

Thessaloniki

Created by Nike

Thessaloniki

Let's start with its history:

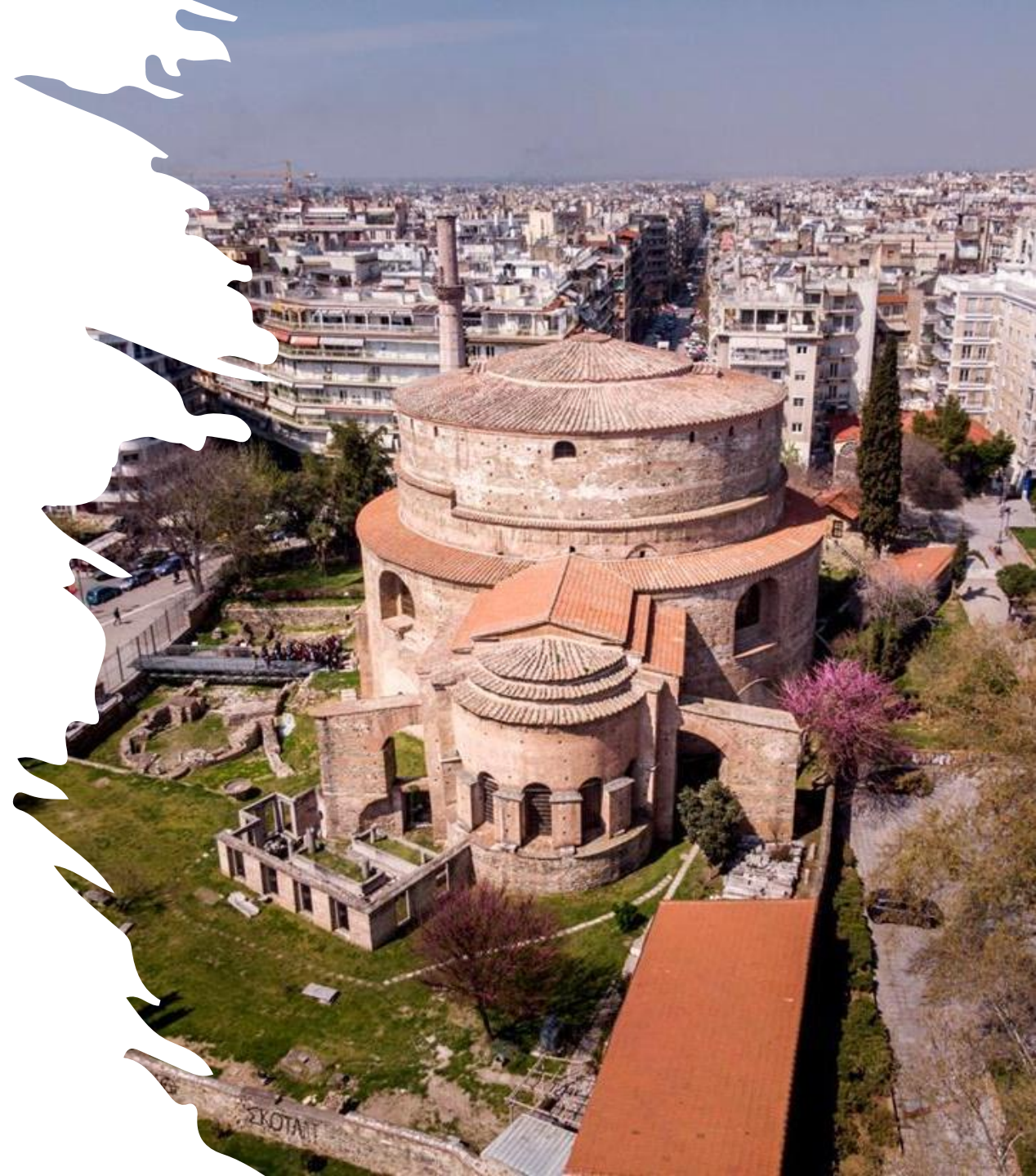
From the Roman period, you've got the remarkably well-preserved Roman Agora in the center of town, as well as the Rotunda and Arch of Galerius. The signature style of the Byzantine empire is found throughout the city but especially at Agios Dimitrios church and the Byzantine Baths, both protected Unesco sites and not to be missed.



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It's a cultural powerhouse:

One of the best things about visiting Thessaloniki is that every period in the city's history has its own museum. For the Ancient Greek and Roman period, visit the Thessaloniki Archeological Museum. The Museum of Byzantine Culture is breathtaking with its beautiful mosaics and iconography.





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It has its own national park:

Flamingos; wild horses; water buffalo – just west of the city, Axios Delta National Park is a wildlife wonderland. It's a bird-watchers paradise with over 300 species migrating through the area every year, while budding nature photographers will want to keep eyes peeled for the hundreds of reptile, insect and mammal species that live here.

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It has heart-stopping views:

Thessaloniki is one of the most beautiful cities in Greece. To get a full view of the landscape head up to the Eptapyrgio Castle. It's a fantastic spot to catch the sun setting in the sea and then watching the city lights flicker below.

The White Tower is another vista spot that will take your breath away, literally! There's hundreds of stairs to the top but well worth the view of the sea and city below.



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It's a gateway to the Aegean Sea:

Arguably Thessaloniki's best asset is its seaside location. The promenade is the place to be in the evenings, for a sunny stroll, ice cream in hand. During the day, jump aboard one of the many harbour cruises to get the magical view of the city from the sea.

Or go further and take a ferry from the port of Thessaloniki to the Sporades, Cyclades, or Northern Aegean Islands. It's a great way to fit in a Greek island on your trip.



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It has top shopping on tap:

In the shopping district surrounding Tsimiski Street, you'll find a mix of big brand shops and boutiques to offer whatever you need. Seek out independent Greek designers for handbags, jewelry and unique clothing – younger shoppers will love the modern graphic designs printed on t-shirts and vintage pieces from up-and-coming artists. Meanwhile, Bezesteni Market is a great stop to load up on herbs, spices and sweets to stock your kitchen at home, or to pass on as gifts.



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Breakfast:

Bougatsha and Greek coffee.

The heavenly scent of flaky layers of filo pastry, warm custard filling, topped with cinnamon and powdered sugar fills the streets at daybreak. When you're in Thessaloniki, you're never too far from a bougatsa joint. Make a pilgrimage to try the famous pastry at Bantis, O Anoteron and Serraión; they each have their own secret recipe, best enjoyed with a cup of strong Greek coffee.





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It's a foodie's paradise

Thessaloniki is well known for its amazing and varied street food, pastries and late-night eats, but it also has incredible fine dining.

Its culinary heritage is as rich as its history, with influences from both Europe and Asia. Expect bags of bold flavours, spices and fresh ingredients sourced from the vast agricultural sprawl around the city. Most restaurants do their own spin on mixed meze dishes, best enjoyed with a glass of local wine.

The End