Vasiliko: A Historic Destination in Sikyonia



Welcome to Vasiliko, a place where history meets nature, creating a unique setting in the Municipality of Sikyonia. Vasiliko, also known as Ancient Sikyon, is nestled on a small, lush plateau, offering panoramic views and a sense of tranquillity. It constitutes one of the most important archaeological destinations in Corinthia and an excellent choice for a comprehensive excursion from Kiato.

A Village with Deep Roots in History

Vasiliko is not just a modern village; it is the natural successor to the renowned Ancient Sikyon, a city that experienced great prosperity, especially during the Hellenistic years. In antiquity, Sikyon was famous for its pioneering role in painting and sculpture, serving as a leading art centre that produced great artists and shaped the artistic expression of its time.

The contemporary character of the village combines agricultural tradition, with residents engaged in farming, cultivating olive groves and vineyards, with a dynamic presence of entrepreneurs and employees. This diversity lends Vasiliko a lively, yet calm atmosphere, ideal for those seeking authenticity and serenity.

The Byzantine Heritage: Agia Triada

Even before reaching the archaeological site, it is worth stopping in the heart of Vasiliko to admire the stone-built, Byzantine church of Agia Triada. Built in the 12th–13th century, it is a rare example of Byzantine architecture in the region and testifies to the continuous human presence and religious tradition of the place throughout the centuries.

The Archaeological Treasure of Ancient Sikyon

West of Vasiliko, the extensive archaeological site of Ancient Sikyon unfolds, a true treasure of history. Here, visitors can wander among monuments that bear witness to the city's grandeur and relive the splendor of antiquity.

- **The Ancient Theatre**

  The magnificent ancient theatre of Sikyon is undoubtedly one of the most important and best-

preserved in Greece. With its impressive scale and excellent acoustics, it captivates the eye. Imagine ancient spectators watching performances against the backdrop of the Corinthian Gulf. Today, the theatre frequently hosts cultural events, continuing its centuries-old tradition as a centre of art and culture.

- **The Agora and the Bouleuterion**

  Near the theatre are the ruins of the ancient agora, the centre of public life, and the bouleuterion, where the local council convened. These monuments offer a glimpse into the political and social organisation of the city, showing the complexity of ancient Sikyon.

- **The Roman Baths and the Museum**

  Of particular significance are the brick-built, very well-preserved Roman baths. This impressive building, once a centre of hygiene and social interaction, now houses the renovated Archaeological Museum of Sikyon. Here, rich finds from the region's excavations are exhibited, such as mosaics, sculptures, pottery, and coins, which narrate the city's history from prehistoric times to the Roman period. A visit to the museum ideally completes the experience at the archaeological site.

The Landscape and the Route

The journey to Vasiliko and the archaeological site of Ancient Sikyon is an experience in itself. Ascending from Kiato, the road is winding and picturesque, passing through lush olive groves and vineyards. As you climb, the view becomes increasingly spectacular, offering panoramic images of the Corinthian Gulf and the fertile plain of Kiato. It is a route that rewards visitors with the beauty of nature and the feeling of moving away from the urban landscape.

The plateau of Ancient Sikyon is a quiet, serene place, ideal for strolling among the ancient ruins and enjoying the panoramic view. The atmosphere here is filled with history, inviting contemplation and discovery.

When to Visit and Practical Tips

Ancient Sikyon and Vasiliko are open year-round, with each season offering its unique beauty. However, the cooler months of spring and autumn are ideal for exploring the archaeological site, as the temperature is milder. If you choose to visit in summer, make sure to bring a hat, water, and sunscreen, and prefer morning or late afternoon hours for your tour. Athletic shoes are essential for comfortable movement within the site.

The archaeological site and museum operate with specific opening hours, usually from morning to afternoon, and may be closed on certain days, such as Monday. There is a symbolic entrance fee for access to the monuments and the museum. For the most up-to-date information on operating hours, you can refer to our relevant pages.

How to Get There from Kiato

Access to Vasiliko and Ancient Sikyon is easy from Kiato. The route starts from the centre of Kiato and ascends towards the archaeological site, above the village of Vasiliko. The road is paved and well-marked, although it requires a little attention due to its turns as it climbs. You will traverse a beautiful rural area, enjoying the views and tranquillity.

For a complete experience, you can combine your visit to Ancient Sikyon with a stroll along Kiato beach, where you can enjoy a coffee or a meal after your historical tour.

Vasiliko (Ancient Sikyon) awaits you to discover its countless stories, admire its monuments, and relax in the

embrace of nature. It is a destination that perfectly combines cultural heritage with natural beauty, offering an unforgettable experience in the Municipality of Sikyonia.

For more details on the archaeological site, visit our page: A day in Ancient Sikyon. Detailed directions for the route can be found here: Route to Ancient Sikyon.

See the full village page for **Vasiliko (Ancient Sikyon)** — location, map and directions from Kiato.

Open the Vasiliko (Ancient Sikyon) page
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