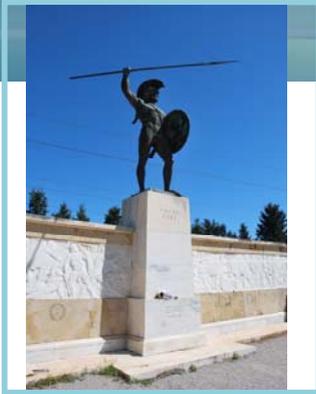


BIOTOURISM IN SOUTHEASTERN PHTHIOTIS

MEET THE BIRTHPLACE OF HOLLYWOOD'S '300' AND THE 'RISE OF AN EMPIRE'



Hollywood inspired by ancient history and myths in SE Phthiotis

- *300*
- *Immortals*
- *Wrath of the Titans*
- *300: Rise of an Empire (upcoming)*

Mythological themes are an inseparable part of nature and culture throughout the Greek land. Following in the footsteps of the gods and heroes – those of Apollo, Artemis, Heracles, Deucalion and Pyrrha, Amphictyon, Achilles, Ajax – travelers will discover unsurpassed natural beauty and an infinitude of historical monuments that make up the colorful mosaic of Southeastern Phthiotis.

A new cinematic hot spot

What do the movies 300, Immortals, the Wrath of the Titans, The Legend of Hercules, and the Rise of an Empire have in common?

They all feature gods, demigods and mortal heroes, myths and universal truths woven into the fabric of Southeastern Phthiotis, whose every nook and cranny brims with archaeological treasures.

#Titanomachy – Mt. Othrys is a mythical mountain, both imposing and beautiful. The site chosen by **Zeus** and the **Titans** for their battles. The Titans stood amongst a group of deities who opposed Zeus and the other Olympian gods during their rise to power. On the slopes of Mt. Othrys, the Titans fought Zeus and the other gods by breaking off and tossing massive monoliths at Mt. Olympus.

#Hellene – son of **Deucalion and Pyrrha**, was born and raised on Mt. Othrys. He mated with the nymph Othrys and their descendents, the Hellenes, gave rise to the Greek people. In Mt. Othrys, Deucalion and Pyrrha left their vessel after the great flood and bore Hellene, the first of the Greek people.

#Thermopylae – In 480 BCE, **King Leonidas of Sparta** led the Greek forces against the vast, southward-advancing Persian army. After three days of holding their own, the Greeks were betrayed by Ephialtes, and the Persians were able to outflank them. Sending the main army in retreat, Leonidas and a contingent of 300 men remained behind to resist the advance and were killed to the last man.

#Achilles – The copper mines of SE Phthiotis are referenced in ancient mythology as the sources for the weapons of **Achilles**. Today, visitors can still see the remnants of copper slag and the mining shafts for copper ore. In The historic Castle of Narthakion, a major acropolis of ancient Fthia, a royal tomb is believed to be that of Achilles or his father, Peleus.

A new cinematic hot spot?

Southeastern Phthiotis is blessed with breathtaking landscapes and a wealth of natural resources, attracting human settlement since the beginning of time. Ancient mines, citadels, olive groves and vineyards are still present today, baring testament to integral historical and cultural connections. Let us approach this land as seekers and pilgrims, and let us become initiated into a time honored course of human heritage.

For more information visit

[http://biopolitics.gr/biowp/wp-content/phthiotis/e-](http://biopolitics.gr/biowp/wp-content/phthiotis/e-book/index.html)

[book/index.html](http://biopolitics.gr/biowp/wp-content/phthiotis/e-book/index.html) and download a free copy of the Biotourism Guide and Map of SE Phthiotis



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