



BLUE FLAG

617
BEACHES
18
MARINAS
& 6 TOURISM
BOATS
WERE AWARDED
BLUE FLAGS IN
2023

**for eco-friendly management
and sustainability
in tourism**



THE «BLUE FLAG» PROGRAMME

The «**Blue Flag**» is a programme of environmental awareness, protection and sustainable management which is implemented every year in more than 50 countries around the world by the national members of the **Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE)**.

It aims at improving management and visitor safety at the beaches, while at the same time protecting their natural environment, so that we may always enjoy them.

The **Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature (HSPN)** is the national operator of the programme in Greece. It is the oldest environmental NGO in the country and has been active in environmental education and nature conservation since 1951.

It is not easy for a marina to be awarded the «Blue Flag». It must meet 38 strict criteria, which have to do with the cleanliness of the marina, its organisation, visitor safety, the protection of nature and environmental awareness. Even when a marina is awarded the «Blue Flag», it can only raise it for one year and must prove that it deserves it for the following year. The inspectors of HSPN and FEE visit marinas throughout the year and note any problems or shortcomings. Usually a short period of grace is allowed to correct them, but a marina may temporarily, or even permanently, lose its flag for serious deficiencies.

CRITERIA OF THE PROGRAMME

Environmental awareness

- Information about nearby sensitive and/or protected terrestrial and marine areas.
- A Code of Environmental Conduct is posted in the marina.
- Information about the Blue Flag Programme and the Blue Flag marina criteria are posted on the information board.
- Environmental education activities.
- Information about the Blue Flag Programme for boat owners using the marina.

Safety and Services

- Adequate and well signposted lifesaving, first-aid and firefighting equipment.
- Emergency plan in case of pollution, fire or other accidents.
- Electricity and water available at the berths.
- Facilities for people with disabilities.
- Map indicating the location of the different facilities posted at the marina.

Environmental management

- Implementation of an environmental policy and plan at the marina. The plan should include references to water, waste and energy consumption, health and safety issues, and the use of environmentally friendly products.
- Adequate, separate and properly identified containers for the storage of hazardous wastes (paints, solvents, boat scrapings, antifouling agents, batteries, waste oil, flares) which are emptied at regular intervals.
- Sufficient rubbish bins.

- Facilities for receiving recyclable waste materials.
- Bilge water pumping facilities.
- Toilet pumping facilities.
- All buildings and equipment properly maintained in compliance with national legislation.
- Adequate, clean and well sign-posted sanitary facilities.
- System to prevent liquid pollutants (resulting from boat washing) entering the sewage system.
- Promotion of environmentally friendly transportation means.
- No parking or driving allowed in the marina.

Water Quality

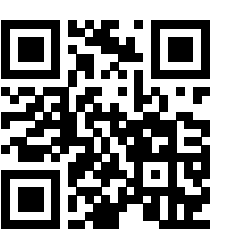
- Visually clean water at the marina (no oil, litter, sewage or other evidence of pollution)

What a visitor of the marina can do

If this marina deserves the Blue Flag, please let us know. If you notice shortcomings, please contact the person responsible for the marina, whose name you can find on the Notice Board near the «Blue Flag».

If their answer does not satisfy you, please contact the HSPN and provide relevant information (blueflag@eepf.gr, tel. +30210 3224944, +30210 3314563). Relevant photos would be very useful.

**We should all strive
together to make our
Greek marinas ever better!**



Members of the **National Jury Committee**: • Ministry of Environment & Energy • Ministry of Tourism • Greek National Tourism Organisation • Ministry of Interior • Ministry of Maritime Affairs And Insular Policy • Ministry of Health • Primary Education Directorate of East Attica • Central Union of Municipalities of Greece • Hellenic Red Cross • Archelon, The Sea Turtle Protection Society of Greece • Volunteer Auditors of Beaches and Marinas

NATIONAL OPERATOR



**Hellenic Society
for the Protection
of Nature**

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...and going strong

AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COORDINATION OF THE BATHING
WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAMME FOR GREEK BEACHES



Ministry of Environment & Energy
General Secretariat for Natural Environment and Water
www.bathingwaterprofiles.gr

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Tourism

FOUNDER OF THE PROGRAMME



**Blue Flag
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**Foundation
for Environmental
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