



Greek Holidays: St. Demetrius Day & Ohi Day (October 26th and 28th)

October 28, 1940 – When Metaxas said “NO” to the Italians

In the early morning hours of October 28, 1940, Italian Ambassador Emmanuel Grazzi awoke Greek Premier Ioannis Metaxas and presented him with an ultimatum. The Italians demanded that Greece allow Axis forces to enter Greek territory and occupy certain unspecified "strategic locations" or otherwise face war. Metaxas rejected the ultimatum and Italian forces invaded Greek territory less than three hours later. Mussolini launched the invasion partly to prove that Italians could match the military successes of the German Army and partly because Mussolini regarded south-eastern Europe as lying within Italy's sphere of influence. The anniversary of Metaxas' refusal is now a public holiday in Greece named "OHI" day.

Saint Demetrius – Thessaloniki's Saint

26th of October is, for Thessaloniki, the feast day of Saint Demetrius. Saint Demetrius was born sometime from 280 to 284 and died sometime between 303 and 305, according to historical research. He is well known to the Christian community as one of the greatest martyrs of Christianity. At the age of 22 he joined the Roman army and at that time Christianity was forbidden by the Emperor of Rome. However, Saint Demetrius did not abandon his faith and for that reason was imprisoned and killed. Thessaloniki honors this great man every year and his remains are placed in Saint Demetrius church of Thessaloniki.

"Kristin and Haris' Hang Outs"

By Kristin Harms

One of our favorite restaurants, The Beer Academy, can be found in Kalamaria on Mixalakopoulou 2. Beer Academy feels just like a beer house in Germany. The tables and chairs are all wooden, the lighting is kept low. While the food does have the regular Greek ingredients, such as feta and souvlaki, it also has a very German taste to it-- rich with an emphasis on potatoes and steak. The other great thing about The Beer Academy is, obviously, . . . the beer! The Beer Academy has over 30 kinds of beer from many countries, including, Belgium, England and Germany. The only downside to this restaurant is it can be a bit pricey. But if you're dying to taste a beer other than Heinekin and Amstel, check out The Beer Academy!

Greek Recipe of the Week:
Spetzofai

Village Sausage with Tomatoes and Red Peppers (Servings: 4)

Ingredients:

- 1 Clove of Garlic (Crushed)
- 2-3 Tablespoons of Olive Oil
- 2 Medium Onions (Sliced)
- 2 Whole Red Peppers (Seeded and Diced)
- 2.20 lb Sausages (Village Sausages)
- 1-2 Medium Tomatoes (Finely Chopped)

Directions: Preheat the oil, add the onions and fry until transparent, add the garlic, the sausages, the tomatoes and the red peppers and cook for 15-20 minutes. It is served hot.

Worldwide Web Wonder of the Week:
www.ose.gr

The official site of the Greek railway system.

Exciting News

The gym renovation is finished! Basketball fans, come to the gym on Wednesday, October 22nd at 5 P.M. to get in a round of B-Ball. If basketball is not your thing, come on Monday November 3rd at 5 P.M. to play volleyball.

Excerpts from Kristina Lambros'

*Step Outside of your
Comfort
Zone*

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I am a fifth year International Affairs major at Northeastern University. I am currently completing my second semester abroad at the American College of Thessaloniki in Thessaloniki, Greece and I have to say that this year abroad has completely transformed my life. As a Greek-American, travelling back to the land of my ancestors and great philosophical thinkers has been an unreal experience. Studying in Greece was an opportunity that I could not let pass. Now, after being here for the last seven months, I am thrilled that I decided to come. . .

. . . When I first arrived in Greece I was filled with emotions: I was jet lagged, culture shock was setting in, yet I was anxious for the semester to finally begin. I was ready to take on Greece and all it had to offer. On the nine hour flight over I had promised myself I would: keep an open mind, take everything as it comes, be open to other people's views, and take advantage of every opportunity that arose while in Greece.

I did exactly that. I made friends with the locals and visited their villages. I got involved in school activities such as Student Government and the Field Trip Club and travelled all over. I visited Turkey, Cyprus, the Greek Island of Mykonos, the monasteries of Meteora, the mountains of Mt. Pilion and Volos, Mt. Olympus, Halkidiki, Athens, and explored all over Thessaloniki. I made connections with my professors and close friends. In essence I embraced the life of a Greek and I took it in with open arms, inevitably leading to my decision to stay for another semester.

. . . As my second semester begins I am positive that it will be even more rewarding than my first, since I am now more familiar with my peers and surroundings. If there is one thing that I could tell prospective students who are planning or even thinking of studying abroad it is: just do it! The sky is the limit! The opportunity to live abroad, especially as a student, is an experience of a lifetime. It is an experience that I believe every student should have --it is eye opening and a chance to focus on yourself, become one with who you are as a person, and it only comes once, so do not let it pass by. . .