**"MORIAS '21":**

**An exciting journey to Peloponnese, the birthplace**

**of the Greek Revolution**

*An initiative of the “Captain Vassilis & Carmen Constantakopoulos” Foundation and TEMES SA,*

*in strategic partnership with the Peloponnese Region and Municipalities of the area*

Honoring the bicentennial of the Greek Revolution in 2021, the “**Captain Vassilis & Carmen Constantakopoulos” Foundation** and **TEMES SA** introduce the program **MORIAS ’21**. Inviting Greeks from all over the world to visit Peloponnese, where the Revolution of 1821 began, the ambitious initiative takes travellers on a journey through history, with the aid of thematic activities and interactive experiences. The University of Peloponnese provided solid scientific documentation to the program, under the coordination of Professor Nikolaos Zacharias and the supervision of the Emeritus Professor Thanos Veremis, alongside Professor Thanasis Christou.

Using the catchphrase “Ki ego ston Moria” (See you in Morias) as its central message, the program highlights the organic relationship between Peloponnese and the Greek Revolution of 1821, through thematic routes crossing emblematic cities, villages and castles, tower houses and small fortresses, historic monasteries and lairs, battlefields and areas where political decisions were made in East and West Mani, Kalamata, Corinth, Monemvasia, Nafplio, Pylos and Tripoli, the selection of which was based on thorough research, conducted by the University of Peloponnese. Alongside other historical sources, the three, five or seven day-long journeys are inspired by the Memoirs of Theodoros Kolokotronis, the Pre-eminent Leader of the Greek War of Independence. Additional activations will take place in the Municipalities of Messini, Oichalia and Trifylia.

Turning memory and space into a unique experience, the exciting journey will be complemented by a series of activities focusing on **History**, **Art**, **Gastronomy** and **Nature**.

* **History:** With the aid of technology and audiovisual media, paintings by Greek and foreign artists donated by the **Benaki Museum**, the **National Historical Museum** of Greece and the **Historical & Folklore Museum of Kalamata**, will be digitally brought to life in selected cities of Peloponnese, alongside virtual narrations of the events by their protagonists. Furthermore, in collaboration with the **George & Victoria Karelia Foundation** and the **Lyceum Club of Greek Women** in Kalamata, traditional costumes from Peloponnese and the Saronic Gulf will be on display.
* **Art:** Inspired by the Greek Revolution and its Heroes, young artists create murals which transform the urban environment of selected cities in Peloponnese. The Art program is implemented by the **Athens School of Fine Arts**, under the supervision of Dr. Erato Chatzisavva, who is responsible for the historical documentation and the artistic outcome of the works.
* **Gastronomy:** The dietary habits of the 1821 Revolution Fighters pave the way for a special gastronomic journey through history, in collaboration with the **Chambers of Peloponnese**. Inspired by the flavors of the era and signed by the renowned chef **Lefteris Lazarou**, a special menu will soon be available in restaurants throughout Peloponnese, based on research conducted by the University of Peloponnese. The program invites all emblematic restaurants in Greece to draw inspiration from MORIAS ‘21 and include similar dishes in their menus, using their creative approach.
* **Nature:** Special signs will be installed in thirty age-old trees which are inextricably linked to important moments of the Greek Revolution. Nature thus becomes a living witness of significant moments in Greek History.

MORIAS ‘21 will proceed with more collaborations which will be announced soon, highlighting Peloponnese’s historical significance and the area’s key role in relation to the 1821 Revolution. The program is already being supported by Lamda Development and attica department stores, both of which will host creative activities dedicated to the project.

The President of the “Captain Vassilis and Carmen Constantakopoulos Foundation” and TEMES SA, **Achilles V. Constantakopoulos**, said about the program *"All of us with the vision and the means, have the duty and the responsibility to participate in this national effort to safeguard History, which constantly teaches us how to build a better future for forthcoming generations. Despite the difficult health and financial conditions we all face due to the pandemic, we decided to proceed with the MORIAS ’21 program, contributing to the celebration of the Greek Revolution’s Bicentennial. We hope that the stories, experiences and journeys that we create will send a message to Greeks from all over the country and the world, to visit Peloponnese, become part of history and pass on the knowledge to the next generation, respectfully and with pride, helping build a better future for all."*

The innovative MORIAS ‘21 program takes place under the auspices of the **"Greece 2021" Committee** and is implemented with the strategic partnership of the **Peloponnese Region** and the **Municipalities** of **East Mani**, **West Mani**, **Corinth**, **Monemvasia**, **Nafplio**, **Pylos-Nestor**, **Tripoli**, as well as with the **Municipalities** of **Messini**, **Oichalia**, **Trifylia**, in collaboration with the " **1821-2021 Initiative**".

**Discover Greek Culture SA** is the cultural tourism company responsible for the coordination and the management of the project. The company designs and implements tailor-made cultural experiences and trips for inbound tourism clients, as well as companies.

Materials related to the program will soon be available online.

For more information:

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