

# The Labour Market in Greece Living & Working conditions



**“Seize the Summer with EURES 2022”**





## General information

- **location** South - Eastern Europe
- **area** 131,957 km<sup>2</sup>
- **population** 11,183,716 (2016)
- **political system** Unitary Parliamentary republic
- **capital** Athens
- **official language** Greek
- **currency** Euro



# The Labour Market in Greece



- Unemployment rate – January 2022: 12,8 %  
(Hellenic Statistical Authority - <https://www.statistics.gr/>)



# Learning the Greek language




**Greek is an independent branch of the Indo-European family of languages. Fluency in Greek is an essential skill, which is a prerequisite in most jobs in Greece.**

**In order to improve the knowledge of Greek, it is advisable to attend courses.**

**For further information, consult the nearest Employment Centre, the offices of the Ministry of Education, as well as the Universities.**



# Educational System

<p><b>PRE-SCHOOL</b> Duration: 2 years</p>	<p>Boys and girls must be registered from the age of 4.</p>
<p><b>Primary School</b> Duration: 6 years</p>	<p>Compulsory at the age of 6. Introduction to a European language from the 2<sup>nd</sup> class. Use of the computer.</p>
<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> level secondary school</b> Duration: 3 years</p>	<p>Introduction of a second European language. Use of computer technologies. Tutored guidance for the choice of the subsequent pathway.</p>
	<p>Possibility of choosing between two pathways: secondary schools and education-vocational training.</p>
<p><b>2nd level SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b> Duration: 3 years</p>	<p>3 fields: classics, human sciences, science.</p>
<p><b>EDUCATION-VOCATIONAL TRAINING</b> Duration: variable, minimum 2 + 1 years</p>	<p>After 2 years, the first qualification spendable in the labour market and recognized at the national and European level. Possibility of gaining further qualifications spendable in the labour market and for access to higher vocational training.</p>

# Educational System



<b>University Degree</b>	4-year duration. Access is through a competitive exam. This provides the students with basic preparation, together with specific vocational skills.
<b>Master's Degree</b>	With access only after gaining the degree. This provides the opportunity for advanced scientific and vocational education with lifelong learning and continuous training.
<b>PhD</b>	After gaining the specialist degree. These are courses for perfecting methodologies for research and higher scientific training, always in the same sector. These courses last from 3 to 5 years.



# Public Health System



- ✓ Foreign citizens in Greece are entitled to use public health service.
- ✓ What is the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)?  
A free card that gives you access to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in any of the 27 EU countries, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, under the same conditions and at the same cost (free in some countries) as people insured in that country.
- ✓ Cards are issued by your national health insurance provider.



# Social Security System



- **The Greek National Health System (ESY) was established in 1983. It aims to provide medical and hospital care to all persons living in Greece.**
- **The National Centre for Emergency Assistance (EKAB) is an emergency unit providing direct on-site first aid and evacuation services of patients to the nearest medical facility - (Call number: 166).**
- **Healthcare services are also provided by social insurance funds to their members. EOPYY [National Organization for Healthcare Provision] is the body responsible for providing such services.**
- **The reorganization of the Insurance System in Greece came into its final phase from 01/01/2017 when all old insurance Institutes were consolidated into a Single Social Insurance Institution (EFKA).**



# Unemployment Benefits

## General Provisions



- Declaration of status (registration at public employment service)
- 125 working days within the 14 months prior to the expiry or termination of employment, not counting the last two months before the end of it.
- 200 working days during the previous two years prior to termination of employment, not counting these last two months before the end of the employment.
- Maximum 1 year duration, 407,25 € plus 10% for each entitled family member (unemployed husband/wife, children under 18 years of age or up to 24 years of age if they study, with no age limit for unemployed and handicapped family members)

# Unemployment Benefits for seasonal workers



100 working days within the 14 months prior to the expiry or termination of employment, not counting the last two months before the end of it.

Special provisions depending on whether the applicant has already received unemployment benefits or not and the seasonal type of the employer.

- *Last, but not least, the golden rule of «50» during the pandemic*

# Tax System



In the Greek system there are two tax categories:

Direct and indirect:

- Direct tax affects on income and property on various rates
- Indirect tax applies to transfer of goods, commercial transactions and consumers.

Ministry of the Economy and Finance: [www.minfin.gr](http://www.minfin.gr)

Regional Tax Departments: [www.gsis.gr](http://www.gsis.gr)



# Accommodation



Rented accommodation:

- 2-bedroom Flats: 300-400 € per month
- Houses: 500 € - 700 € per month
- Small Rooms: 200 € per month



The prices depend on the region, age, condition, equipment, proximity to public transport or other places of interest a.s.o.



# Prices (circa)



- Cigarettes 4,00 €
- Loaf of bread 0,80-1,50 €
- Unleaded petrol 2,00 €
- Cup of Coffee 3,00-3,50 €
- Domestic beer 0,5lt 4,00 €
- Glass of wine 6,00 €
- Chocolate bar 2,00 €
- Milk 1lt 1,20 €
- Water (0.33 lt/bottle) 0,5 €
- Pizza 8,00 €
- Cinema ticket 8,00 €
- 90min trip bus/metro ticket 1,20 € (Athens)
- Meal in a inexpensive restaurant 10,00 -12,00€



# Job opportunities



After the heavy blows dealt by the financial crisis and the CoViD pandemic, the tourism sector in Greece is estimated to create at least 220.000 seasonal jobs in the next decade.

The tourism is specified in agritourism, religious tourism, tourism of archaeological interest and underwater antiquities and mostly the sea and the sun summer tourism.

However tourist sector is considered to have seasonal demand for workers mostly during Summer season from April to October.





## Occupations most needed

- Receptionists, responsible for catering, concierge, buffet person, bellhop,
- Cooks and helpers, barmen, chefs, scullions
- Helpers in all kind of hotel functions, such as cleaning personnel, room and linen cleaners, maids etc.
- Waiters and waiter assistants
- Tourist guides, catering responsible, responsible for outdoor activities, animators for outdoor activities and for creative activities for children, fitness gymnasts, lifeguards
- Tour guides for excursions, gardeners
- Personal curators such as beauticians, masseurs, etc. Djs, workers in building maintenance.



# Most wanted Skills



- Welcoming
- Friendly and kind
- Willing and helpful
- Flexible in working hours (rolling work schedule is often needed)
- Excellent communication skills
- Able to work in multicultural environment
- Able to work under pressure or under stress in fast rates





# Working conditions - Salaries



The legal minimum gross salaries since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022, also applicable for the tourism sector are:

- for the Employee status the minimum salary is 663,00 € (gross).
- for the Worker status the minimum salary is 29,65 € (gross) per wage

On the whole, the salary depends on the working hours, shifts, overtime, employment on Sundays and public holidays, (due to the specific features of the tourism sector) and is based on the legal provisions, the collective agreements, the company policy, as well as the negotiation between the employer and the potential employee



## CV for tourism sector



- A standard type europass CV with a photograph included is quite efficient for the tourism sector.
- The CV must be short and to the point. It should not in any case be longer than 2 pages and it must be written in English or the language demanded by the job offer.
- If you have relevant previous work experiences don't forget to mention it.





## Finding & Applying for a job

- **OAED** employment offices manage the national registry of Unemployment and provide counseling, mentoring or other Employment services.

(<http://www.oaed.gr>)



- **EURES** is the formal European network of public employment services through which mobility is encouraged.

(<http://eures.europa.eu/>)



- Private employment agencies certified by the ministry of Labour and Social Affairs may provide similar quality services.



**Thank You!**

