

# GREECE

Golden Visa Program

## **ARTON INDEX**



MOBILITY

QUALITY

12 SIMPLICITY

The Arton Index is an overall assessment and comparative benchmark of the country  $and \ its \ investment \ program.$ 

## LOCATION

South Eastern Europe, on the southern tip of the Balkans

## CAPITAL

Athens

# TIME DIFFERENCE

UTC+3

# TOTAL AREA

131,957 km<sup>2</sup>

## AGE DEMOGRAPHICS

0-15:14.2% 15-64:66.2% 65+:19.6%

## LANGUAGE

Greek (official): 99%, English, German, French, Italian: 1%

## RELIGIONS

Orthodox Christianity: 90%, Other Christians: 3%, Unaffiliated: 4%, Islam: 2%, Other religions: 1%

# **GOVERNMENT TYPE**

Parliamentary Republic

## CURRENCY

Euro (EUR)

## **EXCHANGE RATE**

1 EUR = 1.07 USD



# 10,497,595

Population Growth 1.95%

# 29,500 USD

GDP (per capita) GDP (purchasing power parity): 314 billion USD

## 175

Visa-free countries with golden residency permit including Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican City



Known as the cradle of Western civilization, Greece embodies the best of business and leisure, welcoming nearly 40 million tourists each year. Whether it is swimming in the turquoise seawaters of Zakynthos, enjoying a vibrant nightlife in Mykonos, or delving into the historical heritage of Athens, Greece is perfect for leisure and for building a desired life. As one of the most popular investment programs in Europe, the Greece Golden Visa Program offers access to a European oasis with arguably the most competitive investment options in the region.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Greece's Golden Visa is considered one of the most attractive and competitive residency-by-investment programs in Europe.

To qualify, applicants must fulfill all investment criteria in addition to meeting the below requirements:

- Possess a valid passport;
- $\diamond \quad \mbox{In case of selecting the real estate option, complete the property purchase in full.}$

The following family members qualify as dependents of the main applicant:

- Spouse;
- Children up to 21 years old;
- ♦ Parents of the main applicant;
- Parents of the spouse.

## WHY CHOOSE GREECE?

A member of the Schengen area and of the eurozone, Greece bridges historical heritage and exceptional Mediterranean scenery, with a booming economic landscape that has regained momentum through growing FDIs by global investors. The participation in the Program enables permit holders to acquire a long-term residence status, which is one of the prerequisites for naturalization.

## Benefits:

- Straightforward procedure and fast application processing time of 3-4 months;
- Right to reside in Greece with no minimum residency requirements;
- Children up to 21 years old and parents of spouses eligible as dependents;
- Residency cards renewable for life as long as qualifying investment is maintained;
- Access to public education institutes on the same terms as Greek nationals:
- Visa-free access across Schengen Area;
- Right to enter and reside in Greece even in case of closed borders:
- Ranked as the world's number one country for retirement.



## **INVESTMENT OPTIONS**

Applicants can qualify for the Golden Visa through one of the following investment options:

- ⋄ Invest €250,000 or €500,000 in real estate. All Greek territories qualify for the minimum investment threshold of €250,000, except the Regional Units of Central, Southern and Northern Athens, the municipality of Thessaloniki, Mykonos and Santorini, where the threshold is €500,000;
- ♦ Deposit a minimum of €400,000 in a Greek bank account:
- ♦ Invest a minimum of €800,000 in government or corporate bonds.

#### Real estate

To be eligible to maintain and renew their permits, applicants must hold their investments for a mandatory period of 5 consecutive years. Selling the property without replacement nullifies the permit.

A property may be jointly owned by spouses. In the case of joint ownership by two or more main applicants, each applicant must individually meet the minimum investment criteria.

The property can be rented out to third parties without any restrictions. In this case, the applicant will be subject to taxation on rental income.

Exclusive offers and bespoke products designed by Arton are available upon request.

## **APPLICATION FEES**

The fees associated with this Program include service fees for the principal applicant and all accompanying family members. Applicants must also consider investment-related expenses associated with the purchase of a property, as well as translation and authentication of documents.

All application fees and taxes determined by the Greek authorities are subject to change without prior notice.



# **STEPS AND TIMELINE**

The following table breaks down the program application process to four stages with a total of 8 steps.

The duration of Stages I-II below is indicative and depends on the applicants' availability.

Each step must be completed before continuing to the next.

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Preparation

WEEKS 1-4

STEP 1

Client qualification, KYC pre-screening and onboarding. Signature of power of attorney in Greece or in a Greek consulate. Collection of the application documents.

STEP 2

Selection of property.

STAGE II

Investment

STEP 3

Signature of private agreement for property acquisition.

**WEEKS 5-10** 

STEP 4

Transfer of funds to Greece.

STEP 5

Final purchase and obtention of necessary documents for Golden Visa application.

STAGE III

Submission

STEP 6

Submission of application.

WEEKS 11-24

STEP 7

Appointment in Greece for collection of biometric data.

STEP 8

Issuance of Golden Visa cards.

Arton's Global Citizen Programs are represented by a network of Certified Partners who are proud members and supporters of the Global Citizenship movement.

The Greece Golden Visa Program is offered by Arton Advisors, a member of the Arton Group. The above timeline is an estimate provided for information purposes only based on experiences with past clients. Processing times and costs will vary depending on a number of factors. Arton is not responsible for any changes to the estimations above; we can provide specific time and cost estimates on an individual basis. Please refer to our website for the most up-to-date information.