

9th AMARI GREEN FESTIVAL

JULY 19 – 22, 2024

LOCATIONS: MUNICIPAL THEATER OF APOSTOLOI, CULTURAL ASSOCIATION SQUARE OF APOSTOLOI and in GERAKARI, FOURFOURAS, PLATANOS, ANO MEROS, ASOMATON SCHOOL, VISTAGI, VOLIONES, PATSOS, LOCHRIA!

PROGRAM

Friday, July 19, 2024

9:00 – 12:00: Unlocking the chest of time with wedding memories of a bygone era – Asomaton School: Collecting wedding photos, books for exchange, songs, and mantinades (traditional Cretan couplets). Email: amarigreenfestival@gmail.com

17:00 – 19:00: 5x5 Preliminary matches in Platanos, Fourfouras, Meronas.

18:30 – 19:30:

- **Platanos:** Tour of the School Life Museum

- **Gerakari: Nature, Culture, and History walking route** – First hike to Prophet Elias.

19:30 – 20:00: Platanos Primary School: Lecture on "**Water Management**" by Maria Bati (DIO).

Platanos Primary School:

- **20:00 – 20:30:** Lecture on "**Regenerative Agriculture and ORA model presentation**" by Nikistratos Demetzos (DIO).
- **20:30 – 21:00:** Screening of the documentary "**Kiss the Ground**"
- **21:30:** Summer Cinema Night! Movie screening

FOURFOURAS- Primary School:

- **20:00 – 20:30:** Lecture on: "**Psiloritis Geopark and UNESCO's Entrepreneurial Steps**" by **Dr. Charalambos Fasoulas** (Natural History Museum, UNESCO Global Geopark Council, president of IDAIOS Network).
- **20:30 – 21:00:** Lecture on: "**Answers to the impacts of climate change and rising agricultural production costs**" by George Savvakis (Regenerative Agronomist).
- **21:00-21:30:** Lecture on: "**Voices: Oral History in the Spotlight**" by Matthaïos Fratzeskakis.
- **21:30: Fourfouras Primary School:** Theatrical play "**The World is Deceit**" by the satirical poet George Souris, directed by Valentina Kiagia. A biting satire about matchmaking and dowries. Contributors:
 - Psorilis: Thomas Maskas
 - Mariori: Anna Marina Kargiotaki
 - Kopritis: Constantino Costa

Gerakari Square:

- **20:00:** Lecture on "**Theater in Rethymno and Amari in the 20th century. The case of actor Savvas Generalis,**" by actress and theater researcher Anna Tzanidaki.
- **21:30:** Summer Cinema Night! Screening of "**El Greco**".

Saturday, July 20, 2024

08:00 – 12:00: Nature, Culture, and History hikes!

- **Lochria:** Second hike – ascent to Kartalos with unlimited views of the Messara plain, bay, and southeast side of Psiloritis!

- **Fourfouras:** Third hike – ascent to Ochra.

- **09:00 – 12:00: Saint John:** Baking wedding bread in a traditional wood-fired oven, evoking memories of a bygone era. Initiative by the Saint John Cultural Association "Kyminaris."

- **18:00 – 20:00: Theater of Apostoloi area: Traditional doll-making workshop (kouktsounas).** A creative journey into the history, technique, and evolution of the Greek traditional doll for all ages. Led by Katerina Giavridi, artist, and educator.

Cultural Association Square of Apostoloi:

- **19:00 – 19:30: Lecture on "Circular Economy and Sustainable Development: Business Opportunities in Local Development"** by Manolis Manioudis (Economic Analyst, PhD & PostDoc, INEMY of ESEE).
- **19:30 – 19:45: "Family and society in wedding songs and blessings"** by Theodoros Riginotis.
- **19:45 – 20:00: "The bride's dressing and preparation"** by Aspasia Kokoloyannis, educator and researcher.
- **20:00 – 20:15: "Everything's upside down and the wedding is on Wednesday"** by Anastasia Platyrachou, curator of the Historical and Folklore Museum of Rethymno. The cultural Association of Kouroutes will be coordinating.
- **21:00: Municipal Theater of Apostoloi: Major concert with the theme "At every wedding I've been to: Music of Greece."** A celebration of music and dance from Crete, Thessaly, Epirus, and the Aegean, highlighting Greece's rich musical tradition!

The event will be accompanied by dance groups from the aforementioned areas!!! - **Manolis Bountalakis:** Cretan lyra, politiki lyra, Thracian lyra

- **Vangelis Mamalakis:** Cretan lute, mainland lute

- **Athina Syskaki:** violin

- **Vangelis Pappas:** clarinet

- **Kostas Kontaxakis:** Cretan lute

- **George Georgiou:** drum, bendir, toubeleki, toubaki

Musical and Dance Club Akrítes – dancers of the Lyceum Club of Greek Women will participate.

Sunday, July 21, 2024

Guided tours to discover our Culture and History!

- **08:00 – 12:00: Voliones:** Visit and tour of Kotsifis estate and the Holy Monastery of Veni.
- **09:30 – 12:00: Ano Meros:** Visit and tour of the Folklore Museum, the stivanadiko (traditional bootmaker's workshop), and the Kaloeidaina.
- **11:00 – 14:00: Pottery with clay from Amari:**
- **11:00:** Meeting outside PANAKRON estate for going to the old pit to collect the soil
- Transfer to the workshop at Vistagi village to show how the clay is prepared from the soil.
- Participants create an item with local clay, led by artist George Vardaxis.
- **11:00 – 14:00: Mesonisia:** Making and decorating traditional wedding bread in collaboration with the local Cultural Association.

12:00 – 15:00:

- **Vistagi:** Tour of the Folklore Museum.

- Tour of the Holy Monastery of Asomaton.

- **Bike ride: Starting from the Holy Monastery of Asomaton, we discover the beauties of the Amari landscape, in collaboration with the ATLAS Rethymno cycling club.** A bike route from Vistagi to the Holy Monastery of Asomaton.

- **18:00:** 5x5 Semi-finals
- **17:00 – 22:00: Cultural Association Square of Apostoloi:** Book exchange event: "**Books change hands and villages to be reread.**" Bring books you have read and exchange them for others. Join us on a journey of knowledge, history, literature, and culture. Your support is greatly appreciated!
- **17:00 – 22:00: Cultural Association Square of Apostoloi:** Art exhibition "**Idaian Festivals**". At the same time, a bazaar supporting "The Smile of the Child" to support the organization's actions, helping children and families in need, takes place.
- **18:00 – 20:00: Theater area of Apostoloi: Traditional doll-making workshop (kouktsounas) for all ages, led by Katerina Giavridi.**

- **19:00 – 19:30: Cultural Association Square of Apostoloi:** Lecture on **"Everything about weddings is difficult"** by Maria Papadakaki, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Social Work at ELMEPA.
- **19:30 – 20:00: Cultural Association Square of Apostoloi:** Presentation of the health and social welfare actions of the Municipality of Amari.
- **20:00: Municipal Theater of Apostoloi:** Bridal dowry exhibition – sweet wedding bread (Cultural Associations of Kouroutes, Messonisi, Lochria, Saint John, Pantanassa, Nithavri, Fourfouras, etc.).
- **21:00 – 22:00: Municipal Theater of Apostoloi:** Musical journey in Cretan tradition by the female vocal ensemble **"ANEMI"** presenting wedding customs (bride's dowry decoration, the bride's praise, mother's blessing, bride's procession with the flag, dialogue with mantinades between the two families). "ANEMI" weaves the thread of musical tradition with human voices, percussion sounds, and polyphony, artistically directed by Eugenia Toli-Damavolitis.
- **22:00: Municipal Theater of Apostoloi:** **"Niki Xylouri and Cretan Winds travel the Cretan wind across Greece"** with Maria Louka, known for her collaborations in both artistic and traditional repertoire, and Niki Xylouri on stage for the first time. A musical collaboration with special wind instruments and sounds from the past, offering a fresh perspective on our folk music. Together with traditional wind instrument soloist George Zacharioudakis and lute virtuoso Stelios Sykkakis, they create a unique scene to discover traditional paths and musically travel across Greece. With their voices and songs, they showcase the richness of Cretan music with love, sensitivity, and emotion, as only a female approach can offer.

Monday, July 22, 2024

- **09:00 – 12:00: Nithavri: Nature, Culture, and History hikes!** Ascent with a guided tour. Meeting at the village fountain for a 4x4 ascent to 700m altitude at "Notiki Trypa" cave (Paul Faure). Guided tour and hospitality by the Cultural Association.
- **11:00 – 14:00: Pottery with clay from Amari.** Meeting outside PANAKRON estate. Second day of clay workshop in Vistagi, creating household utensils for the bride.

- **11:00 – 14:00: Patsos:** Guided tour of the Saint Anthony Gorge – Patsos with the support of the village's Cultural Association.
- **12:30 – 14:00: Patsos – Kourkoulou Winery:** Viticultural walk and wine tasting.
- **18:00: 5x5 Championship Final.**
- **17:00 – 22:00: Cultural Association Square of Apostoloi:** Continuation of the art exhibition "IDAIAE FESTIVITIES" and wedding photography.
- **19:30 – 20:30: Cultural Association Square of Apostoloi:**

- **"Organic production: Regulations – Market"**

- **"Viticulture and new trends"**

- **"The cultivable varieties of carob in Crete and their distinction based on morphological characteristics"** by George Gavlas, MSc Agronomist.

It will be coordinated by Themis Konstantinidis, Appointed Advisor of the Municipality of Amari.

- **21:00 – 22:15: Municipal Theater of Apostoloi: Concert "Co-parents-in-law from Santa Claus."** Performers include: Stelios Stamatogiannakis (lute – vocals), Yiannis Tsourdalakis (lyra – vocals), Stergios Karaiskos (lute – guitar – vocals), Nikos Renieris (bass), Anthi Fourki (percussion), Stelios Moulakakis (percussion).
- **22:15 – 00:30: Municipal Theater of Apostoloi: Grand concert with Manolis Kontaros "Shortly after the wedding: I start to go crazy and change character."** Performers include: Manolis Kontaros (lute – vocals), Michalis Georvasakis (lyra), Stelios Papadakis (lute), Konstantinos Sfakianakis (guitar), Kyriakos Kontékas (askomantoura).

4 DAYS

49 EVENTS

In collaboration with the Cultural Associations of:

- 1. Agios Ioannis**
- 2. Kouroutes**
- 3. Apostoloi**
- 4. Gerakari**
- 5. Fourfouras**
- 6. Mesonisi**
- 7. Ano Meros**
- 8. Lochria**
- 9. Voliones**
- 10. Vistagi**
- 11. Nithavris**
- 12. Thronos**
- 13. Apodoulou**
- 14. Platanos**
- 15. Patsos**

And we continue!!!

**ARTISTS – MUSICIANS – DANCERS – SCIENTISTS – CREATORS – VOLUNTEERS and
more than FIFTEEN CULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS CONTRIBUTE TO ITS REALISATION!!!**