

A tropical beach scene with a clear blue sky, white clouds, and turquoise water. Palm fronds are visible in the top left corner. The entire image is framed by a thin, light blue border.

MAKES YOUR LIFE EASIER IN THE EU

EU YOLO

Why is Georgia the best to be in the EU?

Georgia is a country located at the intersection of Eastern Europe and Western Asia. It is a part of the Caucasus region, bounded to the west by the Black Sea, to the north and east by Russia, to the south by Turkey and Armenia, and to the southeast by Azerbaijan.

unfortunately Georgia is not the part of EU, even if this small country has a lot to offer. In this article there are some Interesting facts why Georgia should be in EU.

1. Georgia is the cradle of winemaking

Georgia has been producing wine for 8,000 years and is considered to be the birthplace of winemaking. This discovery was entirely accidental – Georgians found that if grape juice was poured in large earthenware vessels, called qvevri, and buried underground over winter, it would turn into wine. Unesco has listed the traditional Georgian winemaking method – through the use of qvevri – on its Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list.

2. Georgia was home to the first Europeans.

The oldest human skulls in the Caucasus, belonging to a 1.8 million year old couple called Zvezha and Mzia, were found during an archaeological expedition in Dmanisi. They are seen as an important link between African and European ancestors.

3. Georgia is one of the most ecologically diverse places in the world.

There are 12 different climate zones in Georgia. With climates ranging from subtropical to semi-desert and even alpine, Georgia is one of the most ecologically diverse countries on the planet.

4. Georgia Unearths the World's Oldest Honey

The honey stains found in the ceramic vessels, found 170 kilometers west of Tbilisi, are believed to be made by bees that buzzed around in Georgia 5,500 years ago.

5. The Georgian language is unique

The Georgian language is one of the most unique languages in the world and boasts its own alphabet. Though Georgian script has taken multiple forms – respectively Asomtavruli, Nuskhuri and Mkhedruli – the latter is the standard 33-letter script used by modern Georgians today. Asomtavruli and Nuskhuri are solely used by the Georgian Orthodox Church. Interestingly, though, standard Georgian is based on the Kartvelian dialect, one of 14 existing unique scripts in the Georgian alphabet.

6. It is known for its polyphonic folk music

Georgia is known for its tradition of polyphonic singing, a practice that was put on the Unesco Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list in 2008. A recording of Chakrulo, a Georgian folk song usually sung at festivals and celebrations, was sent into space on the Voyager spacecraft. There are four notable types of polyphony: complex polyphony, which is common in the region of Svaneti; polyphonic dialogue over a bass background, popular in the region of Kakheti; and contrasted polyphony, consisting of three partially improvised sung parts characteristic of western Georgia.

7. It has some of Europe's highest permanent settlements

The villages of Bochorna and Ushguli, at an altitude of 2,345m (7,694ft) and 2,100m (6,890ft) above sea level respectively, are some of the highest permanent settlements in Europe. Both are found in mountainous regions where the summer months are short and the winter seasons are snowy and breezy.

8. The Caucasus is Europe's highest mountain range

Georgia's highest mountain, Shkhara which stands at 5,193 metres, is still roughly 400 metres higher than France's Mont Blanc. Abundant powder, spectacular views and wide open slopes make Georgia's ski resort, Gudauri, an excellent destination for heliskiing enthusiasts. Gudauri is an up-and-coming ski destination with all the benefits, yet without the crowds of other European resorts.

9. Georgia contains two ancient European cities

Mtskheta and Kutaisi, both former capitals of Georgia, are among Europe's oldest cities. Kutaisi served as the capital of the United Kingdom of Georgia from 1008CE to 1122CE and as the capital of the Imeretian Kingdom from the 15th century until 1810CE. Meanwhile, Mtskheta is most widely known as the capital of the early Georgian Kingdom of Iberia and the place where Georgia adopted Christianity in 326CE.

10. Georgia is a very safe country to visit

Georgia was rated the 7th safest country to visit in the world in 2017.

In Georgia, it is believed that a guest is a gift from God. When holding a 'supra' (a traditional Georgian feast) guests are welcomed with open arms and the 'tamade' (a toastmaster) will make sure you are well fed and entertained. Just make sure you raise a glass and say "Gaumarjos" which means "cheers" in Georgian.

"I am Georgian and, therefore, I am European." Zurab Zhvania, the former speaker of the Georgian parliament, uttered this oft-quoted phrase in 1999 in a speech marking Georgia's accession to the Council of Europe. Zhvania was encapsulating the idea that Georgia is meant to be part of Europe, or the fact that the country is engaged in a

political project of Euroatlantic integration. His words equating being Georgian with being European were intended to convey both a desire and a confirmation of reality. Ever since then, the phrase has allowed for a broad interpretation of Georgia's identity.

What makes the EU great?

I am Mariam from Armenia. The country which is not an EU member. As a citizen of a non-EU member country, I can see how it has its positive effect on the member countries.

What makes the EU great is the freedom of movement. The citizens of the EU member countries can travel to the other EU countries without any visa and restrictions. The next is its education system. Though Armenia is also in the Bologna education system, the students don't have an opportunity to do as many student exchanges as for the EU members.

It's obvious that the EU had its impact on the development of less rich European countries such as Spain, Slovakia. That's due to the free trade and removal of non-tariff barriers. EU structural funds help Eastern European economies develop will benefit the UK in the long term because as they become more affluent, they will be able to buy more exports.

Mutual recognition of safety standards and rules have helped reduce costs for firms. This has encouraged the development of small and medium businesses who rely on the low cost of exports.

What I like about the EU is that the people get safer food and products, cleaner air and water. How? Because EU countries cooperate so closely, food and environment meet some of the world's highest quality standards. Unscrupulous companies can't get away with selling contaminated food or polluting our rivers and countryside.

They get the ability to live and work wherever they want, call home at domestic prices no matter where they are in the EU. Also, they get to pay using one currency in the EU member countries.

Due to all that, Europeans are closely linked economically and culturally, and through the democratic values they share. The people know that wherever they are, their rights will be protected, there will be peace in the EU, thanks to the "single market" concept, the goods will be cheaper, education will be affordable, they will more likely get a job in another EU country.

Afterall, the EU has reached the level where the citizens are happier with their lives and they are striving to become their best as an EU member.

Article by Mariam Grigoryan

How would the EU be without Slovakia?

I would like to firstly mention quick facts for introducing Slovakia.

The state has been a member country of the EU since 1st May 2004. Also since 1st January is also part of Eurozone which means Slovak crowns were replaced by Euros. Slovaks comprise 2.2% (5,5 mil. inhabitants) of the total EU population. Slovakia holds 13 seats in the European Parliament.

Slovakia is contributing to the EU by becoming a member state of the Schengen Area. This causes easier and faster transport of people and goods. The country entered the Schengen zone on 26th March in 1995.

Like other countries in the EU, Slovakia is contributing to the EU budget. That is later on divided between other states and used for different purposes. Another impact I would like to mention is the country's contribution to the economy mainly with industry (26,2%) wholesale and retail, transportation, accomodation (20,2%). If we are dividing the export of Slovakia according to geographical patterns, 86% of the whole export goes to the EU, mainly to Germany, Czech Republic and Poland and the rest is exported to the rest of the countries not in the European Union.

It has also been an attractive destination for foreign investors, having one of the highest shares of medium and high tech exports in the EU and being the number one producer of cars per capita in the world.

Slovakia is a young and dynamic country offering an increasing number of opportunities to carry out excellent research and to turn it into practical application or business outlets.

Now Slovakia has a strong ambition to take another step forward, to become the hub of innovations and encourage more Slovak companies to follow.

On the other hand, in my opinion there is a huge space and fields how could Slovakia contribute to wealth of EU but the main problem is isolating country from its problems for example immigration crisis and amount of money per capita on immigrant and so on.

Tips when traveling to Greece

If you're traveling to Greece from another country you need to make sure and relax here as things move at a glacial pace. This one goes for pretty much everywhere in the Mediterranean region, but it's actual especially for the Greek isles.

Learn To Love Raki Or Ouzo

Depending on what island you're on, you'll either be drinking tsikoudia or ouzo. No proper Greek meal out with friends and family is complete without bottles of Raki, whatever the local spirit is. You can shoot it, sip it, or our favorite and possibly most popular way, mix it with water giving it a cloudy white appearance. Yamas! Which means "to our health" in Greek and is the way to cheers.

Wear Your Stretchy Pants

Here you'll receive plate, after plate, of delicious food. lamb, chips, all sorts of grilled veggies, watermelon, calamari, and whatever else is in the kitchen. Did I forget to say lamb? I always like to pack a pair of pants that stretch and try not to gain too much weight, but it's tempting in Greece!

Greece Has Amazing Ancient Ruins

Greece is filled with ancient ruins and buildings. It's a Greek fact that you will find some piece of history pretty much no matter where you step. Take it in doses because it can overwhelm you. Many of these archaeological sites are very well protected and restored in Greece; tourism is a big factor in this, and you should expect to pay some €€€ to see the most famous sites.

Driving In Greece Is Not For The Faint Of Heart

If you're planning to get around the islands or mainland of Greece, you'll quickly learn that the country is very rough terrain. Meaning that roads wind back and forth and back and forth, and often they are very narrow, with very fast local drivers driving past you. They can be fun for the first thirty minutes, but after driving for two hours, they can be exhausting.

Yasas Or Yasu

One of the best Greece travel tips I can give you is to learn a few local words. You should probably learn to say hello in Greek. They are proud of their culture and language, and it means a great deal if you extend the olive branch and greet them in Greek even if you can't speak a bit more. "Yassas" is the formal greeting, and "yasou" is the informal singular. You will also find these words are much more fun than just saying

“hello.” I would recommend picking up a Greek language book if you want to learn a few more words.

The Greek Beaches Are Gorgeous

Now, you will find some pretty attractive people frolicking along the Greek beaches of Mykonos or Santorini, but that’s not what I’m referring to. Instead, I mean to talk about the abundance of gorgeous Mediterranean bays.

Ferry or Fly to the Islands

The best way to get to the Greek islands is via ferry or plane. The Greek islands are spread apart, and unfortunately, you can’t just hop on a short ferry to the next one, and many islands don’t have an airport. Depending on the journey, the ferry can take forever, or if it’s the next-door island, it can take as little as two hours. It’s advisable to book your ferry tickets beforehand, especially in the high season.

When Is The Best Time To Visit Greece?

High season (June-September)

Like most places in Europe, Greece’s high season runs from June to mid-September. This is when you will find the best sunny weather, as noted above, but also crowds, especially on the popular islands like Santorini, Mykonos, and Crete. Days are longer, the weather is HOT, especially in July and August, so you’ll want to be close to a pool or ocean. Hotel and car rental prices are at their highest.

Weather: The weather in Greece is Mediterranean climate. This means winters are mild and rainy, while summers are warm and dry with plenty of sunshine throughout the year.

Hope you will enjoy your time in Greece and go back to your country with lots of positive energy and memories.

Article by Kostantinos Ntegon



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

M	H	M	E	E	C	I	T	S	U	J	O
R	U	M	Z	Q	I	U	E	S	Z	X	T
M	M	N	Y	G	U	U	L	Q	V	D	E
Y	A	G	F	T	R	A	T	S	I	W	B
C	N	F	N	O	I	L	L	V	A	O	I
A	R	A	N	I	Y	N	E	I	L	T	M
R	I	M	U	Z	L	R	G	O	T	N	O
C	G	I	K	H	S	E	G	I	O	Y	D
O	H	L	D	I	G	N	V	I	D	M	E
M	T	Y	T	A	A	Z	N	A	M	W	E
E	S	Y	V	D	F	U	R	Y	R	P	R
D	H	N	S	U	M	S	A	R	E	T	F

FIND THESE WORDS

EQUALITY DIVERSITY FAMILY

DEMOCRACY FREEDOM ERASMUS

BOLOGNA EURO HUMANRIGHTS

TRAVELING UNION DIGNITY

JUSTICE