



# aristi

MOUNTAIN RESORT+VILLAS



Preserving Cultural Heritage



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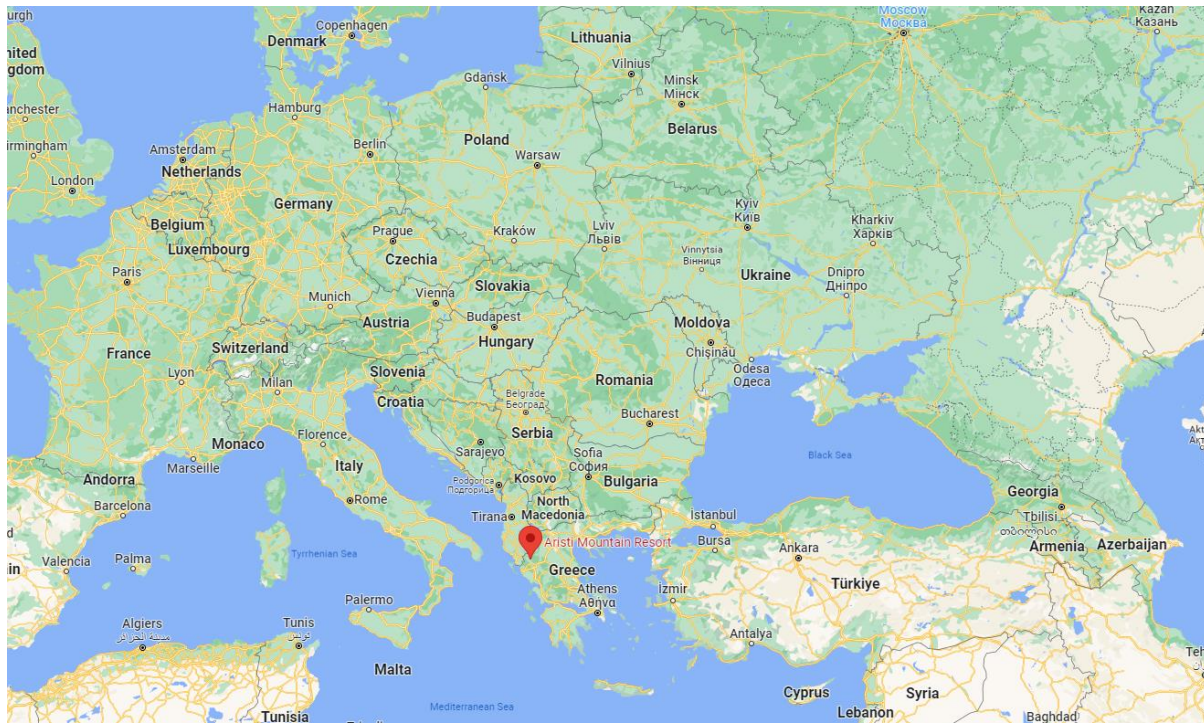
# ARISTI MOUNTAIN RESORT + VILLAS

Built in the upper part of Aristi, one of the most beautiful traditional villages of Zagori region in Greece, **Aristi Mountain Resort + Villas** is not just a hotel, but a refuge for those seeking beauty in nature.

The Resort was created to offer visitors a unique vacation experience and the possibility to discover the beautiful region of Greece that lies in the northwest of the country.



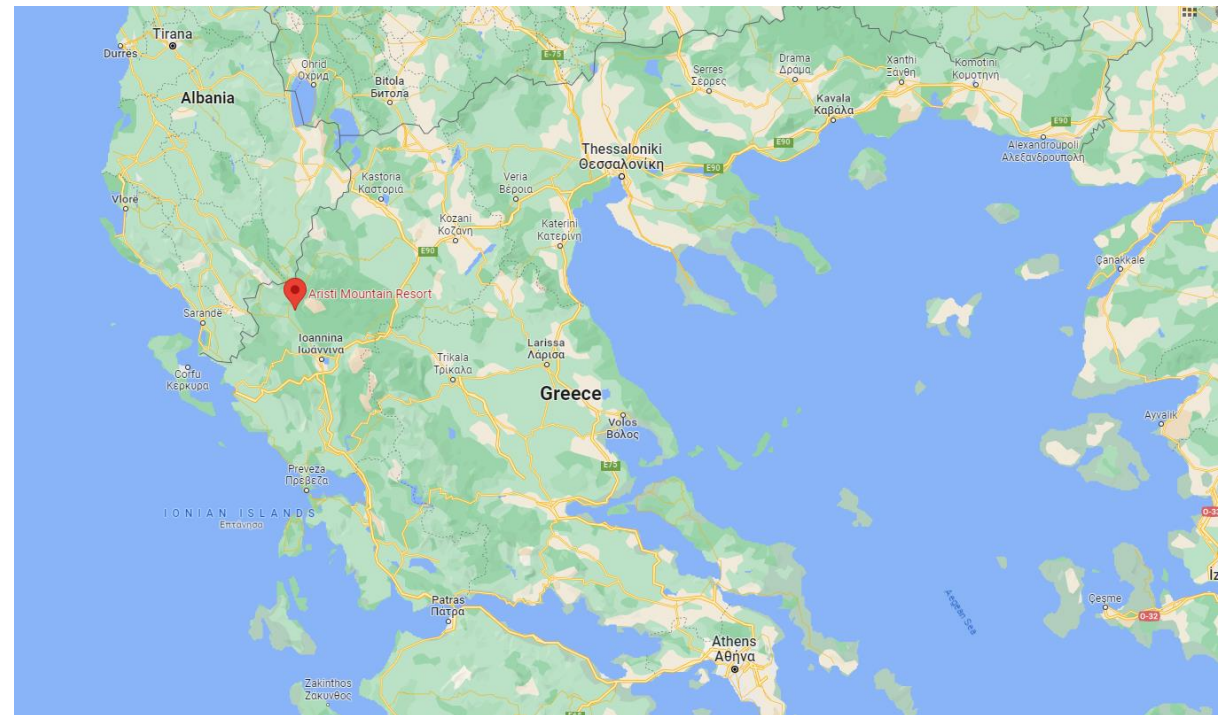
# Location of ARISTI MOUNTAIN RESORT + VILLAS



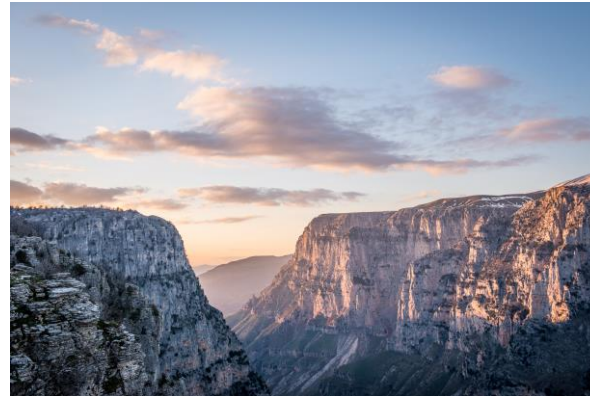
ARISTI in Europe



ARISTI in Greece



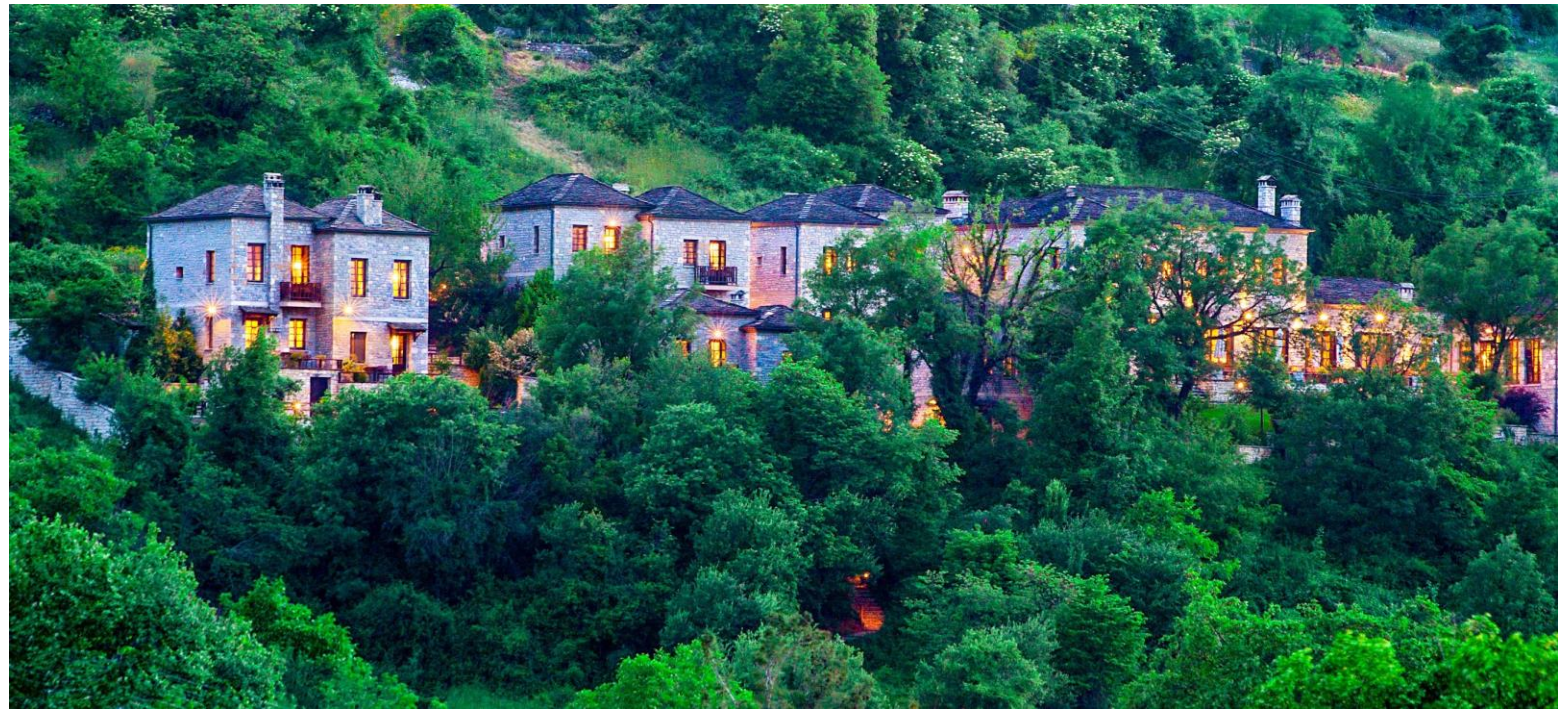
# Zagori Region, Epirus, Greece



Our aim was to convert this place into a destination for all those who desire to visit a place that is so original, rich, and truly unique!

**Aristi Mountain Resort + Villas** was designed with the vision that it will accommodate every kind of visitor, from nature discoverers to hiking lovers, to those who just want to enjoy the beauty and serenity of the Resort.

This place was made for anyone who wants to savor a complete well-being experience, for people who want to taste the local products of the area and its authentic traditional recipes but also for people who have an appreciation for the history of the region and its unique cultural identity.



# THE CULTURAL VISION



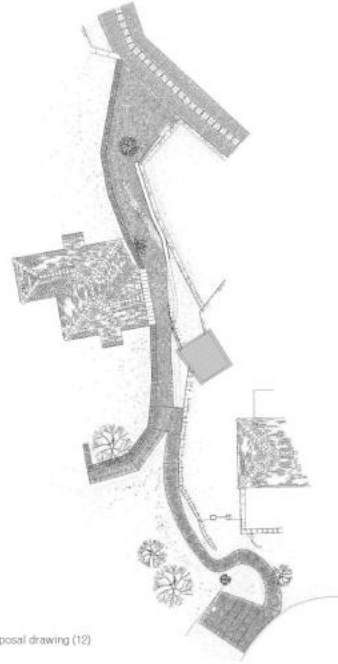
## OUR COMMITMENT TO CULTURE & TRADITION

The cultural story of Aristi Mountain Resort & Villas starts from its architecture. It is built in complete harmony with the surrounding landscape and the local & traditional architectural style. Only local materials, stone and wood decorate the inner and outer parts of the buildings. The staff of the Resort is comprised of locals. We use local products and cooperate with local companies to maintain a close relationship with the local community. We report monthly our environmental indices, train our staff regularly, and try to increase the awareness of our clients towards preserving the environmental integrity of the area. Committed to the conservation of the environment, we are proudly included in the 21 most environmentally friendly places in the world, according to National Geographic. Supporting a more sustainable way of transportation, the Aristi Mountain Resort & Villas now offers the possibility of an electric car charging station.

# “REAPPEARANCES” OF EPIRUS’ PATHWAYS



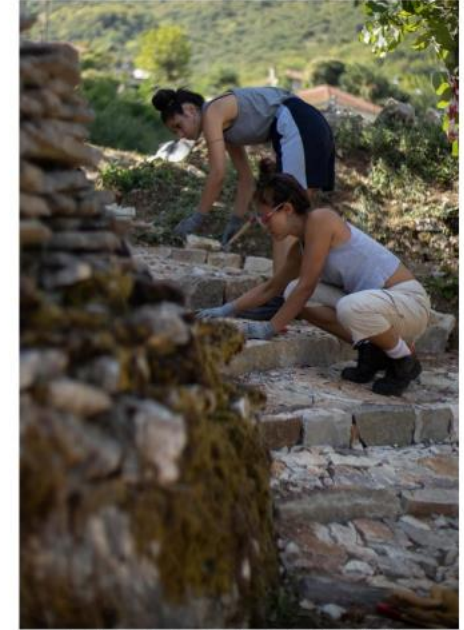
Works in progress (11)



Design proposal drawing (12)



Professor Vassilis Dalkavoukis in an open discussion with the participants about the ethnological history of Zagori (14)



Team work on the cobble pathway during the 3rd week of the workshop (15)



A participant working on the dry-stone retaining wall (09)



A participant working on the cobble pathway (10)



The screening organized by Enginwood in the central square of Aristi village (13)





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Work during the second week of the workshop (20)



# “REAPPEARANCES” OF EPIRUS’ PATHWAYS

The “Reappearances” project was a combination of a practical workshop and a participatory restoration of an old cobbled pathway, an important part of Aristi’s “kalderimi” network, in Zagori Region. The main goal of the workshop was to involve the local community in the appreciation and management of its own cultural landscape and public heritage. Placing the focus on local stakeholders, the program was targeted at the people of Aristi: those who permanently reside in the village, as well as those who originate from Aristi and the broader area of Zagori but live in different places around Greece and abroad.

The restoration lasted four weeks, to construct a sixty-meter-long pathway, around sixty-five square meters of dry-stone walls, along with a small public fountain. During the project, local collective memories over the historical use of the pathway were rejuvenated.



## “REAPPEARANCES” OF EPIRUS’ PATHWAYS



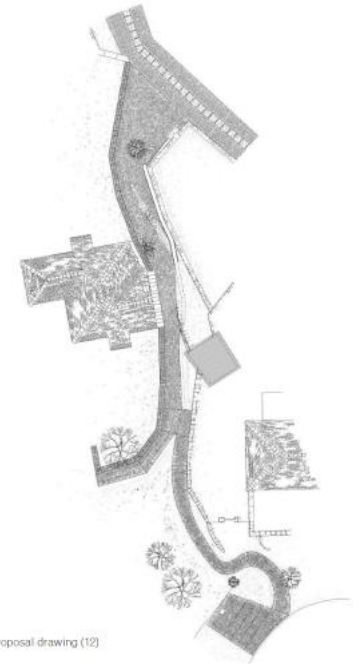
The dilapidated kalderimi of Aristi. Condition on site (03)



Survey drawing (04)



Works in progress (11)



Design proposal drawing (12)

The event that took place on the cultural landscapes and the art of the drystone knowledge, during which round-table discussions were hosted. The first one was about the use of local materials in the cultural landscapes, and the second one was about the legal framework of drystone craftsmanship. The project was also framed with parallel activities, such as hiking along Voidomatis in the UNESCO global geopark of Vikos-Aoos, a cultural walk at the historic place where the Grambala Battle took place, a visit in the sacred forest of Ayia Paraskevi and documentary screening.

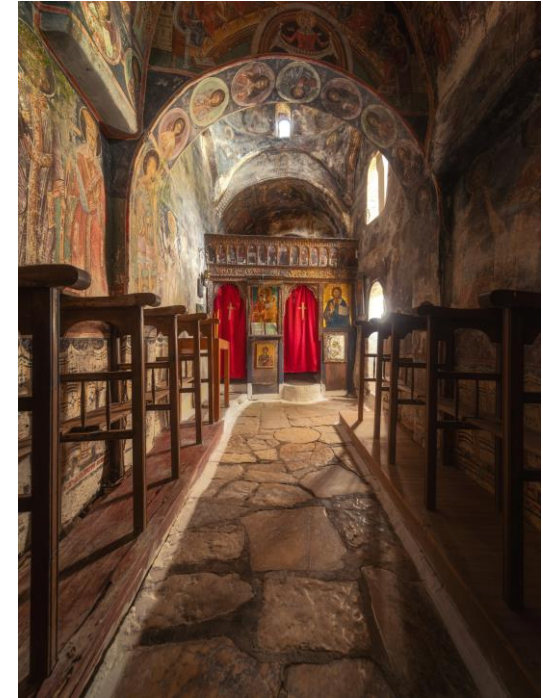
# “REAPPEARANCES” OF EPIRUS’ PATHWAYS



Part of the restored cobble pathway (18)



Part of the restored cobble pathway (17)



# The Monastery of Panagia Spileotissa preservation

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# The Monastery of Panagia Spileotissa Preservation

The Monastery of Panagia Spiliotissa built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century is one of the most important religious monuments in Zagori, nestles on the left bank of Voidomatis river and is perched on a rock at the outskirts of Aristi village. The construction of the building has been the implementation of many architectural techniques of the craftsmen of the time. The monastery has been declared a historical monument. It is in perfect harmony with the environment, because some of the cells are built in such a way as to incorporate parts of the rock.

The church a single-aisle basilica with dome was internally covered by excellent technical frescoes of the 17th cent, which were not well maintained until recent years. Following their preservation by the Ministry of Culture, Aristi Mountain resort stepped in and facilitated in the cleaning of the monastery which had become a bat cave and the painting of the other communal spaces. The key of the church for many years was kept in the hotel so visitors may have the chance to visit this unique church and donate in the efforts for its preservation





# SHEEP WOOL PROCESSING

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# SHEEP WOOL PROCESSING

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## *A JOURNEY IN TIME*

Aristi Mountain Resort + Villas guests discover and follow the sheep wool journey from past to present. The workshop takes anyone who joins on a tour of the art of wool processing.

The seminar is for both young and old. During this workshop, the participants wash the sheep wool, dry it, and lay it down. The participants have the chance to watch a professional demonstration of the techniques of creating handmade fabrics, such as knitting and weaving on the traditional loom. Finally, all the people in this workshop make a jewel with the felt technique, for which tools are not necessary!



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# GASTRONOMY & TRADITION



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Aristi Mountain Resort & Villas has introduced a cooking course available at the Aristi Farm. The guests learn about the traditional local cuisine as the hotel's chefs share all the tricks and flavors of authentic Greek dishes and Epirus' gastronomic tradition. Guests prepare a full three-course meal using hand-pick fresh organic ingredients from our Greenhouse, as well as local produce. The menu includes favorites such as handmade tzatziki, traditional Greek salad, lamb with potatoes, traditional cheeses, the famous Zagori pie, and mouth-watering desserts. Once all dishes have been perfected, guests enjoy their creations on the patio of the Greenhouse, al fresco style.



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# ADVANTAGES OF PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE

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## - Involving Local Community.

That's akin to nurturing the heartbeat of a vibrant ecosystem. It fosters a sense of ownership, pride, and collective responsibility. By engaging residents, businesses, and organizations, a project gains invaluable insights into the unique needs, aspirations, and cultural nuances of the community it serves.

## - Preserving the Natural Environment.

Prioritizing the preservation of the natural environment is paramount in fostering sustainable, harmonious growth. It entails a deep commitment to safeguarding the delicate ecosystems, biodiversity, and natural resources that define a region.

## - Participation of the visitors of the Aristi Region.

The participation adds an invaluable layer of dynamism and diversity. These individuals, drawn by a shared interest or passion, bring fresh perspectives and a wealth of experiences to the endeavor. Their engagement sparks a vibrant exchange of ideas, injecting new energy and creativity into the project's development. This collaborative synergy not only enhances the overall experience for visitors but also fosters a sense of belonging, ensuring that the project leaves a lasting impression and inspires a continued connection to the area.



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Thank you!

