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GENERAL DIRECTORATE DIRECTORATE OF MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS SECTOR B Management Unit of Samaria National Park & the Protected Areas of Western Crete Tel.: +30 2821045570 E-mail: mdpp.samaria@necca.gov.gr <u>TO:</u>

Whom it may concern

# SUBJECT: INFORMATION ABOUT THE ENTRANCE TICKET IN THE NATIONAL PARK OF SAMARIA

We inform you that according to the Joint Ministerial Decision no.  $Y\Pi EN/\Gamma\Delta\Pi\Pi/26828/406$  (Government Gazette, issue B' 1414/24.03.2022) an entrance ticket in the Samaria National Park, was introduced, which constitutes resources of NECCA, as well as of the adjacent Municipalities.

With the ticket, you contribute significantly to the actions of NECCA for the preservation and management of the protected areas of Greece as well as to the implementation of basic works in the Gorge of Samaria, such as the cleaning-maintenance of the main path, the maintenance & improvement of infrastructure, and the supervision of the area along the main path.

#### **Ticket categories**

The following types of tickets are available: Table 1-Different categories of entrance tickets

Ticket category	Ticket price (€)	Clarification/Proof method
Individual	5,00	
Group> 10 people (for each team member)	4,00	it refers exclusively to the organized group excursions of more than 11 people from clubs or associations, which have a founding statute, such as e.g. mountaineering, cultural or sports clubs, body of Greek scouts, etc. Proof method: with previous submission of list of participants & of the relevant constitution
Family (for each adult and child)	3,00	documentation of the association/club The ticket price is € 3.00 / person for each family member (parents & minor children), as long as they are not included in any of the groups which are excluded from the payment of a fee. See Table 2 below

Entrance ticket for educational purposes	3,00	it refers to excursions for educational purposes for non EU countries, upon presentation / dispatch of the list of participants
Entrance ticket for professionals	20,00	upon presentation of the relevant license & of their ID card or passport
Annual individual	10,00	upon presentation of their ID or passport
Free pass	0,00	See Table 2 below

## Exemptions to ticket payment

The following are not required to pay a ticket:

#### Table 2- Groups of people who are exempted from paying an entrance ticket to the Samaria National Park

	People group	Proof method
1.	Children <18 years of age from EU Member States	Police ID or passport
2.	Adults> 65 years of age from EU Member States	Police ID or passport
3.	Children up to 5 years old from non-EU countries	Passport
4.	Parents & children of large families from Greece until the completion of the 25th year of age of the children	upon presentation of their police ID and a certificate of polytechnic status of the Supreme Confederation of Multi-Child Parents of Greece (ASPE), in force
5.	Students of higher education institutions from EU Member States	Student ID
6.	Accompanying teachers during educational visits of schools & institutions of primary, secondary and higher education from the EU Member States	with previous submission of list of participants
7.	Disabled people and their attendants (up to 2 attendants for each disabled person)	irrespective of the country of origin, upon presentation of their ID card or passport and Disability Certificate issued by the Single Body of Social Insurance (decision of the Disability Certification Center- KEPA) for Greek citizens or similar certificates issued by a corresponding authorised foreign body. <b>ATTENTION:</b> At present, there is no infrastructure within the Gorge of Samaria that supports accessibility for people with disabilities.
8.	Staff of public authorities providing special services (NECCA, Forest Services, Fire Service, Greek Police, Armed Forces, etc.) & professionals operating within the borders of the gorge for the maintenance of facilities & buildings	
9.	Mountain guides & guides certified by the Ministry of Culture and Sports in the context of practicing their profession	upon presentation of their professional ID card
10.	Volunteer rescuers during rescue operations	

11.	The permanent residents of the adjacent Municipalities according to article 5 of Government Gazette issue B '1414/2022	it refers to the permanent residents of the Municipalities of Sfakia, Platanias, Chania & Kantanou-Selinou, upon presentation of their police ID & a copy of a public utility bill, or an official document of a Tax Authority
12.	Researchers who carry out scientific research, including research under Article 11 of Law 3937/2011.	upon presentation of the relevant license & of their ID card or passport.
13.	Those serving their military service	only for Greek citizens, with valid military service identification card.
14.	Volunteers offering services regarding the operation of the gorge	
15.	The group excursions of the Mountaineering Club of Chania	with previous submission of list of participants.
16.	Days of free visit - May 21st, European Natura 2000 Day - June 5th, World Environment Day	for all the visitors

#### Notes:

(1) Regarding the categories "Group> 10 people (for each team member)" as well as "Entrance ticket for educational purposes", it is clarified that it will not be possible to use simultaneously the right to exemption from the payment of a ticket that may have one of the individuals of the group participating in the excursion.

(2) The entrance fee is the same regardless if you wish to hike the whole route or only for a few kilometers.

(3) In case you have issued a reduced ticket of any category, you are kindly reminded to keep the relevant evidence / documents with you, otherwise, in case of control, you will be charged with fine corresponding to ten times the price of the corresponding ticket.

#### How to buy your ticket

You may obtain your ticket with the following ways:

## **On-line**

The relevant website is under construction. An update information will be released in <u>www.samaria.gr</u>, and facebook: @samaria.gr, upon completion.

## At the entrance of the Gorge of Samaria

You can buy your ticket from the two entrances of the gorge (Xyloskalo Omalou & Agia Roumeli), upon your arrival there.

## Checkpoints

It is important to keep, apart from your ticket and any certification documents, the additional ticket that will be given to you when you enter the gorge, in order to be checked at the exit. This is done for the safety of the visitors - to monitor how many people have entered and exited the Gorge each day. The checkpoints are at the two entrances (Xyloskalo and Agia Roumeli).

## THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT

## **Antonios Barnias**