



# NEWSLETTER

16<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD IN INFORMATICS [www.ioi2004.org](http://www.ioi2004.org)

## SCHEDULE

### contestants

8:30 Transportation to Cruise parking lot

9:30 Cruise to Saronikos Aegina & Hydra

Late afternoon - Return to IOI Village

### leaders

8:30 Transportation to Cruise parking lot

9:30 Cruise to Saronikos Aegina & Hydra

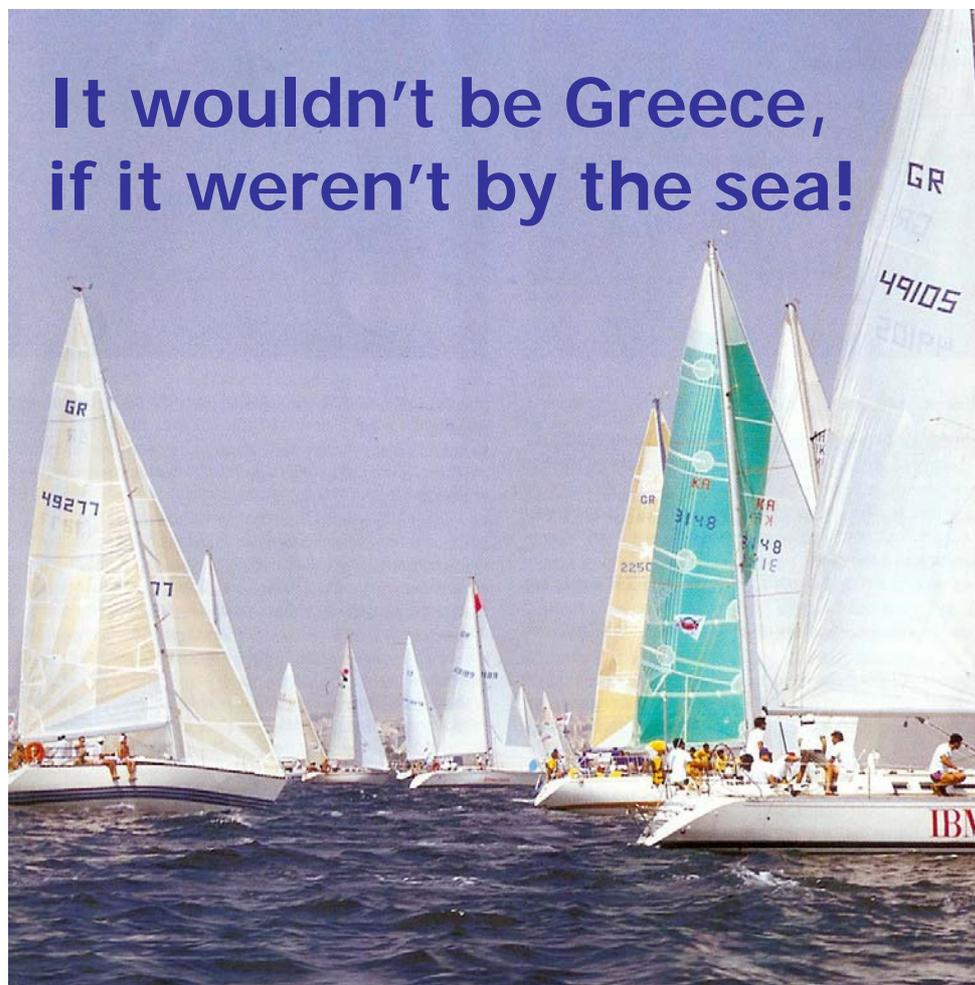
Late afternoon - Return to IOI

### guests

8:30 Transportation to Cruise parking lot

9:30 Cruise to Saronikos Aegina & Hydra

Late afternoon - Return to IOI



## Question of the day to...

**Prof. Krzysztof Diks,  
Chairman of the IOI 2005**



*What are your expectations for the next International Olympiad in Informatics you are going to organize in Poland?*

The next International Olympiad in Informatics will take place in Poland, from August 18 till August 25, 2005. I expect IOI 2005 to be as good as its predecessors. I hope that every IOI 2005 participant will discover Poland as a country with friendly people and interesting places to see. Moreover, I promise to them that the contest itself will be really exciting and very challenging.

**Do zobaczenia w Polsce**  
See you in Poland!

Today is a day of rest, after all your hard effort during the two contests. Your trip to Aegina and Hydra, two of the most beautiful and picturesque Greek islands that are not very far away from Athens, will be your just reward. Aegina, the first island you' ll visit, is such a colorful and quiet place, while Hydra –the second- is rocky yet so beautiful – much more about them, overleaf. Walk around the town, explore every small street or sandy beach, buy some traditional souvenirs to take back home and enjoy yourselves as much as you can.

**PS. No, we're afraid that you travel by ferry-boat, not a sail-boat...**

**Tips for the day: Take a hat with you, protect yourself from the sun, drink plenty of water**

## A fun filled day



Yesterday was a night to remember for adults and youths alike. The first enjoyed themselves at an *ouzo* party, which took place just beside the restaurant, in IOI village. The very popular among Greeks aromatic drink (occasionally supplemented by beer as well as other, stronger spirits...) proved to be a first class stimulant for our guests, who –with some of the guides as their... guides- soon learned the first steps of *syrtaki* and *zeibekiko* the band played. A few hours earlier the contestants had amused themselves in a big fun park, doing all lots of... you know better what you did. At least you enjoyed yourselves...



## PROFILES



The Greek government attaches a particular importance to promoting the information society in Greece. It considers that new information and communication technologies constitute an essential tool for an open and effective government and for improved competitiveness.

They create new ways to work, new skills and the need for continuous learning and adaptation of the education system.

At the same time they allow for a better quality of life with the provision of improved health, transport and environmental services, and contribute to the promotion of cultural heritage and of the Greek language.

The government's concern is to ensure that the emerging information Society will be a society for all, without discrimination between information haves and have-nots, safeguarding citizen's rights and the freedom of expression and information.

With the aim of promoting the IS in a coherent and integrated manner, a separate Operational Programme for the Information Society (OPIS) is proposed in the framework of the current CSF.

**VIVA MEXICO**  
and  
**Shanah Tovah**

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# Hydra: rocky, but beautiful

An island that has become a world-famous tourist destination in the last few years, Hydra is a place that gathers all kinds of people, among them many famous Greek and foreign stars. In the little streets of the island, no cars are allowed. You can visit the island and admire its true beauty only by foot.

Hydra has a quite remarkable nautical culture and was one of the first Greek islands to start the revolution against the Turks, in 1821. The history of the island is proven by the large mansions scattered around the island, owned by famous captains turned revolutionaries, such as Kountouriotis, Tobazis, Miaoulis, and Kriezis, which fought many famous naval fights.

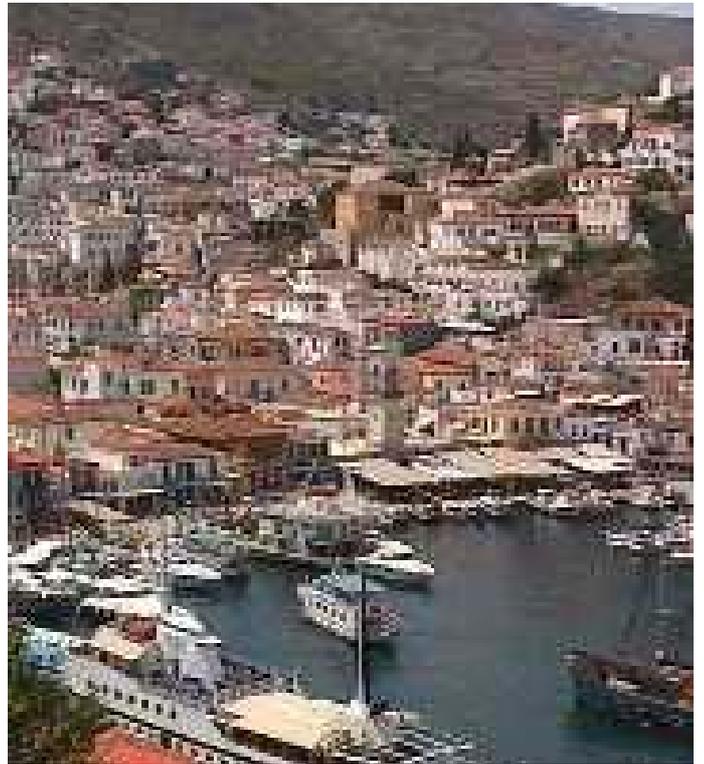
The island offers many hotels and rented rooms that try to meet the demands of the increasingly fast developing tourist industry. It offers many beautiful beaches away from the main town, the most famous being Vliho, Mandraki and Molo. They can be reached by boat, but beaches are not the only attractions on Hydra - there are also many other sites to see, such as the historical museum in the main town, monasteries and churches.

Hydra covers an area of 56 square Kilometers and has a population of 2,373. It lies 37 nautical miles away from Piraeus. It is an ideal place for high quality vacation. The old ship cannons in the central square still guard over the historic port and town.

Picturesque, aristocratic, traditional, beloved of artists and art lovers, best preserved of the islands in the Saronikos Gulf, Hydra is considered the perfect place for trendy art weekends.

Its stone mansions and cobbled lanes have inspired writers, painters and directors, and still do. Artists and art lovers have bought houses here or come regularly to stay in its tiny private hotels. In the 1960s, popularized by Sophia Loren and "The Boy and the Dolphin", it became the "in" place for the international jet set. Leonard Cohen (still a frequent visitor) wrote some of his superb ballads here, and artists like Chatzikyriakos-Ghikas, Tsoklis, Kounelis and Tetsis, who had or still have houses and studios on the island, recorded it endlessly on their canvases.

Emblems of the great shipping wealth and cosmopolitan society of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Hydra's mansions will again and again stop you in your tracks and look up, as you stroll along the waterfront or through the cobbled lanes winding up the hill.





# Aegina: a symphony in colors

The first island you will set your foot on, is Aegina. A dazzling tourist island, it is located in the Saronic Gulf at a very small distance from the port of Piraeus and it covers an 84 sq. km area. You can reach Aegina via ferry boat (about 1 1/2 hours) or flying dolphin within 35 min. from the port of Piraeus.



Entering the port, the visitor faces the whitewashed church of Agios Nikolaos surrounded by many neoclassical houses with yellow and pink facades, the sacred churches with the blue domes, the stone paved alleys, the traditional small shops and coffee houses and the scenic horse-carriages. Here you will taste the famous local pistachio nuts and enjoy fresh fish and seafood in the taverns scattered all around.



In addition to many archeological findings, Aegina has a history of its own, in modern times too, because for a few weeks it was the capital of the Greek State, when it was first taking shape, following the revolution against the Ottoman Empire. The archeological and folklore museum, Kapralo's art and sculpture museum are sites one should definitely visit. The spectacular temple of Afaia, the sanctuary of Ellanios Zeus and the Monastery of the patron saint Agios Nektarios are very remarkable sites, too.

The coastal village of Agia Marina with the homonymous church is a settlement that attracts many visitors, due to its wonderful organized beach and the famous sites. You may also visit the lovely beaches of Marathonas and Aeginitissa, as well as the coastal village of Souvala and the fishing villages of Perdika and Vaia which feature endless sandy beaches with crystal clear waters.



Apart from the homonymous town, Aegina also has many settlements outspread all over the island, offering amazing natural sites and dotted with unique insular mentality. The old capital of the island, Paleohora, a ruined town featuring 28 churches full of wall paintings as well as a ruined medieval castle are creating a mysterious atmosphere in the area that enchants the visitor.

Although you're not staying there for the night, Aegina is also famous for its outstanding night life. Innumerable cafeterias, bars, restaurants and night clubs satisfying every age and taste are situated in the capital, but also in the neighboring villages. During the day visitors can swim, enjoy the sea sports or eat at taverns situated almost on the seashore.