

Chrysallis is a silk friends' association based in Soufli with a vision to preserve and disseminate silk and traditional weaving and handicrafts.

All the projects undertaken by Chrysallis are proof of the active interest of the local community in what their ancestors served for years and made Soufli an important node on the "Silk Road".

The Chrysallis society has established rich cultural events, the highlight being the **Silk Festival** which has been organized for 15 years now with a plethora of events: symposiums on silk and sericulture, concerts, outdoor screenings, photography exhibitions, and competitions for young designers inspired by the rich textile tradition.

Our association, with the undivided support of younger and older Suflians, collected a number of valuable weavings - mainly silk - which it managed to appropriately preserve. It has also gathered tools, looms and equipment traditionally used in the production and weaving of silk.





CHRYSALLIS

Association of Friends of Silk based in Soufli, Greece est. 1999

CHRYSALLIS - is an insect at the stage of development when it is like a worm protected by a hard cover, before it becomes a moth or butterfly

CONTACT US

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BEYOND THE BORDERS

Chrysallis has developed partnerships with fashion schools in Greece and internationally by operating weaving classes for beginners and advanced weavers, as well as for students from art schools. It has collaborated and continues to work with the Department of Fine Arts at Konstfack University in Stockholm and the Department of Fine Arts at the University of Athens.

Students from both universities came together in Soufli and found inspiration in it. Their created artworks were later exhibited in Athens at the **Michael Cacoyanni Foundation** in 2022.

In collaboration with the World Tourism Organisation and the Regional Government of Eastern Macedonia & Thrace, Chrysallis successfully organised the 1st Western Silk Roads workshop.

It has also been our pleasure to have contributed to the opening of a **Public Vocational Training Institute for Sericulture** in our town.

The establishment of the school implies great significance for us and our region as well as for the young sericulturists who will acquire substantial and technical qualifications to face the challenges and claim an important position in the global market.

REGESERI 2023

Our association is the embodiment of the spirit and history of our land. Soufli is not only the birthplace of silk but also a milestone in the history of the **Road of Silk**. After years of preparation and small steps, the time has come for us to be reborn and redefine what we know about our craft. In getting to know **BACSA** we came alongside people who share the same passion, ideas and knowledge about the science of sericulture and silk making. In partnership with them, we wish to invite you all to this celebration event for us, our science and our place!

We are delighted to welcome, this April, the **10th BACSA International Conference - REGESERI 2023**, in Soufli. The city of silk. Our home!

The convention will be held under the umbrella topic "Regeneration of sericultural industries in the 21st century" and will take place from the 24th until the 27th of April 2023.

In this respect, the Conference Organising Committee would appreciate presenting contributions on the main Conference topic as well as country reports, science and technology papers in the field of silkworms, cocoon and silk production, pathology, breeding and bacology, using silkworm and mulberry for non-textile purposes, post-cocoon technologies, silk enterprise and trade.

Exhibition sessions will also be organized for equipment/tools and sericultural products.



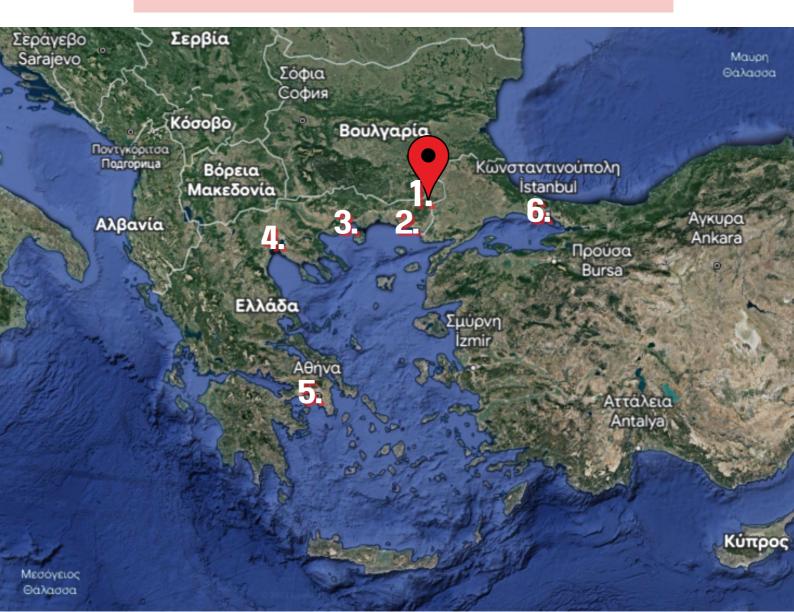
A PIN IN THE MAP

Soufli (Greek: Σουφλί) is a town in the Evros regional unit of Greece. The town stands on the eastern slope of the twin hill of Prophet Elias, one of the easternmost spurs on the Rhodope Mountains. It is situated in the centre of the Evros regional unit, 65 km north of Alexandroupolis and 50 km southwest of Orestiada, on Greek National Road 51/E85 which links Alexandroupolis with Edirne and the Bulgarian borders at Ormenio. The town centre is only 500m from the Evros River. Soufli is the seat of the municipality of Soufli.

The town is approximately 210 km away from Kavala (with the second nearest international airport) and 370 km from Thessaloniki. Istanbul is approximately 290 km away.

- 1. SOUFLI
- 2. ALEXANDROUPOLIS
 3. KAVALA

- 4. THESSALONIKI
- **5. ATHENS**
- **6. ISTANBUL (TURKEY)**



ACCESSIBILITY

The organising committee <u>does not</u> undertake accommodation coverage. All conference participants are requested to **make the hotel reservations by themselves** and to indicate the hotel in the registration form or via email once they have confirmed it. The recommended hotels are all located near the conference venues and transfer from/to them will be provided for the days of the event.

Since the event dates are from April 24th until April 27th, we expect you to arrive on the 22nd or the 23rd and depart on the 28th. If this is not possible, please contact Ms Kasapidou via telephone (+30) 6981977864 or email at bacsagr2023@gmail.com for administrative convenience.

Before booking any tickets, please check the travel regulations regarding Covid-19. Also make sure you have valid travel documents for the entire duration of your stay, such as passports, valid travel insurance and a Visa.

We are able to provide invitation letters for work and travel purposes upon request. For this purpose please contact Ms Sofia Kasapidou via email at bacsagr2023@gmail.com

BY PLANE

There are various airports in and around Greece. Below, you can find a short travel description for the easiest/most popular airports.

Athens International Airport "Eleftherios Venizelos" (ATH)

You can use Athens as a connection stop and fly from the greek capital to **Alexandroupolis** ("**Dimokritos**" **Airport - AXD**) the nearest airport to Soufli. When exiting the airport, you can take the city bus and get to the city centre. Please be aware that buses do not usually accept cards.

<u>Transfers from the Alexandroupolis' city centre, as well as its airport for the recommended hotels and Soufli, are scheduled for the 22nd and 23rd of April.</u>

Thessaloniki International Airport "Makedonia" (SKG)

You can fly to Thessaloniki from 28 countries. When exiting the airport, you can take the city bus and get to the city centre. Please be aware that tickets can be purchased from the ticket office next to the bus stop.

<u>Transfers from Thessaloniki's airport for the recommended hotels and Soufliare scheduled for the 23rd of April.</u>

ACCESSIBILITY

Kavala International Airport "Alexander the Great" (KVA)

You can fly directly to Kavala from 3 central European countries or many more with a connecting flight.

<u>Transfers from Kavala's airport for the recommended hotels and Soufli are scheduled for the 23rd of April.</u>

Istanbul International Airports (IST) & Sabiha Gokcen Airport (SAW)

You can use Istanbul as a connecting destination and transfer from the Turkish capital to Alexandroupolis via bus. There is no direct transfer option between Istanbul and Soufli, so we recommend that you spend the night in the nearest big city (Alexandroupolis) for your own convenience.

There are a few travel agencies (both Greek and Turkish) that have daily bus routes which you can contact and make a reservation.

<u>Transfers from the Alexandroupolis' city centre, as well as its airport for the recommended hotels and Soufli, are scheduled for the 22nd and 23rd of April.</u>

Transfers from Alexandroupolis' city centre and airport are scheduled for the 22nd and 23rd of April.

Transfers from Thessaloniki's and Kavala's airports are scheduled for the 23rd of April.

An additional transfer from Istanbul may be added in the event of high demand. In that occasion please let us know beforehand.



BACSA x Chrysallis

We are waiting for you!

ΣΑΣ ΠΕΡΙΜΕΝΟΥΜΕ!

REGESERI 2023



