

## AMPHIPOLIS PHILIPPI KAVALA

Visit places where Christianity first set foot on the land of Europe and, possibly, the Great Alexander was buried!

*King Philippos, Aleksandr the Great, Apostle Paul, Mehmed Ali and Ibrahim Pasha - outstanding heroes from the pages of history textbooks come to life for the traveler while visiting only three cities in Eastern Macedonia: Amphipolis, Philippi and Kavala.*



EXCURSION № 273

REGION: **HALKIDIKI**

RECOMMENDED DEPARTURE: **08:00**

APPROXIMATE DURATION: **ONE DAY**

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE : **0KM.**

FORMAT:

**-PRIVATE**

Once upon a time on this land, which belonged to the ancient Macedonians, there were majestic cities - now each traveler can find himself in the heart of archaeological excavations. From ancient stones, which faced the flourishing of Eastern Macedonia, an extraordinary force reflects. Passing along the **Amphipolis-Philippi-Kavala** route, everyone will be able to feel the spirit of a great empire: after all, this land, the walls of temples preserved the former greatness for the descendants.

### The Lion of Amphipolis

The city of Amphipolis was founded by the ancient Athenians in the fifth century BC. As wise rulers, the Greeks led it to wealth and prosperity: the city was richly decorated, full of temples and superbly fortified. Two millennia swept past unnoticed, and now you can contemplate only a grain of the heyday on the site of the once blooming city. But meanwhile how eloquently the ruins of **Amphipolis** are trumpeting about its past! Here, every traveler can see the fortress walls surrounding the polis, walk along the mosaic floors of ancient sanctuaries, and explore the foundations of craft workshops and temples. Opposite to the ruins of the polis, the cenotaph of the famous commander, who has subjugated many nations, Aleksandr Makedonskiy, looks at the river Struma. This tombstone was called "The Lion of Amphipolis," and it is not possible to find equally significant monument in Macedonia.

### Place, where the first christian of Europe was baptized

In the footsteps of the Macedonian warriors, the traveler has to pass through the "gates of Europe and Asia" - after all, this is the name of the city of **Philippi** in Hellas. And it is not surprising, because even after thousands of years in the city the slabs of the most famous trade highway - Egnatia - have been preserved. Like an artery, this road fed Philippi, bringing new goods, new technologies and new ideas to the city. **Apostle Paul**, who baptized the first Christian woman in Europe here, was

entertained by Hospitable Philippi. Therefore, along with the ancient Acropolis, theater and pagan temples, each traveler can observe the ancient streets and Byzantine basilicas, sheltered side by side. Here, in Philippi, there was a place of Paul imprisonment, which is worth seeing for all Christian believers.

## **Kavala - the ancient Neapolis**

But not only destroyed cities remained on the site of the once great empire. Life immediately flows from the seaside town of Kavala with its noisy embankment and a large seaport. Despite the fact that this polis is somewhat younger than the first two, it will be equally interesting to explore its lively streets. But first of all, each guest of this city rushes to the embankment, which is famous for its picturesque views. Then you can go to the museum, where you can find numerous archaeological finds from all over Eastern Macedonia. This museum is located inside Imaret, built by the order of Mehmed Ali, the famous Ottoman ruler of Egypt. Do not miss the opportunity to climb one of the streets to the top of Mount Simvolos, where the Byzantine fortress is located ... Medieval Kavala will please the traveler with the fresh breath of life, and will prepare him to return from ancient Macedonia to modern Greece.

### **WHAT TO WEAR**

Comfortable shoes, a headdress.

### **WHAT TO TAKE**

Drinking water, money for souvenirs, lunch and entrance fees, a good mood and a desire to get rich spiritually :)