

# ERASMUS+ IDENTITY OF THE REGION – Greece

## A Glance at the History of Petroupolis



*A spectacular view of Athens in the evening from the top of the hill of Petroupolis.*

**Petroupolis** means **City of Stone** is a suburb in the north western part of Athens, Urban Area, in Greece. It was elevated to the municipality status in 1972. It is surrounded by Egaleo and Pikilo mountains on the west, from where you can see **the Acropolis of Athens**. Petroupolis took its name by the fact that its ground consists mainly of stone, which explains why in the past several quarries were operating in the area. On May the 20th in 1934, we have the birth of our suburb, the population of which is currently standing on around 60.000 people.

### Places of Significance

#### Petra's Theatre (Stone Theatre)

**Petra's Theatre**, which is an open air theatre and quite close to our school, was actually a quarry at the foot of which the town later developed.

After the quarry was shut down, people kept wondering what its use thereon should be until 1983 when it started operating as a theatre thanks



A performance at the open air theatre of Petra's in summertime.

to the mayor of town at the time who valued the arts and who didn't allow the place to become a landfill.

Nowadays many forms of arts, such as theatrical performances and concerts, take place at Petra's Theatre every summer and the theatre contributes both culturally and financially in the area. It's one of the most unique theatres of Athens with magnificent view and acoustics and that's why it is preferred by many famous artists such as **Mikis Theodorakis**.

## **Tritsi's Park**

**Tritsi's Park** is a public ecological park and is considered to be the largest park in Athens(1200 yards). It is full of rich flora and fauna including rare species of birds and flowers. In the park you can also find the one and only castle of gothic architecture in Athens built in 1854. It is a place where many kinds of activities such as horse riding, concerts or performances take place and it is considered one of the best places for a picnic in the area. People from all parts of Athens visit it to enjoy its nature and green landscape.



Tritsi's park in the summer.

## Palataki (Little Palace)



**Palataki** is a tower situated on the spot where one of the most important battles for the Greek Independence took place. It is a sample of romantic architecture with neo-gothic elements consisting of two floors with ceilings very beautifully

decorated. After the establishment of the Modern Greek State the initial tower was knocked down and was replaced by **Palataki** after the request of the first **Queen of Greece, Amalia**, which justifies its official name as **Queen's Tower**. It later became very popular with great painters of the time who created wonderful wall paintings in it.

## The Acropolis

**The Acropolis of Athens** is an ancient citadel located on a rocky outcrop above the city of Athens and contains the remains of several ancient buildings of great architectural and historical significance, the most famous being the **Parthenon**.





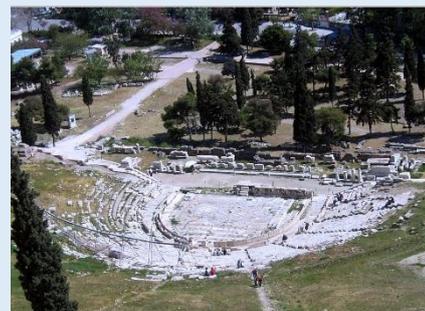
You are able to see and enjoy the view of Parthenon from the height of the mountain of Petroupolis. To the south of the entrance is the tiny **Temple of Athena Nike (victory)** where the statue of goddess Athena was kept and worshipped for the victories she brought to the city.



East of the entrance of the Acropolis is the temple of the **Erechtheum** which is dedicated to both Athena and Poseidon-the two gods who competed to be patrons of the city of Athens and where instead of the typical columns of the Greek architecture

there are statues of women.

At the foot of the Acropolis hill are situated the remains of the ancient **Theatre of Dionysus** which is the first theatre ever created and celebrates the god of wine and theatre, **Dionysus**.



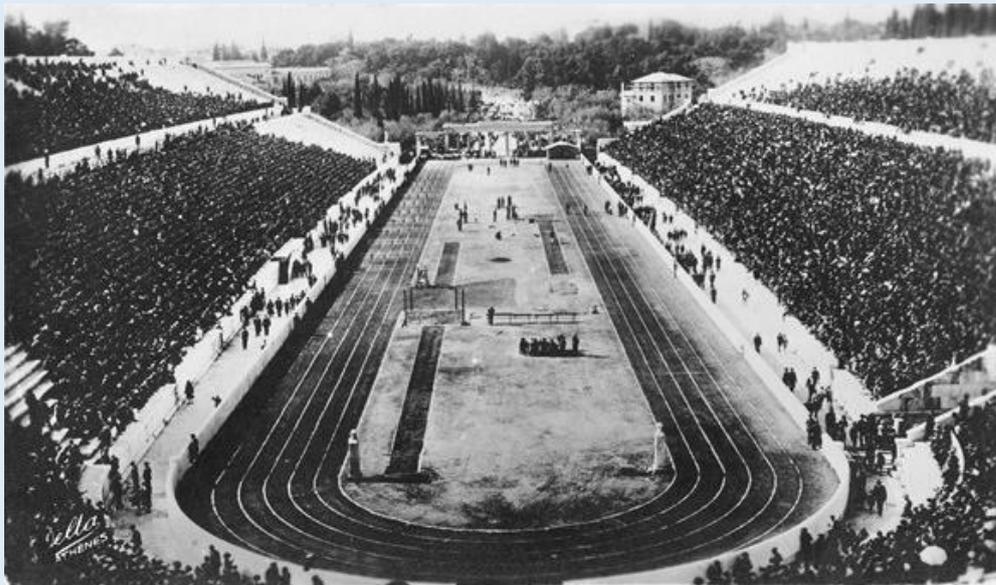


A few hundred metres away, there is the **Odeon of Herodes Atticus** which used to be a Roman concert hall where nowadays musical and theatrical performances are on.

All the valuable ancient artifacts are situated in the **Acropolis Museum**, which resides on the southern slope of the same rock, 280 metres from the Parthenon.



## Kalimarmaro Stadium (Stadium of Shiny Marble)



1896. The first modern Olympic Games.



It is located in the centre of Athens and this is where the first modern Olympic Games took place there in 1896. Nowadays it is usually used for charity events and is visited by many to adore the historical and shiny marbles that it is made of or to be a part of concerts by

many popular music artists.

## Plaka

**Plaka** is next to the Acropolis and is a central area of modern and ancient Athens that has never stopped being inhabited since ancient times. It is full of monuments from antiquity, Byzantine and more recent times.



## The Parliament

