



Thessaloniki is the second largest city of Greece. It is the capital of Central Macedonia and the head of Decentralized Administration of Macedonia and Thrace. The population of the city is currently estimated at 788,952 inhabitants.



The **Castles and the Walls** of Thessaloniki were created in ancient times, as it was necessary to fortify the city. It is believed that they date back to the founding of the city. The castles took their final form during the time of Theodosius the Great (379-395). The Acropolis was erected in ancient times on the city's highest point.



The **Church of Agios Dimitrios** is dedicated to the memory of Dimitrios, the martyr and patron saint of the city. It was first built in 313 AD, destroyed from the fire of 612 and rebuilt and preserved until 1917 when it was completely destroyed during the Fire of 1917. Its restoration began in 1926 and was completed in 1948.



Aristotelous Square was built in 1917 and it's the only part of the city where the urban plan of French architect Ernst Hébrard was implemented. The two landmark buildings in the square, "Olympion" and "Electra" were built in the 50s and 60s. Today, Aristotelous Square is lined with different kinds of shops, banks, and several café bars.



The **Archaeological Museum** of Thessaloniki highlights various aspects of the culture which developed in Macedonia, particularly in Thessaloniki area. Five thematic exhibits comprise the permanent collections within the museum. They depict Thessaloniki's history starting from 200,000 years ago until the Archaic and Classic periods.