

6th International Convention for Culture & Tourism

YPERIA 2008

6ο Διεθνές Συνέδριο Πολιτισμού & Τουρισμού

1/05 - 5/05 2008



Aegialis Hotel & Spa
Amorgos, 07 May 2008

PRESS RELEASE

6th International Meeting of Culture and Tourism - YPERIA 2008. Aigiali, Amorgos, Greece.

We are pleased to announce that the 6th International Meeting of Culture and Tourism, YPERIA 2008 took place successfully from 1st to 5th of May at the AEGIALIS Hotel & Spa in Aegiali – Amorgos Island in Cyclades and welcomed about 100 journalists from around the world.

The convention was organized by the Women's Cultural Association of Tholaria in cooperation with Aegialis Hotel & Spa.

Main subject: AMORGOS ARCHITECTURE

Topics covered by the Convention:

- Traditional Architecture in Aegiali
- Folk buildings
- Residential groups
- Agricultural constructions
- Chapels – Byzantine temples
- Folklore of Amorgos island

On the first day, the participants on the occasion of the celebration of May Day, walked the path connecting Lagada to Tholaria, picked flowers and made wreaths in the courtyard of the Church Saint Anargiron in Tholaria. There a buffet lunch with traditional specialties was offered by the restaurant Lakki .

The afternoon of the same day began the Conference speeches with the greeting of Mr Fostieri s, Mayor of Amorgos but also from the President of the Cultural Association, Mrs Irene.

Mrs Lila Maragou, Archaeologist and professor at the University of Ioannina, referred to the archaeological evidence of Amorgos through a text from the Archeologist Efpraxia Doulgeri "Superintendent of Byzantine Antiquities of Thessaloniki". A slideshow on Amorgos by the Bulgarian photographer Mr. Boyko Yordanov followed.

The architect and environment historian Mr Vивиanna Metallinou talked about bioclimatic design and traditional construction. Mr. Manolis Lignos, journalist & President of the Cycladic Press Association made a proposal for characterizing the special agricultural settlement of Amorgos, Asfondilitis, as monument of UNESCO

This was followed by a welcome dinner in the restaurant Ambrosia Aegialis Hotel & Spa.

The 2nd day of the Convention, the participants walked from Lagada village to the church of Virgin Mary Epanochoriani to see and follow the icon of Chozoviotissa . On the way they had the opportunity to discover many of the aromatic and medicinal plants of the island. Back to Lagada they visited the traditional house of Irene and Nikos Gavalas . The restaurant of Dimitri Dendrinou offered refreshments and drinks to the participants, while Lakki restaurant offered lunch. The afternoon began with documentaries screenings on the manners and customs of Amorgos during the Easter season , which was shot last year by the Polish television

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producer and director Mr. Jacek Wan. Mr. Elias Provopoulos spoke about the traditional path of Amorgos and Mr. Aris Laopodis, founder and partner of the International Environmental Institute for Hospitality and Tourism NaturCert, talked about Green Tourism“.

Mr. George Vidalis , journalist and writer mentioned in legends and fairy tales of the Cyclades , and the last speech of the second day was from the journalist Katerina Marinakis talking about the traditional costumes of the Cyclades . The day ended with a dinner offer by the tavern 'Chondros ' on the beach Aigialis .

On Saturday, 3rd day of the Convention YPERIA 2008, participants were invited to visit the Monastery of Chozoviotissa, but Monastery and ancient water oracle of St. George Valsamitis , and the Archaeological Museum in Chora. The Restaurant Leonidas organize a demonstration of the traditional pasteli preparation and offered it's place for a buffet lunch offered by Ambrosia Restaurant and Lakki.

After returning to the Hotel, participants could enjoy and relax at LALON IDOR SPA. The afternoon program included a speech by the CEO of the company BIACTIVE on marine biomimicry. A slideshow by the French photographer Mrs Edith Lebon on various architectural styles in Amorgos was presented. The dinner of the participants was offered by " Panorama tavern" in Tholaria .

On Sunday , the participants visited Potamos village and many followed the icon procession back to the Monastery of Chozoviotissa through the "Old Strata" path. The ones who didn't follow the trail had the opportunity to enjoy the breathtaking views from the restaurant " Kamara " with coffee, water and soft drinks . The tavern "To Limani tis Kuria Katina" offered lunch to the participants. In the afternoon , at AEGIALIS HOTEL & SPA took place a cooking and wine tasting demonstratio. Yperia 2008 ended with discussions and a farewell dinner with live traditional music by Stamatis Giannakopoulos and Nicholas Vazaïos. Participants enjoyed once more the traditional food and had a lot of fun and danced a long part of the night at Ambrosia Restaurant in Aegialis Hotel & Spa.

Sincerely,

Irene Giannakopoulos

President of the Cultural Association

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