

Chalkida

Due to its strategic and geographical location, Chalkida has become a true hub – both a cosmopolitan city of art and commerce and an administrative and commercial centre on either side of the Euripus strait.

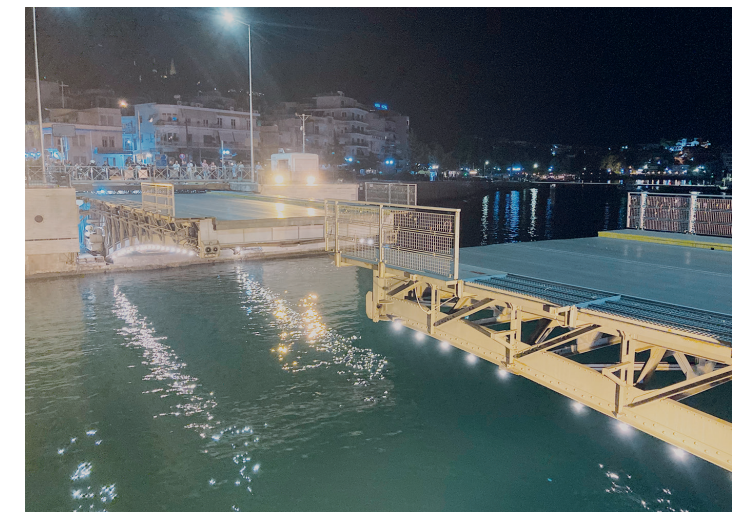
An hour from Athens, accessible by car or train, Chalkida is a popular destination for Athenians.

The mainland and the island are connected by two bridges. The new, fast motorway bridge was opened in the 1990s.



There is said to have been a bridge there since 410 BC, today it is “The Old Steel Bridge”. The old bridge is only opened once at night for ships. When that depends on the current and the tide. It is a spectacle every evening for spectators high up on both sides of the bridge. Particularly beautiful boats receive a round of applause.

No less exciting is the spectacle during the day when the water changes its direction of flow every six hours.



The current here is the strongest in Greece. White-water canoeists use it as a training ground.

The waterfront has many tavernas and restaurants, on every menu you will find freshly caught seafood and popular Greek appetizers, known as mezze.

The Chalkida Archaeological Museum is in an early 20th century building with collections from all over Euboea, ranging from the Palaeolithic to the late Roman period.



The hot, sulphurous springs, with temperatures ranging from 28 degrees to 86 degrees, can cause fog on some days, but always ensure a warmer temperature in the sea than elsewhere on the island.



It is one of the most beautiful places, where you can sit in the small natural pools as the springs bubble from below. In some places, the water also comes out like a shower from pipes and gullies on the rock and falls like a waterfall, directly into the sea.



Platana, a small coastal village to the south, impresses with fish restaurants, small cafés and well-managed hotels. The whole village smells like delicious grilled fish in the evenings. It is the only village on the Aegean side that is repeatedly exposed to strong winds and waves. The coastal road is not always accessible, due to rock falls and severe erosion. Recreational fishermen can be spotted along the pier in the evening sun.



If you drive along the coast, you will see the beginning of Stomio Beach with its beautifully situated beach bars. Here, the road turns away from the coast and takes you on an easier path instead of leading over the mountains, from east to west across the island to and from Athens (180 km).



The southern village of Oxilithos belongs to Kimi, which, as the name (“pointed stone”) suggests, lies on the slope of a volcanic pointed hill.



