

Thasos

Eastern Macedonia and Thrace · Greece

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Thasos is a green island in the north Aegean, just off the Greek mainland coast. It is about 380 km² and has roughly 13,000 residents. A 95 km ring road runs around the coast, with pine forest and marble hills inland. The highest peak, Ypsario, reaches 1,205 m.

The island suits a relaxed beach trip of several days. It also has real history, with ancient ruins in the main town and old marble quarries on the coast. Summer is busy, so book ahead for July and August.

When to visit

Late May to September is the main season. June and September are warm with fewer people, and July and August are the busiest and hottest. Many hotels and tavernas close outside the summer months. Ferries run all year but less often.

The Philippi Festival runs in July and August. Plays and concerts are held in Kavala and also in the ancient theatre above Thasos town. Check the programme before you book.

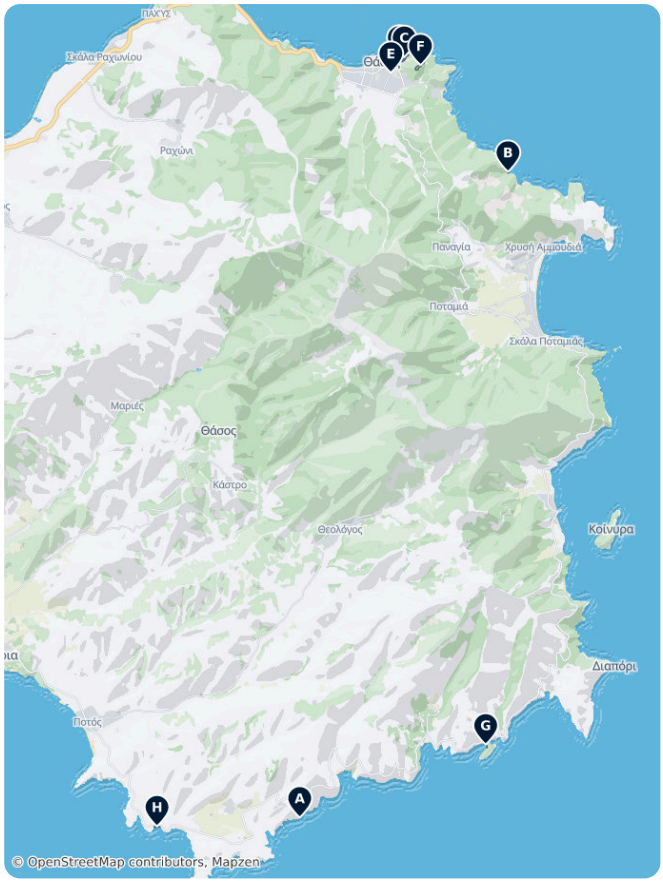
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 12° Feels like 2°	5° / -1°	Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	8° / 12° Feels like 2°	5° / -1°	Dry air
March	Fair Fair for hiking	9° / 13° Feels like 4°	6° / 1°	Dry air
April	Great Great for hiking	12° / 16° Feels like 8°	9° / 5°	Dry air
May	Great Great for hiking	17° / 20°	14° / 10°	Dry air
June	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 25°	18° / 15°	22 sunny days · Calm winds
July	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 27°	21° / 19°	27 sunny days · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
August	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 27°	21° / 19°	26 sunny days
September	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 24°	18° / 14°	Dry air
October	Great Great for hiking	16° / 20° Feels like 13°	14° / 9°	Dry air
November	Good Good for hiking	12° / 16° Feels like 8°	10° / 5°	Dry air
December	Poor Poor for hiking	9° / 13° Feels like 4°	6° / 1°	Dry air

Best months: May, June, July, August, September

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights

- A Giola is a natural rock pool near Astris on the south-east coast. The last 2 km is a dirt road, then a short walk. Do not swim when the sea is rough.
- B Saliara - Marble Beach is a famous beach of white marble pebbles on the north-east coast, about 7 km from Thasos town. The last part of the road is unpaved.
- C Agora of Thasos is the ancient marketplace in Thasos town, once the centre of public life. It sits right beside the modern harbour.
- D Archaeological Museum of Thasos is a short walk from the agora. It shows finds from the island's ancient past, including the Kouros of Thasos.
- E Gate of Zeus and Hera is one of the gates in the ancient city walls. Walk the old wall line to see how large the ancient city was.
- F Acropolis of Thasos is the hill above Thasos town. The nearby ancient theatre has sea views and hosts summer performances.
- G Alyki on the south-east coast is a beach next to abandoned ancient marble quarries.
- H Psili Ammos is a long sandy beach on the south-east coast, near Potos. It has pine shade and a cafe.



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What to experience

- **Hike toward Ypsario**: the island's highest peak, at 1,205 m, has views over the forest and the sea. An annual stargazing camp is held on the mountain.
- **Coastal boat trip**: in season, boat trips along the coast leave from some harbours.
- **Thassian Wedding**: a traditional village wedding celebration is held around 15 August in Theologos.
- **Honey Festival**: held in early August in Prinos, with tastings and local dance.
- **Evening at the old harbour**: watch the fishing boats and the ferry lights from a harbour table in Thasos town.

Day trips

Thasos is an island, so day trips mean a ferry to the mainland.

- Ⓐ Kavala: about 75 minutes by ferry from Skala Prinos. It has an old quarter above a working harbour.
- **Philippi**: an ancient city and UNESCO World Heritage site near Kavala. Allow time for the theatre and the Roman ruins. Reach it by car or taxi from Kavala.



Where to explore

- Kavala is the main port and airport city for the island.
- Xanthi and Drama are towns on the mainland, in the same region. Allow a full day for either.

Getting there

- **By air**: the nearest airport is Kavala (KVA), also called Alexander the Great Airport. It has flights from Athens and seasonal flights from several European cities. A taxi from the airport to Keramoti port takes about 15 minutes. Thessaloniki (SKG) is the larger alternative, about 2.5 to 3 hours away by road.
- **By ferry from Keramoti**: the shortest crossing, about 30 to 35 minutes to Thasos town (Limenas). Boats run often in summer. Cars can queue in July and August, so arrive early.
- **By ferry from Kavala**: about 75 minutes to Skala Prinos on the island. Departures are less frequent. This route is better if you stay on the west or south of the island.
- **By bus**: KTEL buses run from Kavala to Keramoti, about 45 minutes. Check current timetables before you travel.

Getting around

- **Bus**: a local bus network links Thasos town with Skala Prinos, Limenaria, Potos and other villages. Buses are infrequent, so plan your day around them.
- **Taxi**: taxis are available in Thasos town and the larger villages. Agree on the price before long trips.
- **Car or scooter**: renting one is the easiest way to reach the beaches. See the driving section.
- **On foot**: Thasos town is compact and easy to walk. Beach areas are spread along the coast and not connected on foot.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

Thasos town is compact and walkable, but beaches and villages are spread along the coast and need a car, bus or scooter.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

Cycling is possible on the coastal road, but hills and summer traffic make it demanding.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: yes. Beaches and villages are spread around a 95 km ring road. Buses are limited.
- **Roads**: the main road is good. Some coastal stretches are narrow and winding, so drive slowly.
- **Ferries**: you can bring a car on both ferry routes. In July and August, queues form at the ports.
- **Rental**: cars and scooters are rented at both ports. Book ahead for July and August.

Food & drink

Thasos is known for its olive oil and the local Throumba olive, which has a protected designation of origin. Honey and local wine are also produced here.

For eating, choose the harbour tavernas in Thasos town and the fishing harbours along the coast. Fresh fish and grilled meat are the usual orders. Some villages have small tavernas with local cooking away from the beaches.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Dolmades · Ντολμάδες
Vine leaves stuffed with rice and herbs, sometimes with minced meat, served warm or cold.

Greek Salad · Χωριάτικη σαλάτα
Tomato, cucumber, onion, olives, and a block of feta cheese, dressed with olive oil.

DINNER

Moussaka · Μουσακάς
A baked layered dish of eggplant, potato, and minced meat topped with béchamel sauce.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Souvlaki · Σουβλάκι
Grilled skewered meat, often served in a pita wrap with tomato, onion, and tzatziki.

Gyros · Γύρος
Spit-roasted meat sliced and wrapped in pita with fries, tomato, onion, and tzatziki.

Spanakopita · Σπανακόπιτα
A savory pastry filled with spinach and feta cheese, wrapped in flaky phyllo dough.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Baklava · Μπακλαβάς
Layers of phyllo pastry filled with chopped nuts and soaked in honey syrup.

DRINKS

Greek Coffee · Ελληνικός καφές
Thick, unfiltered coffee traditionally served in a small cup, often with a glass of water.

Ouzo · Ούζο
An anise-flavored aperitif, usually served with ice and small plates (mezedes).

Retsina · Ρετσίνα
A distinctive resin-flavored white wine, a Greek tradition dating back centuries.

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Safety & health

Thasos is safe for visitors, with little serious crime. Take normal care with your belongings at crowded beaches.

- **Wildfires**: summers are hot and dry, and forest fires can happen. Follow local advice and alerts.
- **Sea**: rough sea can make rock pools and some beaches unsafe. Avoid swimming when waves are high.
- **Sun**: wear sun protection. Shade is limited on many beaches.

History

Settlers from Paros founded a colony on Thasos around 650 BC. The island grew rich from gold mines and marble quarries, on the island and on the mainland coast.

Today you can see this past in Thasos town. The ancient city had an agora, walls and a theatre. Ruins of Agora of Thasos, the hill of Acropolis of Thasos and the walls near Gate of Zeus and Hera are still visible. The finds are in Archaeological Museum of Thasos.

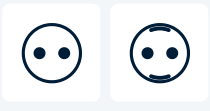
Marble stayed a main export for centuries. The old quarries at Alyki show where the stone was cut.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Greece at a glance:

CURRENCY
EUR €

EMERGENCY
112

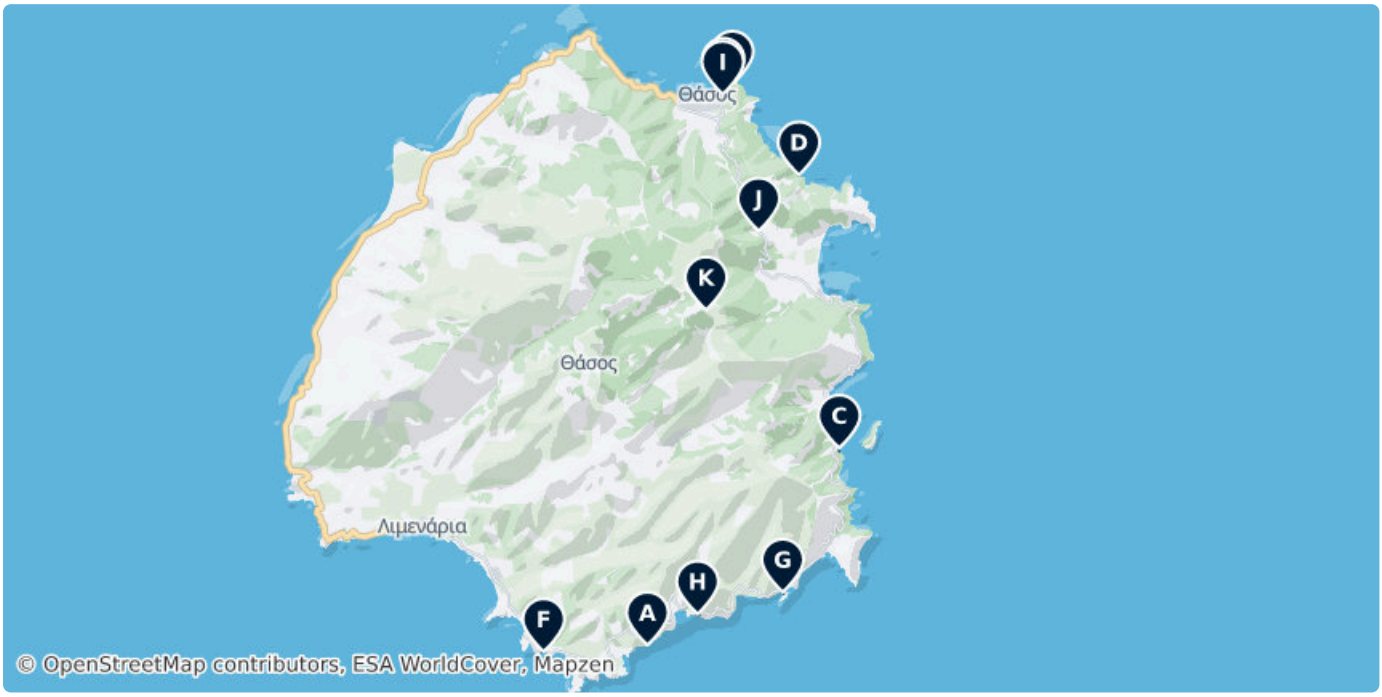
ELECTRICITY

Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

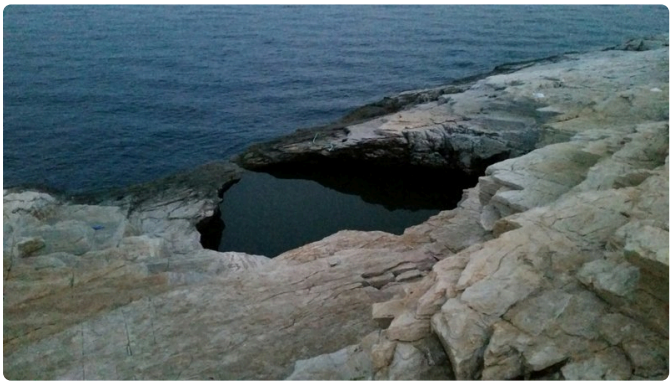
LANGUAGES
Greek

TAP WATER
Use caution

Thasos Essentials

Thasos combines significant archaeological sites with unique geological formations. This selection covers the island's diverse terrain, from the 1,206-meter peak of Mount Ipsario to the white marble pebbles of Saliara Beach. Highlights include the ancient Agora in Limenas, the cliffside Monastery of Archangel Michael, and the natural sea lagoon of Giola. Visitors can explore the island's history through its 5th-century theater and the archaeological museum, or visit a traditional water-powered olive oil mill in the mountain village of Panagia.





A Nkiola

A natural rocky lagoon carved into the coastline near Astris. This 15-meter-wide pool is filled with turquoise seawater and separated from the Aegean by a narrow rock wall.

64002, Greece (40.58628, 24.67849)



B Thassos Ancient Theater

Built in the 5th century BC on a hillside overlooking Limenas, this theater originally hosted dramatic performances. During the Roman era, it was modified to accommodate gladiatorial games.

(Unnamed Road), 64004, Greece (40.78205, 24.71761)

C paradise beach

A sandy bay near Kinira characterized by shallow waters and a backdrop of pine-covered hills. The beach features a designated section for clothing-optional sunbathing.

64004, Greece (40.65513, 24.76679)

naturistholiday.info/Greece/597/Paradise_Beach.aspx

D Saliara - Marble Beach

Located on the northeastern coast, this beach is distinguished by small white marble pebbles and clear emerald water that creates a striking contrast against the green landscape.

(Unnamed Road), 64004, Greece (40.75046, 24.74822)

E Agora archaias Thasou

The political and commercial center of the ancient city, located near the old port of Limenas. The site contains remains of temples, stoas, and administrative buildings dating back to the 4th century BC.

64004, Greece (40.77961, 24.71345)

Mo–Su 08:00–18:00



F Psili Ammos

A southern coast beach known for its fine white sand and shallow waters, bordered by olive groves and pine trees.

64002, Greece (40.58403, 24.63071)



G Aliki

A small peninsula featuring twin bays and an archaeological site with the ruins of an ancient marble quarry and two early Christian basilicas from the 5th century.

(Unnamed Road), 64004, Greece (40.60486, 24.74076)

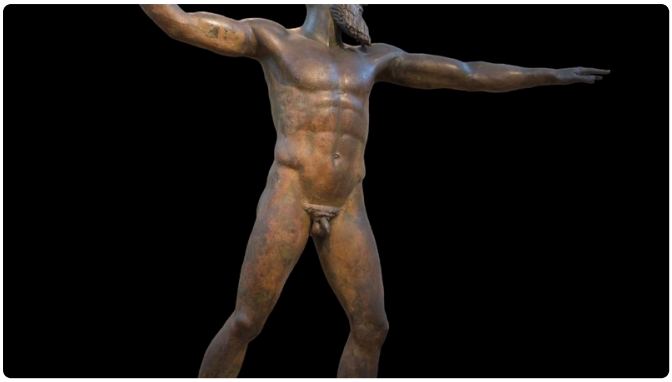


H Archangelou Michail Monastery

Perched on a cliff overlooking the Aegean, this 11th-century monastery is the island's largest. It houses a religious relic believed to be a piece of the Holy Nail from the crucifixion.

Ποταμιάς-Πότου, Μονή Αρχαγγέλου 64004, Greece (40.59717, 24.70152)

archangelmichaelthasos.com



I Archeological museum

Located in Limenas, this museum displays artifacts from the Neolithic to the Roman periods. Its most notable exhibit is the Kouros, a 3.5-meter-tall statue from the 6th century BC.

Ηρακλείου, Θάσος 64004, Greece (40.77856, 24.71313)



K Ipsario

The highest peak on Thasos at 1,206 meters. The summit provides panoramic views of the entire island, the Thracian Sea, and the neighboring island of Samothrace.

64004, Greece (40.70334, 24.70550)

J Sotirelis Olive Oil Museum

Situated in Panagia, this museum is housed in a former olive mill. It showcases a traditional water-powered olive press and the history of local oil production.

Θάσου-Ποταμιάς, Παναγία 64004, Greece (40.73094, 24.72975)

sotirelisoliveoil.gr/museum

Best Beaches in Thassos

Thassos features a diverse coastline characterized by marble-infused sands, pine forests, and archaeological sites. This selection includes Saliara, famous for its white marble pebbles, and Aliki, where ancient marble quarries and Byzantine basilicas sit adjacent to the shore. The island offers expansive sandy stretches like Skala Potamias and Paradise Beach, known for its surf, alongside secluded pebbly coves like Salonikios. Many locations, such as Metalia Beach, offer unique industrial history, while others provide shallow, calm waters protected by natural bays.



A paradise beach

Sandy beach known for its consistent waves and a designated clothing-optional area at the southern end. It is surrounded by dense pine forests.

64004, Greece (40.65513, 24.76679)

naturistholiday.info/Greece/597/Paradise_Beach.aspx

B Saliara - Marble Beach

Also known as Marble Beach, it is covered in small white marble pebbles from the nearby quarry, which gives the water a bright turquoise color.

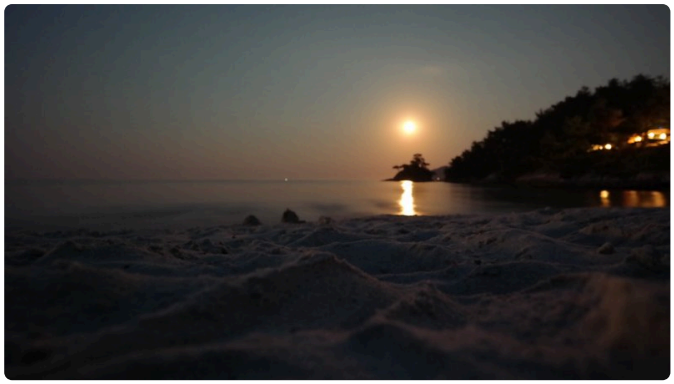
(Unnamed Road), 64004, Greece (40.75046, 24.74822)



C Psili Ammos

Fine-sand beach on the southern coast featuring shallow waters and a backdrop of olive groves.

64002, Greece (40.58403, 24.63071)



D Makriammos

A sandy bay within a private resort, featuring shallow water and surrounding pine-covered hills.

Μακρυάμμος 64004, Greece (40.77032, 24.72610)



E Kalami

A small, quiet cove with a mix of pebbles and sand, located near the Aliki archaeological site.

64002, Greece (40.58275, 24.66733)



F Aliki

One of two adjacent bays featuring white sand and clear water, situated next to ancient marble quarries and 7th-century Byzantine ruins.

(Unnamed Road), 64004, Greece (40.60486, 24.74076)



G Aliki Beach

Sandy coastline bordering an archaeological peninsula with remains of ancient temples and early Christian basilicas.

Greece (40.60550, 24.74229)

H Salonikios

A pebbly beach on the southern tip of the island, characterized by red rocks and views of the sunset.

64002, Greece (40.57180, 24.64362)

I Skala Potamias

The southern end of the Golden Beach bay, offering a long sandy shore with shallow, calm waters.

Greece (40.72026, 24.75901)



J Livadi Beach

A pebbled bay located directly below the Monastery of Archangel Michael, accessible via a steep winding road.

(Unnamed Road), 64002, Greece (40.59805, 24.69193)

K Potos

A sandy beach located in a central coastal village, featuring organized facilities and proximity to local shops.

(Unnamed Road), 64002, Greece (40.60844, 24.60663)

L Metalia Beach

Site of a former iron mine with preserved industrial ruins and a white stone zodiac circle art installation.

Καλύβια 64002, Greece (40.62380, 24.58106)

M Trypiti

Large sandy beach named for the 'trypa' (hole), a natural rock tunnel connecting the sea to a small inner pool.

64002, Greece (40.62331, 24.54228)

N Peukari

Named after the surrounding pine trees, this beach offers a mix of sand and pebbles with several watersports centers.

(Unnamed Road), Ποτός 64002, Greece (40.61754, 24.59699)

O Atspas Beach

A small, narrow sandy cove in Skala Maries known for its very shallow water and protection from winds.

(Unnamed Road), Σκάλα Μαριών 64002, Greece
(40.63923, 24.51586)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

Ancient Sites & Ruins

Thasos preserves a rich archaeological record reflecting its history as a major ancient naval and commercial hub. The island's heritage spans from the sprawling civic Agora and the defensive Acropolis to the unique coastal marble quarries at Aliki. Key landmarks include monumental gates dedicated to Olympian gods, the ruins of the Sanctuary of Hercules, and the Roman-era Arc of Karakalla, illustrating the island's strategic importance through Greek and Roman antiquity.



A Agora archaias Thasou

The political and religious center of the ancient city, featuring remains of porticoes, monuments, and temples dating from the 4th century BC through the Roman period.

64004, Greece (40.77961, 24.71345)

Mo–Su 08:00–18:00

B Ancient Tower of Thimonia

A circular defensive tower from the Hellenistic period, originally used for coastal surveillance and protecting local agricultural resources.

64004, Greece (40.60695, 24.71770)

C Ebraiokastro

Coastal ruins of a sanctuary and fortifications situated on a rocky promontory, showing evidence of early religious activity and maritime defense.

(Unnamed Road), 64004, Greece (40.78501, 24.71600)



D Gate of Zeus and Hera

A monumental entrance to the ancient city walls featuring relief sculptures of Zeus and Hera, dating back to the late 6th century BC.

Πιέρ Μιέ Βαμπέζ, Θάσος 64004, Greece (40.77561, 24.70902)

E Acropolis of Thasos

Fortified hilltop site containing the foundations of the Temple of Pythian Apollo, the Temple of Athena, and a medieval fortress built over ancient walls.

64004, Greece (40.77753, 24.71891)

F Arc of Karakalla

A Roman triumphal arch built in the early 3rd century AD to honor Emperor Caracalla and his family.

640 04 Thassos, Greece (40.77749, 24.71119)

G Gate Hermes And Charites

An ancient city gate featuring a relief of Hermes and the Graces, serving as a significant point in the city's defensive circuit.

Πέτρου Αξιώτη, Θάσος 64004, Greece (40.78246, 24.71528)

odysseus.culture.gr/h/3/gh352.jsp

H Aliki

Archaeological site featuring two 5th-century early Christian basilicas and remains of an ancient sanctuary dedicated to the Dioscuri.

64004, Greece (40.60491, 24.74265)

I Ancient Marble Quarry Near Aliki

Coastal site where Thasian white marble was extracted since the 7th century BC. Submerged remains and cut blocks are visible along the shoreline.

(40.60075, 24.73825)

J Hercules Sanctuary

Religious complex dedicated to the island's patron deity, featuring a peripteral temple and a ritual courtyard dating from the 6th century BC.

Ηρακλείου, Θάσος 64004, Greece (40.77700, 24.71137)

Archaio Emporiko Limani Thasou

Remains of the ancient commercial harbor, including submerged piers and foundations of maritime structures used for the export of marble and wine.

Greece (40.78533, 24.71552)

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