



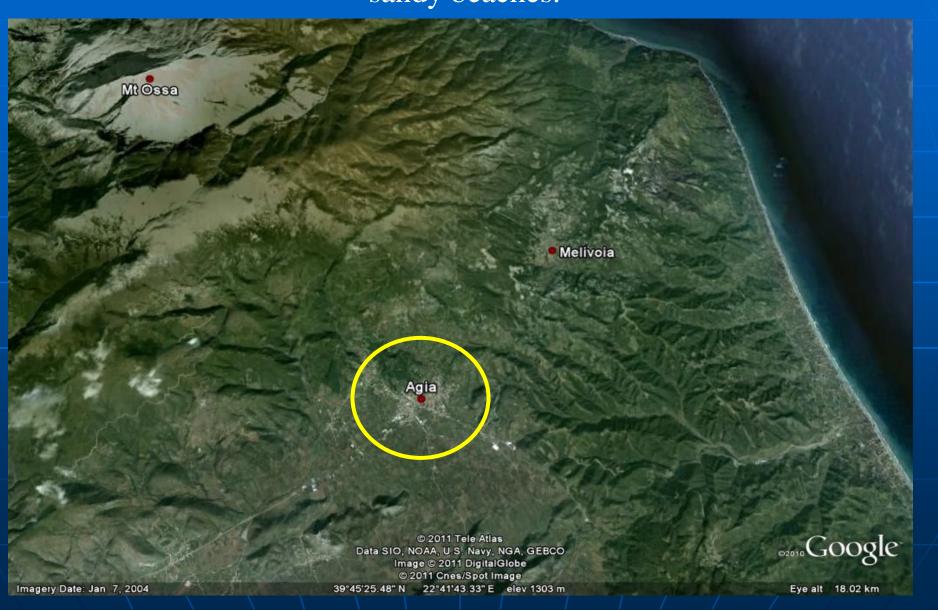




The Prefecture of Agia includes 21 local communities with the town of Agia as the county seat. Its present area is 66,826 sq. km and it has a population of 14,121 inhabitants.

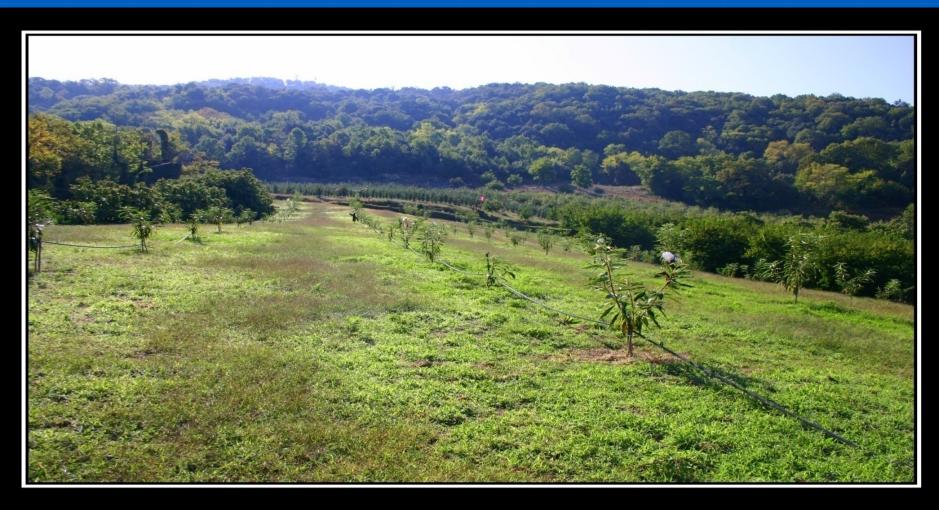


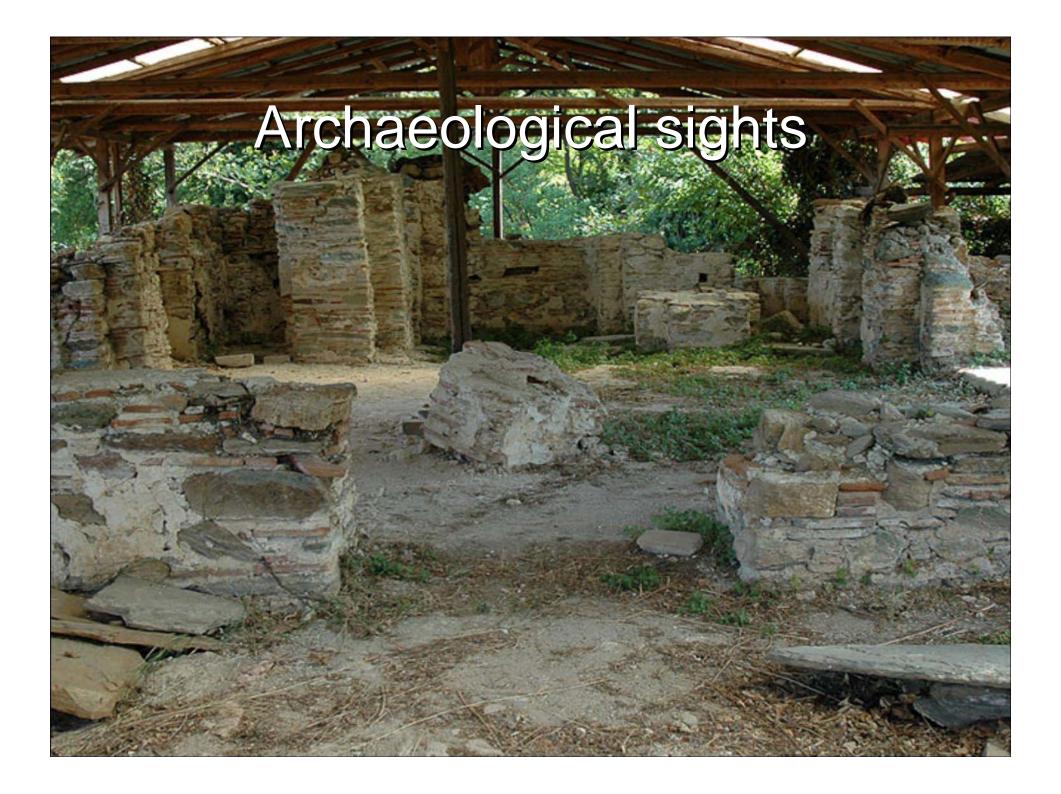
The area includes all of the eastern side of Mt. Ossa, the Maurovounio mountains and 60km of coastal zone with beautiful, sandy beaches.



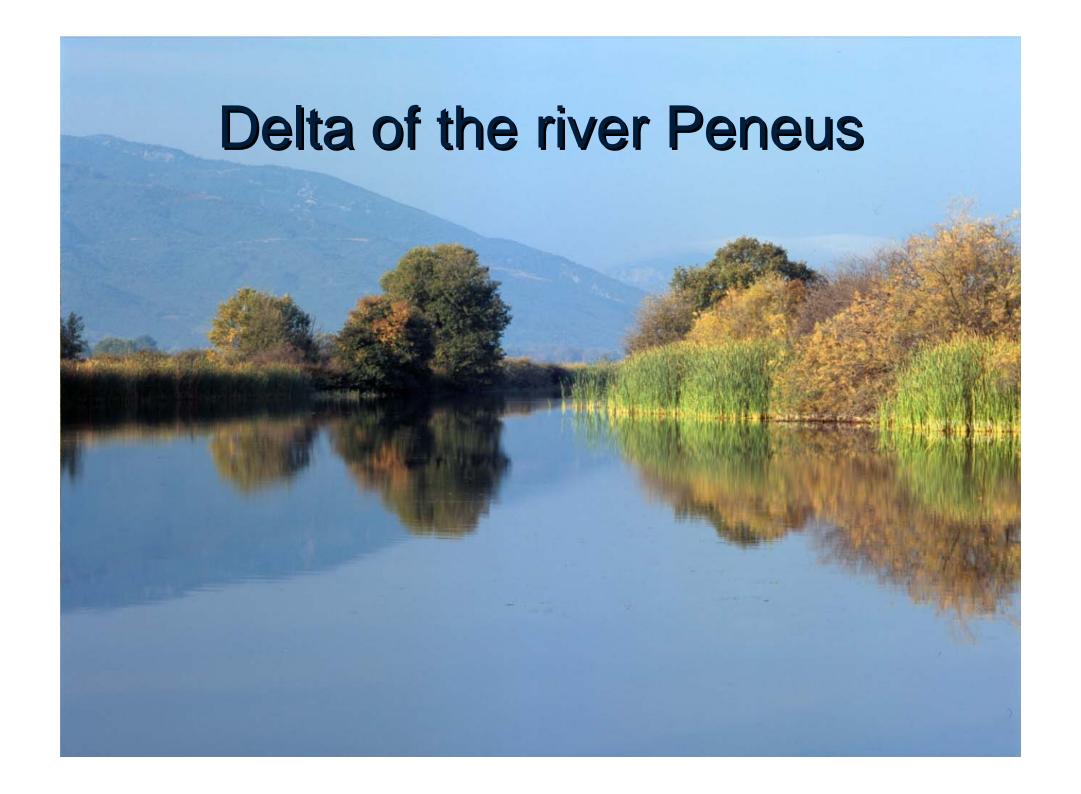
Seventy percent (70%) of the land is made up of forests and orchards, 20% is cultivated and 10% is used for vegetable gardens.

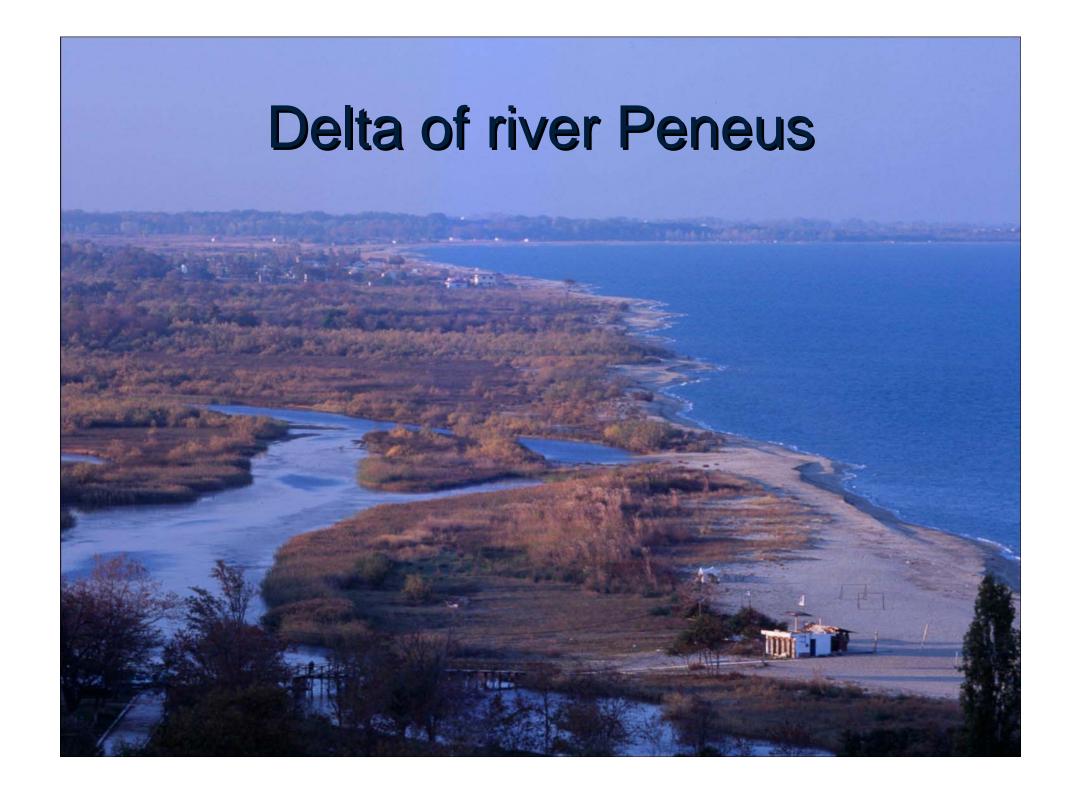
The major forest and orchard crops of the area are chestnut, apples, olives, cherries, almonds and kiwi..

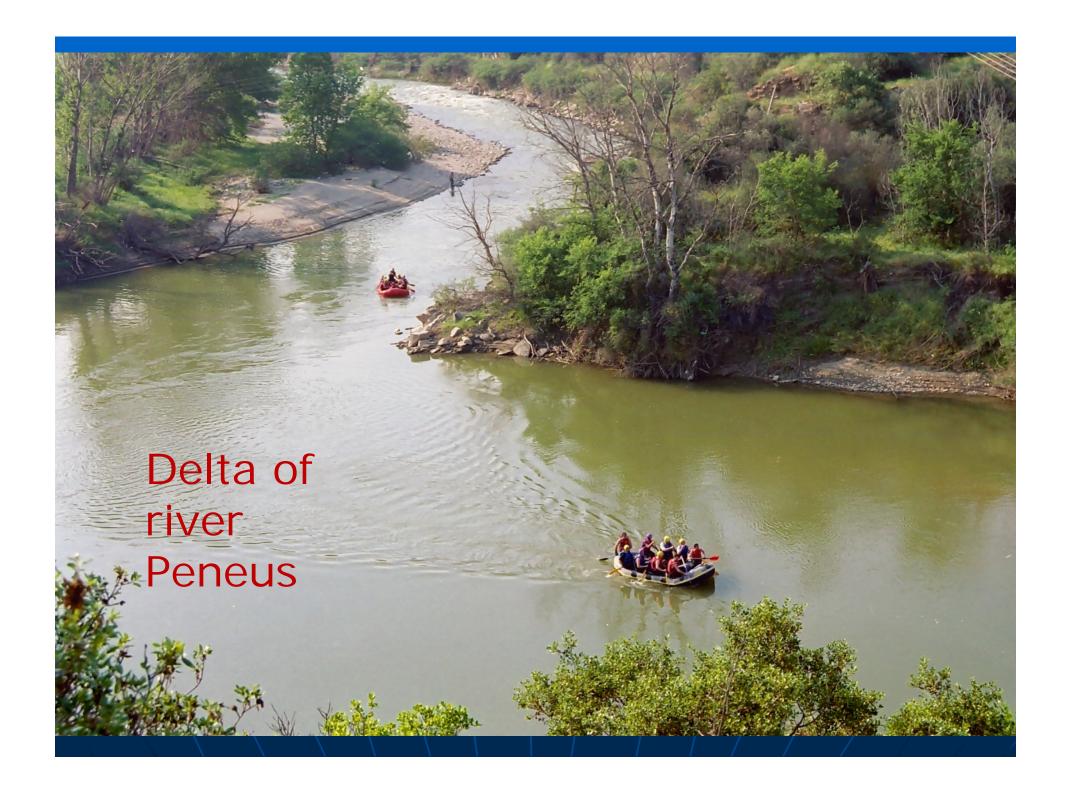


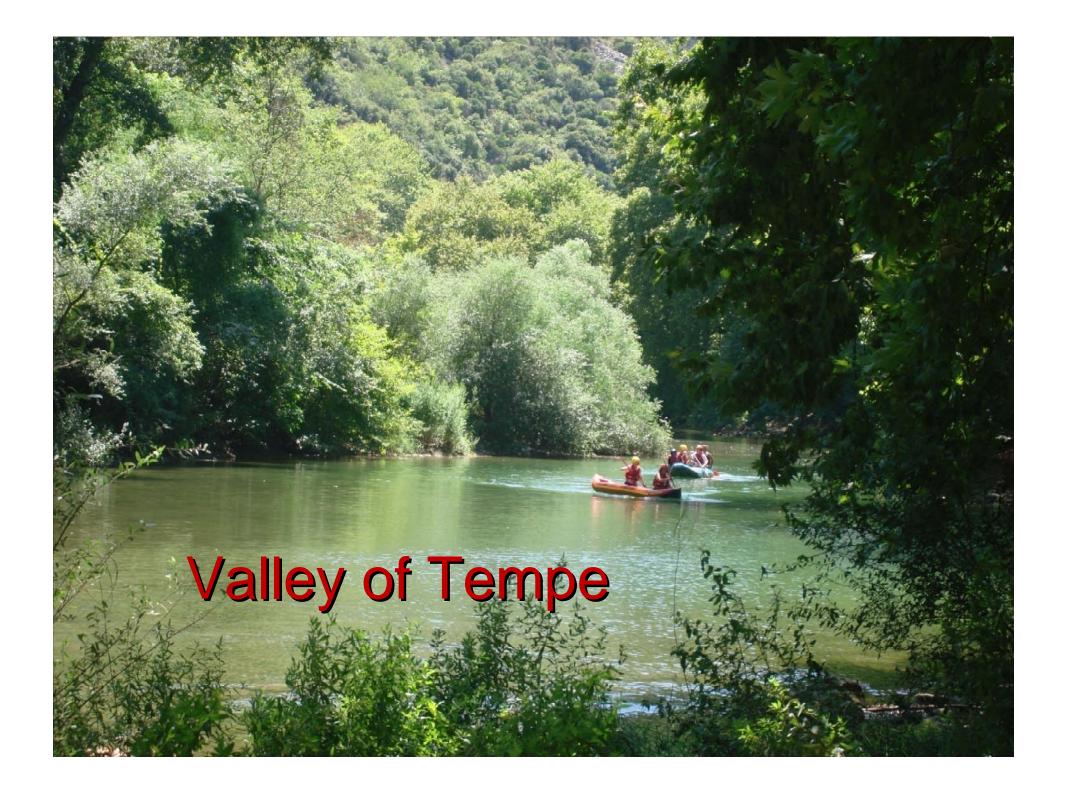


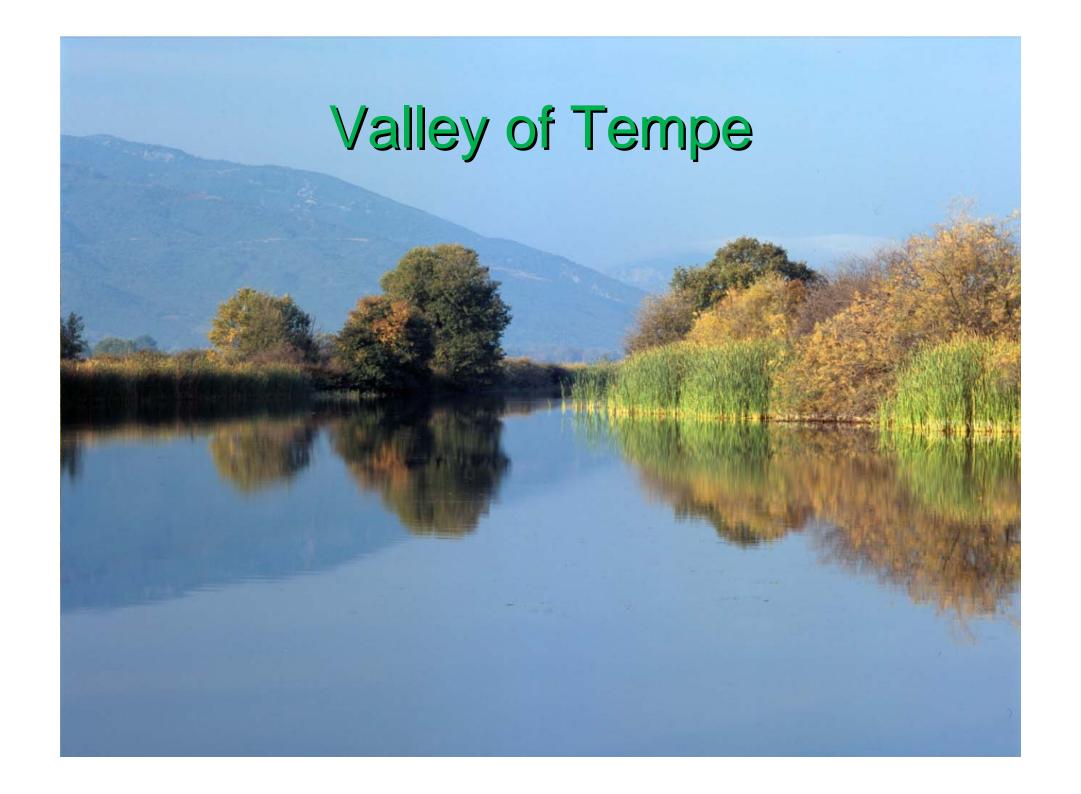


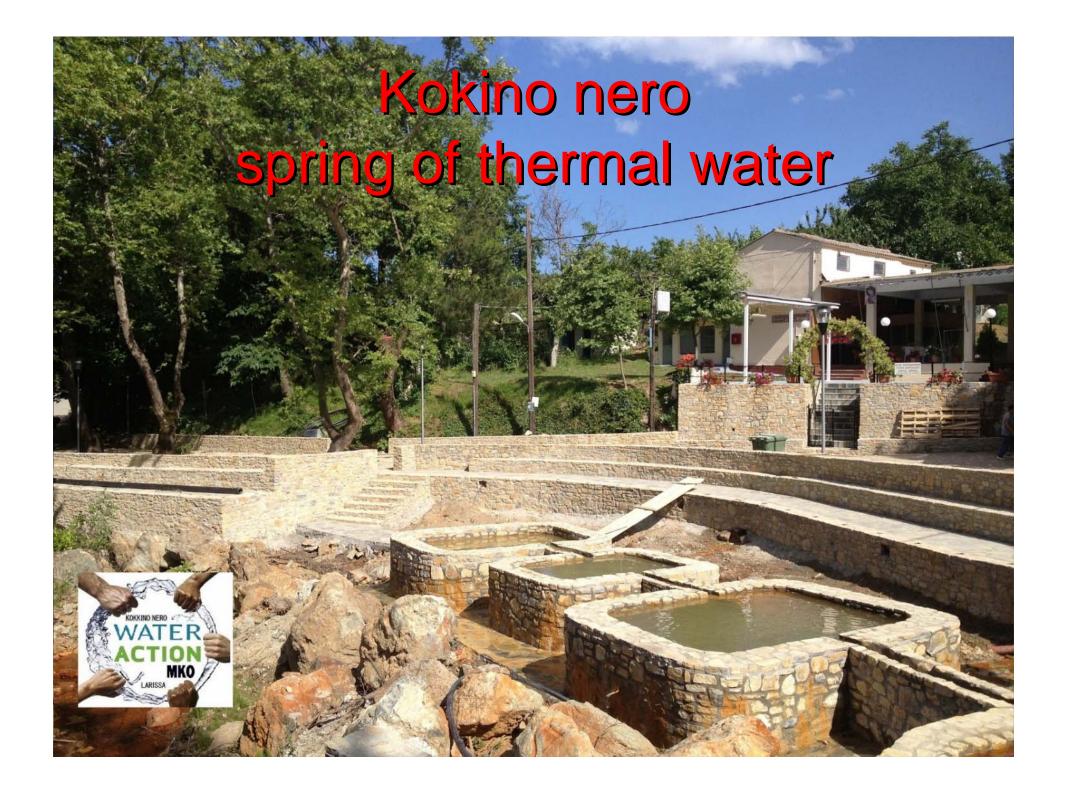


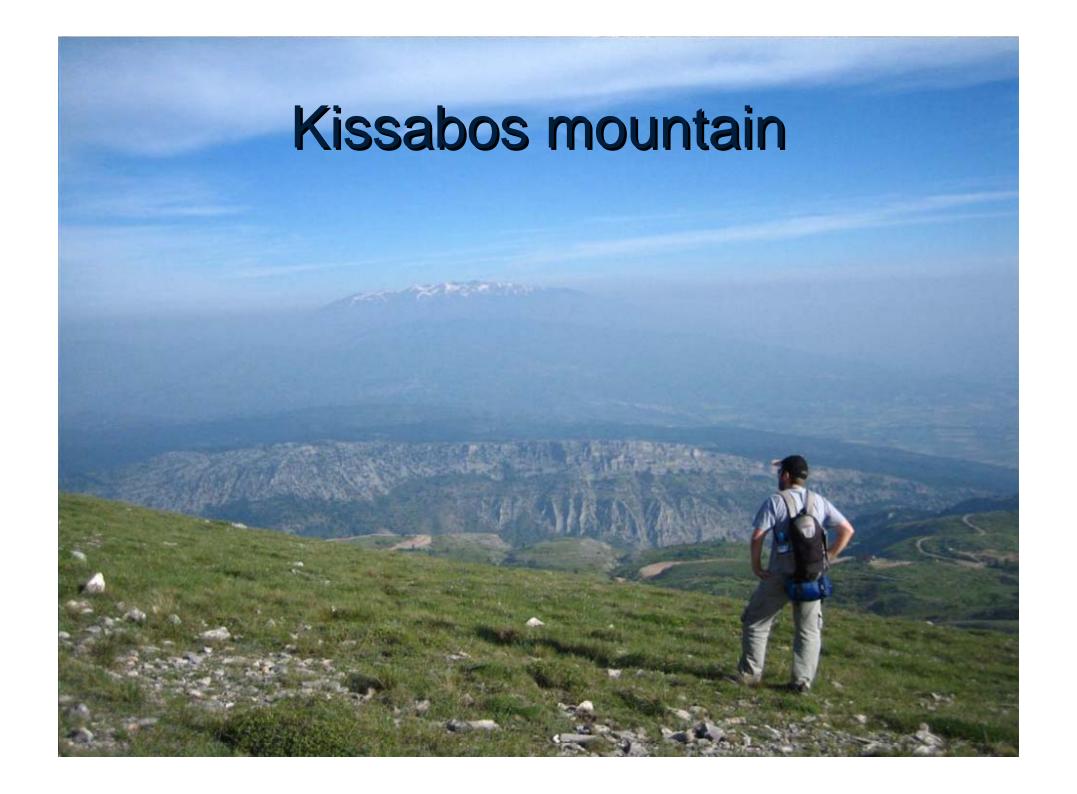




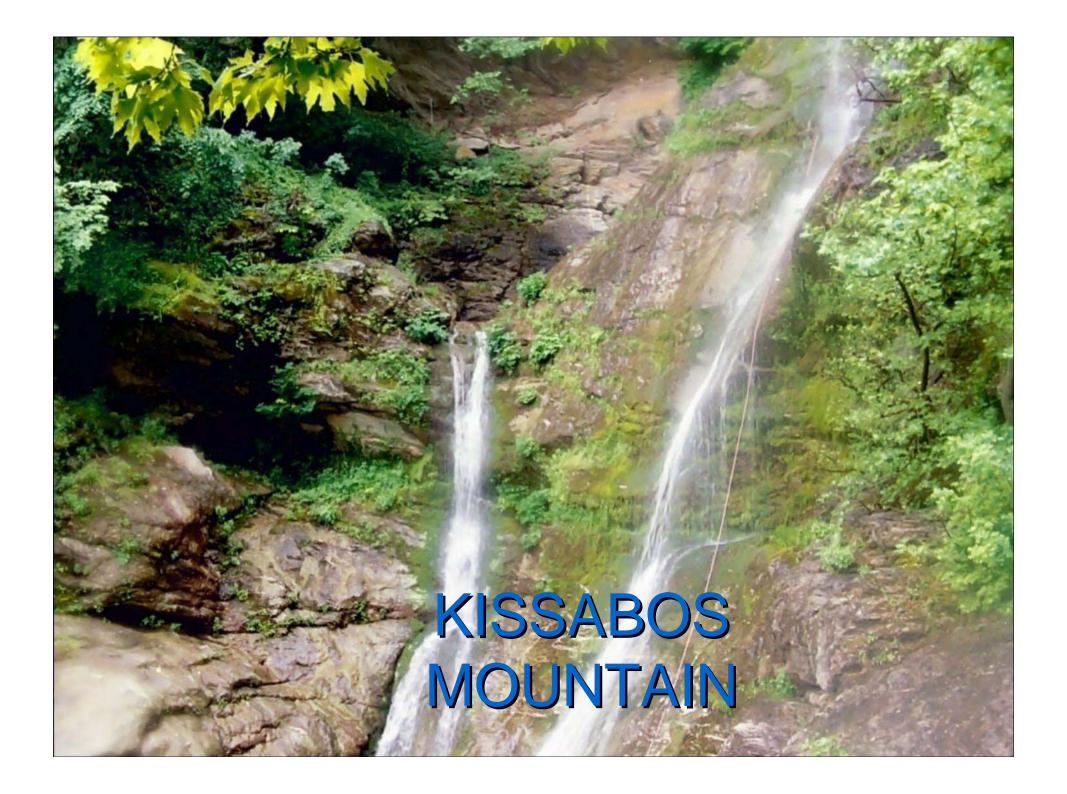


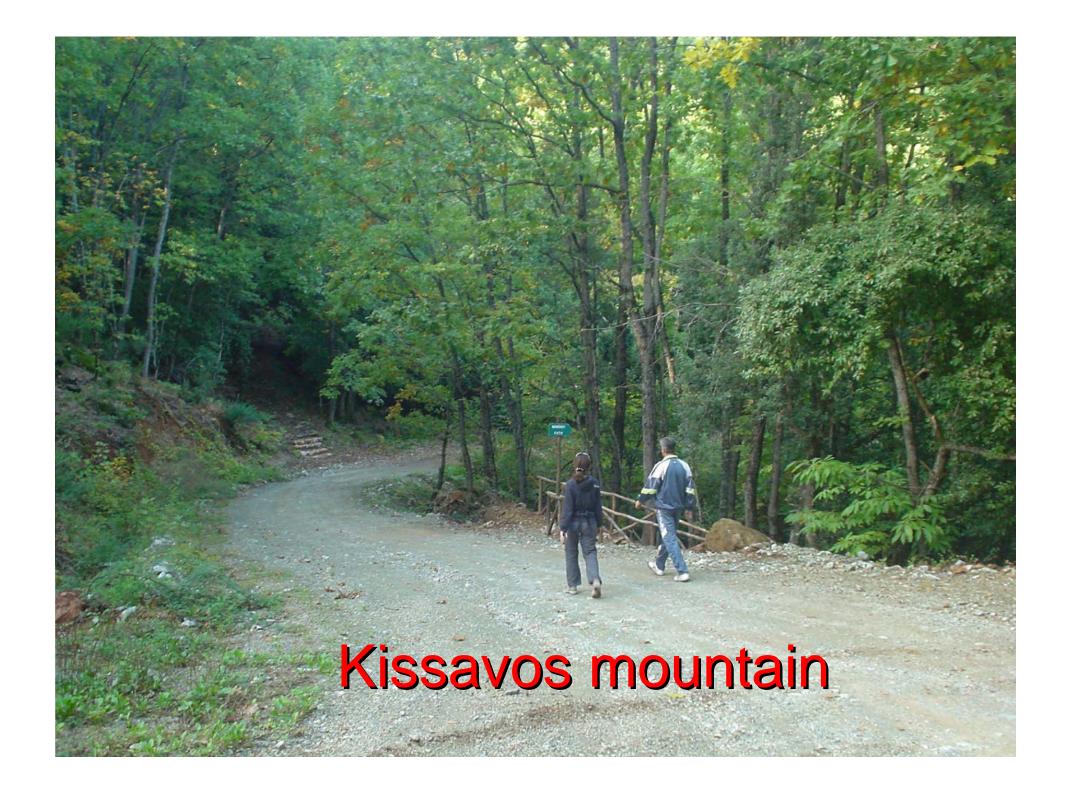






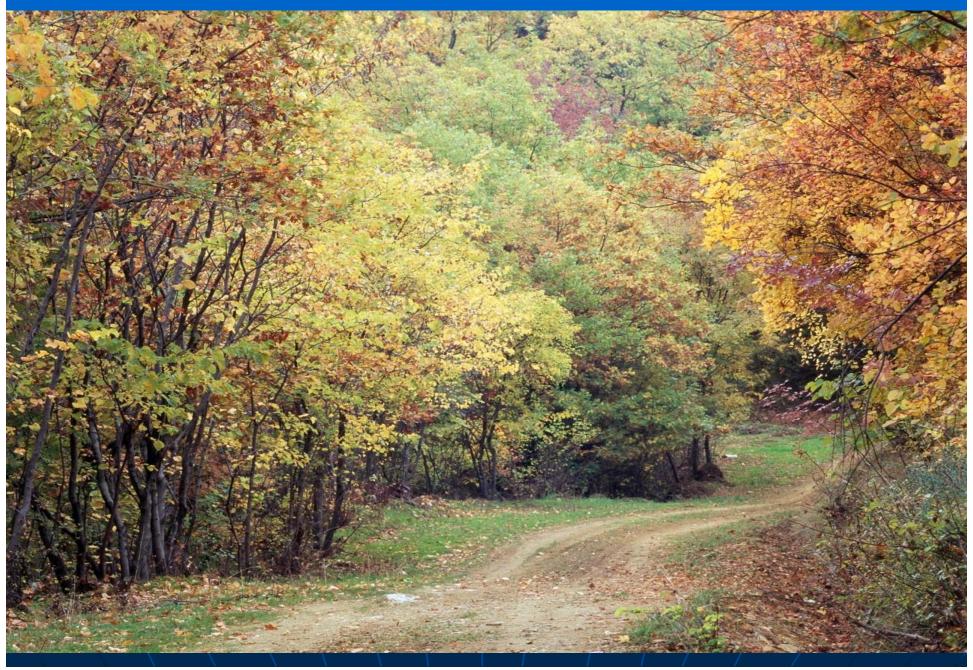








Most of the area is included in the network of NATURA 2000.









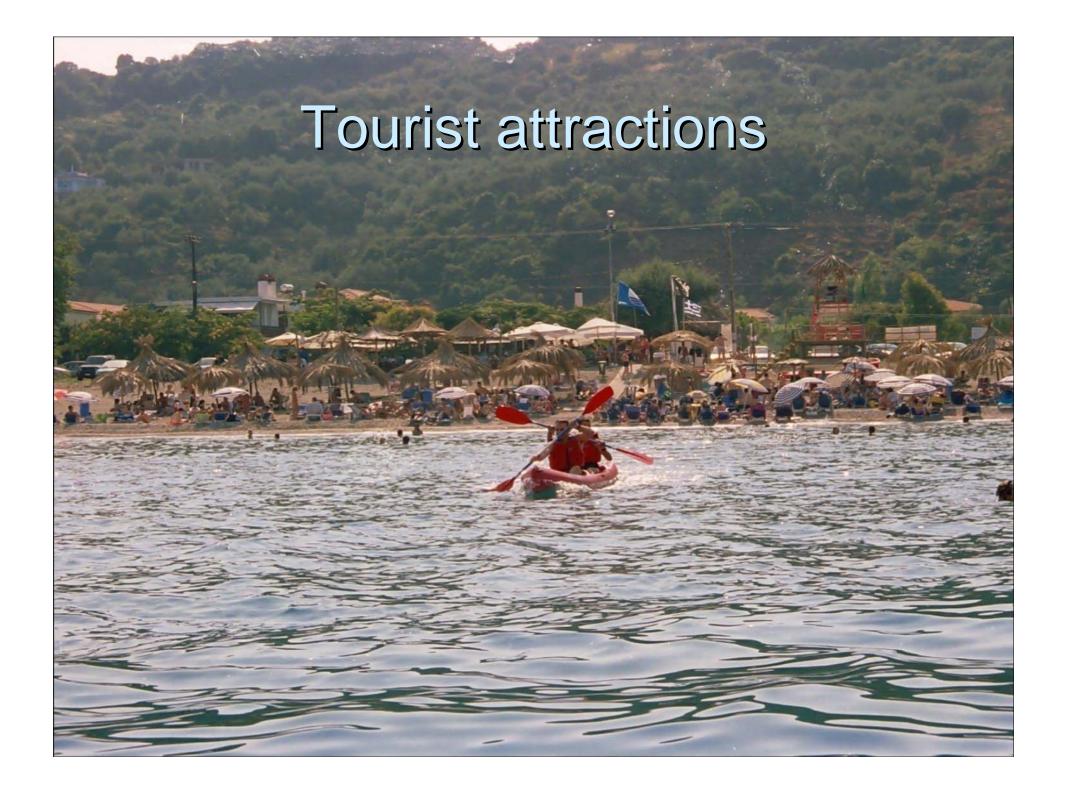


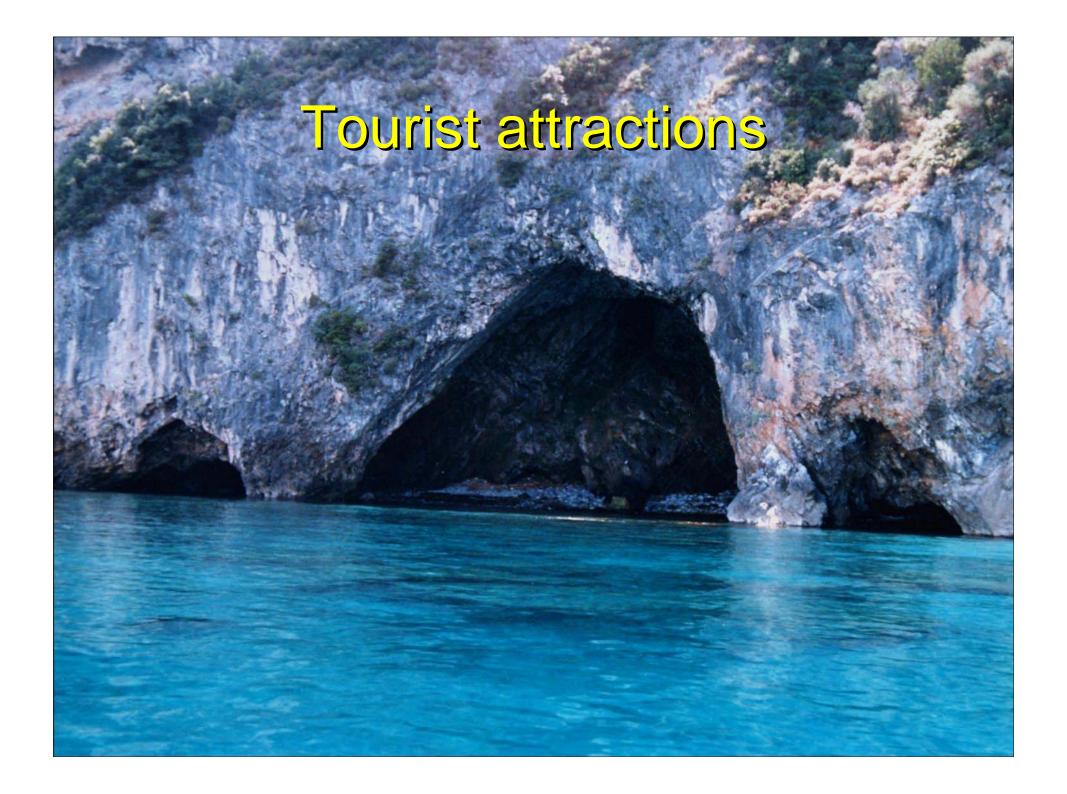




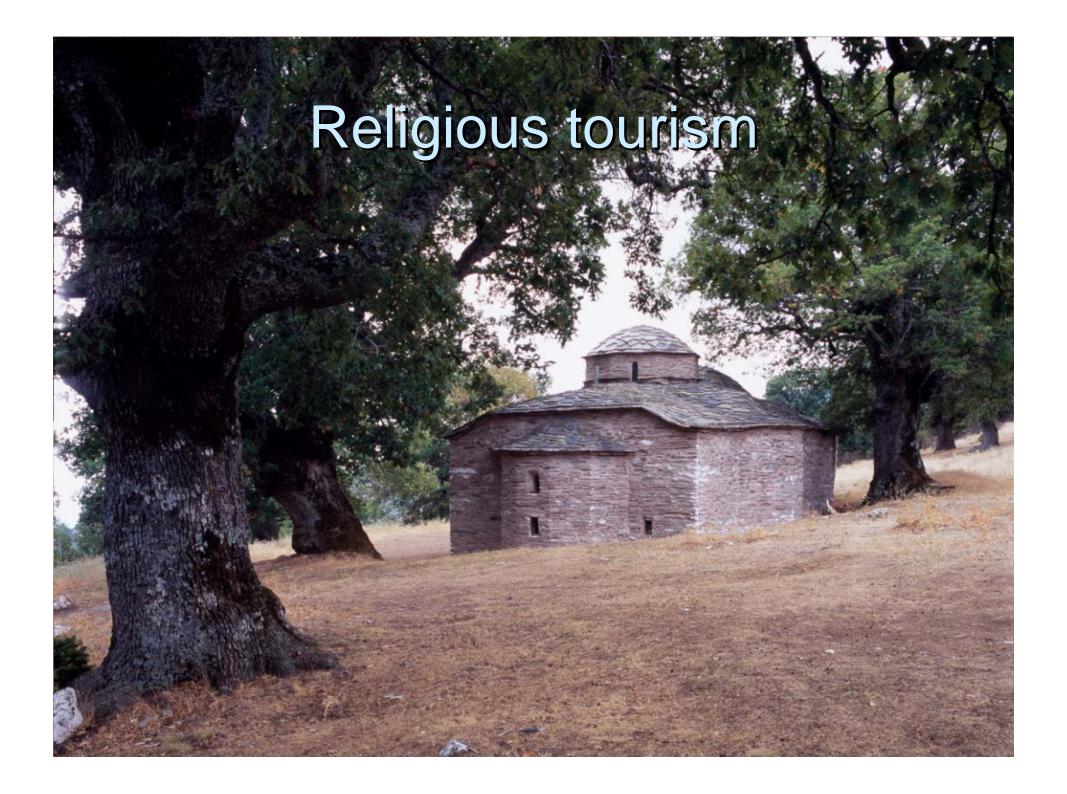
















Local products



Apples

Cherries



Chestnuts

Kiwis







Apples

In the area of Agia are grown around 30% of the apple production in Greece which means that it is the most dynamic production throughout the whole territory.

In the town of Agia, early September, are organized the Festival of Apple, with sevenday fair, religious ceremonies, rich musical events and presentation of the basic product of apple.



Cherries

In the area of Agia there are many cherry orchards. The cherries in this region are fleshy and are characterized by deep red color and delicious taste.



In Metaxohori, the last 3-4 years, is organized the Festival of Cherry in the middle of June.



Across the municipality of Agia are produced about 5,000,000 pounds of cherries with upward trend in recent years.

Chestnuts



Across the whole municipality of Agia, the production of chestnuts is estimated at 2,000,000 pounds.



Chestnuts can find around Kissavos and Maurovouni while the production in the greater municipality of Agia is increasing, as a result of the renewal of chestnut held in recent years.

For their quality, luster, size, and taste. Recent years is launched a huge effort by the Melivoias Agricultural Cooperative in cooperation with the municipality for their registration as a PDO product. This increases their visibility and traceability against similar products and can no longer be competitive in both domestic and European market.

Kiwi



Great kiwifruit production lies in Omolio and Stomio.



The total kiwifruit production is estimated at 2,000 tons and the crop acreage is about 500 acres.

In the beautiful Omolio is celebrated every year, for many years, the 3rd weekend of August, the harvest of agricultural commodities in the region, among which belongs the kiwi as a sign of thanksgiving for farmers and residents for a bountiful harvest.



Movement of potato 2012

The movement that is called "Movement of Potato" has been extended to other products - oil, pulses, vegetables and dairy products, relates with social farming without middlemen

System Shopping Bag

From the beginning consumers finance the budget of an agricultural, holding for the entire production period.

Individuals, families or groups do not pay for specific grams or kilograms production but support the budget of the entire estate and receive weekly what is seasonally ripe. Food is produced according to the principles of organic agriculture.

Social Farms

Enables citizens, unemployed, low income pensioners etc have chance to grow their own products.

For example, they can be converted disused parcels in small agricultural holding, the use of which may be granted in special groups.



Social vegetable gardens

They are small plots of land provided by local government or by private at a nominal rent or not to local residents to cultivate their own vegetables and fruits.



Green care

contributes to health care of people suffering from mental, social, physical disabilities or psychiatric diseases. The therapeutic purpose is to care the animals, take care of the crops, or to manage of wild animals habitats living, providing an ideal working.

Produced products that are available in special social groups.



Problems

- High cost of production
- lack of cooperatives
- Disposal directly to traders
- Low price for producers
- •High price for consumers
- An increase of vulnerable groups due to crisis and unemployment

The lack of organization of producers has the effect of promoting products by intermediaries, and leading consumers to buy expensive products

Establishment of Social Cooperative enterprise Collective & production purposes for olive oil production and production of chestnuts

We decided this year a group of 30 people to set up social cooperative enterprise Includes mainly farmers who cultivate olives and chestnuts.

The basic aims of the social cooperative enterprise are:

- the promotion of products, by creating a brand name
- be marketed the local products
- to maintain traditional activities and traditional occupations
- actions that promote local and community interest,
- the promotion of employment



