is as little as possible, while providing travelers an incredible opportunity to vacation on the vast and diverse coasts of Greece’s mainland.

