



**HELLENIC INSTITUTE  
OF MARINE ARCHAEOLOGY**

# **SECONDMENTS ORIENTATION GUIDE**



**Funded by  
the European Union**



# Blue Culture Technology Excellence Hubs in EU widening countries - BCThubs

BCThubs aims to establish hubs in Malta, Greece, and Bulgaria as well as other future participating countries to provide cutting-edge scientific and innovative solutions and products in areas of sustainable Blue Economy and Culture.

BCThubs is an EU funded project awarded through the European Union's Horizon 2021-2027 Research and Innovation Programme under the HORIZON-WIDERA-2022-ACCESS-04-01 (Excellence Hubs). This project has a duration of four years (2023-2026) and is led by a consortium involving 15 partners which have joined forces to provide and support new solutions and products for the sustainable protection, restoration, valorisation, management, and promotion of Underwater Cultural Heritage (UWCH).

For the Greek Hub the participating partners are:

- The Regional Development Fund of Thessaly (RoT)
- The University of Thessaly (UoT)
- The Center for Research and Technology (CERTH)
- The Skopelos Dive Center (SDC)
- The Hellenic Institute of Marine Archaeology (H.I.M.A.)
- "ATLANTIS" Consulting S.A. (ATL)



**CERTH**  
CENTRE FOR  
RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY  
HELLAS

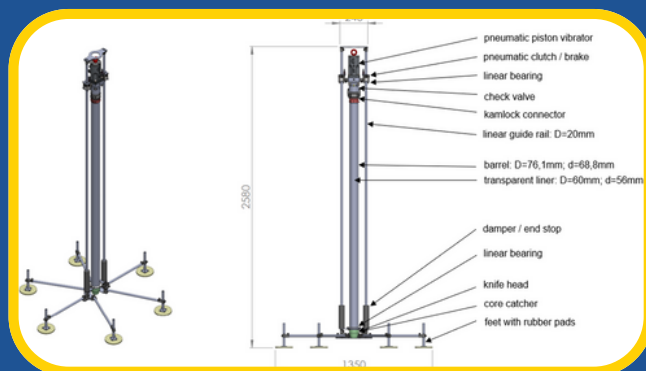
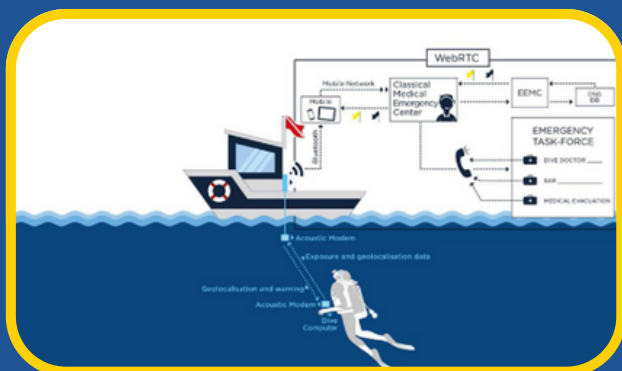
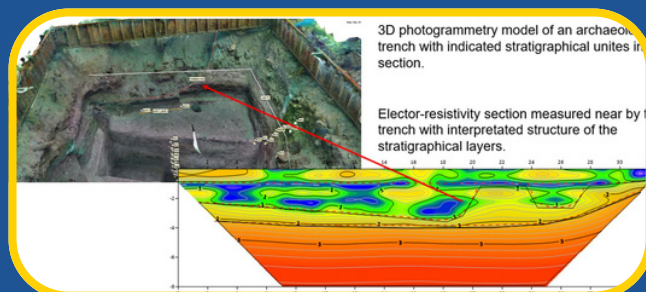




The established Hubs will:

- Increase promotion and public accessibility of UWCH through Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR) and other remote sensing technologies.
- Develop technology to better safeguard and protect UWCH assets.
- Increase health and safety of divers through physiological monitoring.
- Provide cost-effective and time-efficient solutions for UWCH research services, monitoring, preservation, and data collection.
- Create innovative sensing capabilities.

These regionally developed ecosystems will be connected across the EU to bring together actors related to Blue Culture Technologies and Underwater Cultural Heritage (UWCH) including those in research and academia, business, the public sector as well as societal actors using a 4-helix approach.





## Secondments & good practices exchange

BCThubs project, aiming at facilitating knowledge transfer and skills acquisition in the fields of blue technologies, underwater archaeology and diving training, is going to organize secondments to take place in the Blue Cultural Technology Hubs in Malta, Greece and Bulgaria.

The goal is for the 4-helix stakeholders (i.e. research/academia and industry/NGO organizations and individuals) to share experience and transfer knowledge within and among the 3 Hubs. Each secondment can last 2 weeks, and the participating organizations can both send and receive secondees.

### Importance and Purposes of Secondments:

- Technology and knowledge transfer
- Good practices exchange
- Expertise exchange
- Networking
- Cross-fertilization of knowledge
- Long term collaborative links
- New business opportunities
- Hands on learning experiences
- Entrepreneurial skills
- Promotion and protection of Blue Culture UWCH





## Hellenic Institute of Marine Archaeology - H.I.M.A.

The Hellenic Institute of Marine Archaeology (H.I.M.A.) was founded in 1973. H.I.M.A. is a private non-profit scientific body, which aims to conduct and promote underwater archaeological research in Greece, in tandem with the difficult task undertaken by the Hellenic Archaeological Service. From 1973 to 1976, when the Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities was founded, H.I.M.A. acted as an official consultant of the Ministry of Culture in matters regarding underwater archaeology. The Institute has been financially supported by significant organizations in Greece and abroad, and has managed several grants by European research programs, state bodies, private non-profit foundations, companies and individuals.

In its 50 years of activity, H.I.M.A. has conducted seven large-scale underwater field projects, which involved both survey and excavation procedures, study and dissemination of UCH sites. For the large scale systematic underwater excavations of Dokos (1989-1992) and Iria (1991-1994) as well as the underwater archaeological survey of the South Euboean Gulf (2006-2016), see H.I.M.A.'s website ([www.ienae.gr](http://www.ienae.gr)). Today, the Institute is engaged in three ongoing underwater research projects in the Argosaronic Gulf, the Pagasetikos Gulf and the island of Salamis. These are achievements mainly due to the important scientific work undertaken by the Institute, its organizational adequacy and the advanced professional qualifications of its members who work on a voluntarily basis.





During H.I.M.A.'s 50 year active presence in underwater archaeology, approximately 500 members have been registered and worked voluntarily on its projects. In addition, numerous leading foreign scientists and researchers in the field of maritime and nautical archaeology have been corresponding members of the Institute throughout the years. The lack of university education in maritime archaeology in Greece, until recently, made H.I.M.A. the principal source of support, nationally, for training young researchers in the field. Through field surveys, educational programs and seminars/conferences organized by H.I.M.A., many archaeologists, scientists from various disciplines and technical experts in maritime and nautical archaeology have been trained.

Aiming at scientific documentation and outreach to both the scientific community and the public, H.I.M.A. has been publishing since 1989 the journal ENALIA, the only scientific journal specialized in maritime archaeology in Greece, and among the few worldwide. In addition, the Institute has organized exhibitions and events to raise public awareness on the promotion and protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage.





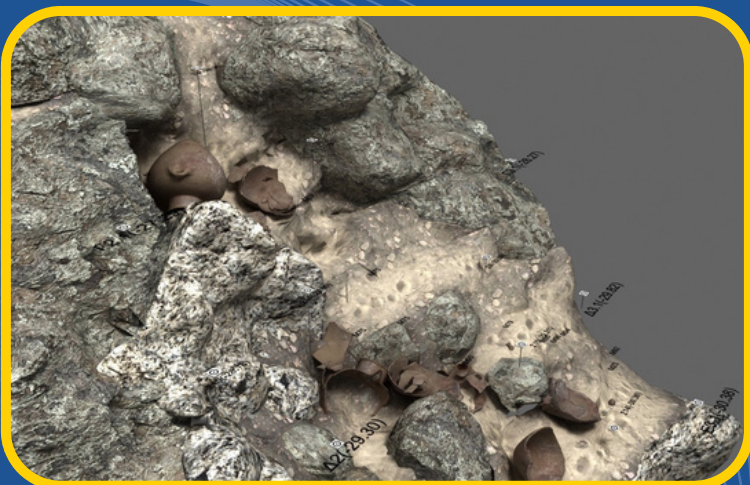


## H.I.M.A.'s Argosaronic Gulf Project

The Argosaronic Gulf, located in the western Aegean Sea near Athens, is a historically rich and geographically sheltered body of water surrounded by the Attica peninsula and the northeastern Peloponnese. Dotted with islands such as Aegina, Poros, Hydra, and Salamis, the gulf has played a vital role in Greek maritime history since antiquity, serving as a key route for trade, naval warfare, and cultural exchange.

Since 2000, underwater archaeological research has been conducted in the Argosaronic Gulf under the direction of archaeologist Christos S. Agouridis. The main focus is a Late Mycenaean shipwreck (13th/12th century BC) off the islet of Modi, which has been excavated since 2009. Twelve out of sixteen sectors have been explored, yielding 192 ceramic vessels and over 700 other artifacts, offering valuable insight into the final phase of the Mycenaean era. The ship's cargo mainly includes pithoid jars and hydriae, along with smaller items that may have belonged to the crew. Excavation is challenging due to the steep, rocky seabed.





Furthermore, as part of the systematic survey, two shipwrecks from the early Byzantine period (6th–7th century AD) have been located near the islets of Korakia (Spetses) and Vlychos (Hydra). Since 2015, the research has also extended to the eastern coast of Poros (from Cape Acherdo in the north, to Cape Kokoreli in the east, and to the Bay of Zoodochos Pigi in the south).

In the 2015 and 2017 surveys, three shipwrecks were identified at Cape Vassilis, dating to the Classical (5th/4th century BC), Roman (2nd/1st century BC), and Late Byzantine periods (13th/14th century AD). In 2019, a significant shipwreck from the 1st century BC was discovered at the islet of Stavronisi (south of Hydra), at a depth of -55m, containing hundreds of pointed amphorae from Kos.





At the same time, geo-archaeological research is being conducted in the marine area around Modi and other locations in collaboration with researchers from the Laboratory of Marine Geology and Physical Oceanography at the University of Patras, aiming at a detailed investigation of the seabed and the reconstruction of the region's paleogeography.





## Location of H.I.M.A.'s Secondments

The secondments will take place during HIMA's fieldwork period at the Argosaronic Gulf. Theoretical sessions will take place at Odyssey Eco Farm Glamping in Galatas Troizinia (<https://odysseyecoglamping.com>), while fieldwork and hands on activities will be conducted on the eastern part of Poros and/or along the coast of Modi islet.





## What Skills will Secondee(s) acquire joining H.I.M.A.

The secondees will participate in the activities of HIMA's team on site and will gain theoretical and practical experience on:

- ▶ Underwater photography and video in UWCH
- ▶ Underwater survey (geolocalization, mapping, photogrammetry, 2D and 3D documentation)
- ▶ Underwater conservation
- ▶ Diving field operation planning
- ▶ Underwater archaeological research (planning and management)
- ▶ Underwater archaeological excavation/survey
- ▶ Underwater technologies operation





# Pre-Departure Preparations



## Diving Certifications (to be sent before arrival):

Minimum qualification is Advanced Open Water. Preferred diving qualification is Nitrox Advanced (otherwise please specify what certification you have so we can organize our dive plan accordingly).



## Health and Safety (to be sent before arrival):

- Diving insurance e.g. DAN Sport Silver plan.
- A valid (one-year) Diver Medical Certification from an authorized doctor.



# Work Plan and Responsibilities



**Period of Secondments:** One week, from 15 to 30<sup>th</sup> October

Note: The dates will be finalized on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September, in order to be able to acquire a more precise weather forecast.



**Working hours:** Approximately 9:30–18:00. Working hours as well as location might change according to weather conditions.



**Reporting:** On daily basis, secondees(s) should fill in a Daily Report as well as their Diver Logbook. At the end of the secondment, the secondees(s) will be asked to complete an Evaluation Report. This report will give the opportunity for the secondees(s) to reflect on their experience, share feedback and assess the effectiveness of the exchange, contributing to the continual improvement of the project. Reporting docs are available [here](#). Printouts will be provided upon arrival.



**Diving equipment:** Secondees(s) need to have with them a diving suit, a mask and fins. It is recommended to also bring along the rest of their own diving equipment but, if not, H.I.M.A. has spare equipment that they can borrow. Tanks and weights will be provided by H.I.M.A.



**Official spoken languages:** Greek, English.



# General information



## Arrival in Greece

Main airport: Athens International Airport (ATH) – Eleftherios Venizelos.

### Option 1: All-Land Route (via Intercity Bus).

#### a. From Airport to Kifisos Bus Terminal (KTEL Attikis)

- **Taxi** (Duration: ~35–45 min, €35–45).
- **Metro Line 3** to “Monastiraki” → change to Line 1 (green) → stop at “Kifisos” or take a taxi for the last bit.
- **Bus X93.** Buses depart approximately every ~30–40 min. Duration: ~1 hour.

#### b. Intercity Bus to Galatas

- Take the **KTEL Argolida bus** from Kifisos Terminal. Duration: ~3 hours. Website: [www.ktelargolida.gr](http://www.ktelargolida.gr).

### Option 2: Land & Sea Route (via Ferry to Poros).

#### a. From Airport to Piraeus Port

- **Bus X96 (direct, 24/7)** Departs from Arrivals Level, exits 4–5. Duration: ~1–1.5 hours. Fare: €5.50–€6.
- **Metro Line 3 (Blue Line)** Direct train to Piraeus station (final stop). Duration: ~60 min. Fare: €9.

#### b. Ferry from Piraeus to Poros

- Take a **high-speed ferry** to Poros island. Duration: ~1 to 1.5 hours. Ferry schedules & tickets: [www.hellenicseaways.gr](http://www.hellenicseaways.gr)

#### c. From Poros to Galatas

- **Ferry Boat:** Runs every ~30 minutes from the main port front. Duration: ~5–10 minutes. Fare: €1.50.
- **Sea Taxi:** Available 24/7, from port or by phone. Duration: ~4 minutes. Fare: €5–6 per boat (ideal for 2–4 people sharing).





## Meals

Food and beverages are not covered by H.I.M.A. However, secondees are more than welcome to join H.I.M.A.'s team for dinner at a local restaurant with a discounted price. Galatas and Poros offer many meat and fish restaurant options. Please inform us about any food allergies and dietary requirements you might have, before arrival.



## Accommodation (is not provided by H.I.M.A.)

H.I.M.A.'s team will be staying at the "Odyssey Eco Farm Glamping" at Galatas <https://odysseyecoglamping.com>. You can book a tent or room there through us. If you wish to do so, please inform us by mid September.

Other options in Galatas are:

- Carpe Diem <https://carpediemgalatas.gr>
- Hotel Papasotiriou <https://papasotiriou.atticatophotels.com>
- Bissias Rooms <https://www.bissias-poros.gr>

There are a lot more options on the island of Poros but that requires a crossing over to Galatas with the ferry boat (they run usually every half an hour, ticket price: 1,50 euro) or a sea taxi (they run 24/7).



## Practical information



**Currency:** Euro (€)



**Electricity:** 230V, European plug type (Type C and F) – no adaptors needed for EU residents.



**Weather Conditions:** The weather in October can be unpredictable. It can be warm and sunny or windy, chilly and occasionally rainy. Bring light clothing, sunscreen, and hat as well as some warmer clothes, a wind/waterproof jacket, fleece and/or isothermal and a warm hat. Also make sure to have with you a second pair of shoes.



**Dialling code:** +30 (Greece)



**Local transportation:** Taxis, buses, and frequent water taxis and ferries between Galatas and Poros.



**Driving:** Right-hand side of the road.



## Optional excursions and things to see:

### Poros Island:

- Poseidon Temple
- Monastery of Zoodochos Pigi
- Archaeological Museum of Poros
- Clock Tower of Poros

### Nearby sites in the Peloponnese:

- Ancient Troezen
- Devil's Bridge, Troezen
- Epidaurus Ancient Theatre (1 hr drive)
- Methana volcanic peninsula and spa town
- Hydra Island (via boat from Galatas or Poros)



## Emergencies

- **Police:** 100
- **Fire Department:** 199
- **Ambulance:** 166
- **EU Emergency Number:** 112
- **Pharmacies:** There are a couple of pharmacies on Galatas and some on Poros island. Please make sure you bring along enough supplies of any prescription medication you might need in case these are not available locally. **1. Pharmacy Zografou Sofia**, 25is Martiou, Galatas 180 20 tel. +30 2298 043473, **2. Pharmacy George Anastasiadis**, 25is Martiou, Galatas 180 20 tel.: +30 2298 042181.
- **Galatas Health Center:** There is a health center in Galatas (open 24/7) for emergencies and first aid. Address: Ag. Sotira 180 20, Tel.: +30 2298 320300.



### Contact Details:

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<http://www.ienae.gr>

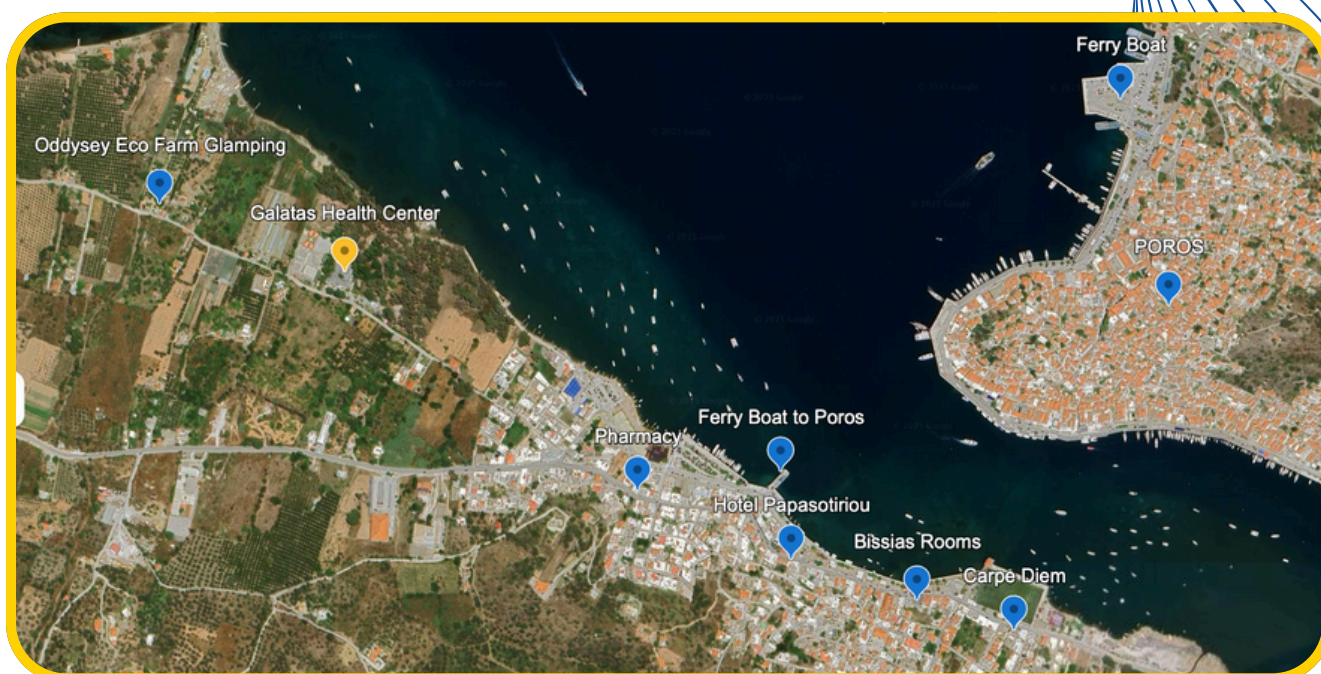


### Contact before arrival:

- Myrto Michalis tel.: +30 210 8259668

### Contact after arrival (in the field):

- Niovi Karapetsi: +30 6944307231
- Eirini Chrysocheri: +30 6944719838







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[www.bcthubs.eu](http://www.bcthubs.eu)