



NEWSFLASH JUNE 2021

GREECE, THE GUEST COUNTRY OF HONOUR AT THE GRAND PAVOIS LA ROCHELLE 2021

Remember:

- **Greece, the guest country of honour at the Grand Pavois La Rochelle 2021,**
- **A leading tourist destination where the sea is ever-present,**
- **Water sport professionals come together to promote the amazing maritime, historical and cultural treasure.**
- **Many exhibitors ready to welcome you and help you prepare your Greek adventure.**

A leading tourist destination, Greece is renowned for its stunning mountain landscapes, its natural wonders, its infinite coastline and its large and small islands, famous around the world for their **unequaled beauty.**

So why has Greece, a country of born sailors, not been guest country of honour at the Grand Pavois La Rochelle before now? This matter will be settled from Tuesday 28 September to Sunday 3 October, when this country, which has no point on land further than 100 kilometres from the coast, will be in the spotlight at the reference show for enthusiasts. It has to be said that **the sea is everywhere, whether the Ionian Sea or the Aegean Sea.** An amazing maritime area since there are estimated to be 6,000 large and small islands filled with a variety of colours and fragrances, villages with lime-washed walls, bewitching historic remains, and churches with vivid blue roofs. And what about the country's amazing **maritime history,** the tribulations of Ulysses, Greece's supremacy over the entire Mediterranean region as a thalassocracy or a true political power founded on the domination of the sea, not to mention Thalassa, the daughter of Aether and Hemera, a divinity who embodied the sea and more specifically the Mediterranean. Yes, Greece is truly blessed by the Gods, all the Gods!

And in addition to the sea and the sun, **Greece is a cultural and political melting pot,** a place where ideas, customs, languages, knowledge and people from South-eastern Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean have come together since Antiquity. There is also its music, songs, costumes and customs, not to mention its gastronomy, with a history spanning almost 4,000 years that owes its special characteristics to the pure and unique quality products from its land. Yes, the Grand Pavois La Rochelle is delighted to welcome Greece, its treasures, its culture, its gastronomy, its sunshine, its turquoise waters and its eternal blue sky. Thank you for being here with us, thank you for presenting your country to us where time has a different meaning, where the world is infinitely blue!

Dimitris Fragakis, Secretary General of the Greek National Tourist Office:

"It is a great pleasure for Greece to be the guest country of honour at the Grand Pavois La Rochelle 2021. The inseparable relationship between Greece and the sea is reflected in our long and glorious history, our traditions, and also our modern way of life. Throughout the show, the Greek National Tourist Office will propose a rich programme of events for young people and all our visitors, and will

present the different themes of Greek maritime tourism and some new unexplored destinations. Because all you want is Greece!"

For further information on Greece: <https://www.info-grece.com/>; <https://www.visitgreece.gr/>

Copyright free photos: Kavala and Lipsi

What you need to remember ...

Name: The Grand Pavois La Rochelle, the show for real fans!

The venue: Port des Minimes in La Rochelle

The 2021 dates: Tuesday 28 September to Sunday 3 October from 10 am to 7 pm

Patron of the 49th edition: Yannick Bestaven, winner of the 2020/21 Vendée Globe

Guest country of honour of the 49th edition: Greece

Area: 100,000 m²

Exhibitors: 700 international brands the expected

Boats on show: 600 boats on show, including 300 in-water expected

Number of visitors: 60,000 visitors expected

High-definition photographs, free of copyright: Press Space www.grand-pavois.com

GRAND PAVOIS ORGANISATION, THE CREATOR OF WATER SPORT EVENTS!

GPO places its tailored expertise, know-how and unique experience in France and overseas at the service of water sports events. GPO has a real connection with the professional world of international water sports in view of its status as an association and its recognised expertise in the world of water sports events (ocean racing, corporate events, organisation of shows, etc.).

References: organiser of the international in-water boat show the "Grand Pavois La Rochelle" since 1973 (top five international in-water boat shows), Aix-Marseille-Provence Urban Community's in-water boat show "Les Nauticales" in La Ciotat (France, from 2013 to 2020), Rallye des Iles du Soleil (since 2017), Défi Atlantique Guadeloupe/La Rochelle (2019 and 2023), Shenzhen China International Boat Show (China, from 2009 to 2011), Transat 6,50 Charente-Maritime/Bahia from 2001 to 2011, Imoca 60 Macif launches (2011), Class40 Le Conservateur (2014), etc.

Further information: www.gpoevents.com

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