

## THEMATIC ROUTE "VLYCHA"


### Objectives

- To help students familiarize with the coastal industrial zone of Elefsina (HELPE, TITAN) and the activities that are located there (SHIPWORKSHOP).
- To help them reflect on their green transformation.
- To get them into contact with the natural landscape that resists heavy uses.
- To motivate them in order to contribute to the emergence of citizens' movements for the rehabilitation of the coastal front.
- To connect all the above to the climate neutrality of Elefsina.


### General description

The thematic route starts from X-Bowling and passes via Kanellopoulou ave. to front of the Old Olive Oil Factory, from TITAN, from the coast with the shipbreakers and ends at the wetland of Vlycha, from where the facilities of HELLENIC PETROLEUM and the former PYRKAL can be seen.

### Stations

TIMELINE		LOCATION	SHORT DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITIES
10'	1	<b>X-Bowling</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We find a suitable spot and gather the group in a circle.</li> <li>• We play the getting-to-know-you game. Holding an object, we say our name and hobby. We throw the object to the person opposite us and they say the same.</li> <li>• We allocate numbers 1,2,3. All the 1's get together and form a subgroup. They take on roles: Secretary, Photographer, Observer. The Secretary takes the</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dating game</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Division into groups</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Handing out</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Activities Leaflet (A.L.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The objectives of our route</p> <p style="text-align: center;">.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What are the objectives of our</p>

			<p>plate with the FGs. The Photographer gets the school tablet. The Observers gets a pair of imaginary glasses of observation! 2 &amp; 3 do the same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We name the goals of our journey <b>Industry and Energy, Sea and Public Spaces, Buildings and Green Architecture</b>. These correspond to three of the four themes of the PE.</li> <li>• In the fourth one we note down data on the inhabitants of Elefsina</li> </ul>	<p>route? Can you understand them from the A.L. you are holding?</p>
	<b>2</b>	<b>INDUSTRIALISATION OF ELESINA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Historical circumstances</b> at the end of the 19th century: the annexation of new territories, population growth, the normalization of political life, the economic policy of Charilaos Trikoupis, cheap labour from refugees from Asia Minor.</li> <li>• <b>Geographical advantages:</b> its central position between Central Greece and the Peloponnese, by the sea, close to the capital, the Athens-Peloponnese railway line, the Athens-Corinthos highway, the opening of the Corinth Canal, its proximity to raw materials (raisins, figs and olive oil from the Peloponnese, pine trees from Mandra and acorns from the Thriasio Plain).</li> <li>• <b>The Zurich Circle:</b> Greeks, who studied chemistry and engineering at the Zurich Polytechnic, returned to Greece and established factories.</li> </ul>	<p>The advantages of Elefsina</p>

	<h1 style="color: red; font-size: 2em;">3</h1>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OLD OLIVE MILL</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Harilaou Soap Factory was the first factory founded in Elefsina in 1875 by Greek businessmen from abroad.</li> <li>• It was upgraded in 1895 by engineers of the Zurich Circle and it was named "Charilaos-Kanellopoulos Olive Oil Factory".</li> <li>• It produced high quality Marseille soap and manufactured olive oil.</li> <li>• In 1928, it employed 250 workers.</li> <li>• The factory ceased operations at the end of the 1960s and it was taken over by the National Bank of Greece.</li> <li>• Several buildings, such as the two-storey administration building at the entrance, are still in good condition.</li> <li>• No examples of its mechanical equipment survive.</li> <li>• The three stone buildings of the central courtyard were fully restored in 2023 for the needs of the Capital of Culture.</li> <li>• A metal platform and a stage have been erected in an open area, where the AICHYLEIA, the cultural events organized by the Municipality of Elefsina for the last 40 years, take place.</li> <li>• The Archaeological Museum of Elefsina will be moved to one of its buildings and will install its collections with modern standards.</li> </ul>	<p>The season</p> <p>The people</p> <p>The products</p> <p>Its current use</p> <p>Its future use</p>
--	--	--	---	--

10'

4

### TITAN



- TITAN is a cement factory, founded in Elefsina in 1902 by Greek chemists and industrialists.
- It started its operation in 1906.
- For raw materials it quarried materials from the adjacent hills, thus creating a great disturbance to the landscape.
- For the transport of its products, it built port facilities in the Gulf of Elefsina.
- In 1928, it employed 400 workers.
- The daily production of cement reached 35 tons.
- It operated as a cement industry until the beginning of the 21st century. Today, production has been transferred to Kamari in Boeotia.
- The Elefsina site is used as a storage area for the production of white cement, dry mortars and glue.
- It still uses its port facilities for the loading of cement and building materials.
- Many refugees who came from Asia Minor worked there, as well as Greek internal immigrants from many parts of Greece.
- After World War II, with the major reconstruction and exports, it employed 2,500 workers.
- Near the factory he built the TITAN Houses to house his workers.
- It belongs to the TITAN Group, which produces cement in 10 countries.

Demeter vs Titans

The birth of Titan

Concrete béchamel



The laundry of rage


The surrounding hills

The Venetian tower

Work for all

The TITAN lodges

<p>10'</p>	<p>5</p>	<p><b>Scrapyard &amp; decommissioned ships</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Gulf of Elefsina there are several decommissioned ships and abandoned shipbreaking facilities.</li> <li>• The Bay of Vlycha has fresh water springs and used to be a paradise.</li> <li>• In the "rocky areas" in the old days the local inhabitants used to swim.</li> <li>• According to an Environmental Inspectors' Report, the LSE is responsible for the removal of dead and decommissioned ships.</li> <li>• Nature is still resisting, as natural freshwater springs still gush from the coast and into the sea.</li> <li>• The sea is seriously ill and must be cured.</li> </ul>	<p>The sea</p> <p>The rocks</p> <p>The springs</p> <p>The environmental inspectors</p> <p>Cleaning up the sea and the landscape</p>
<p>10'</p>	<p>6</p>	<p><b>Wetland</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The wetland of Vlycha is created at the mouth of the stream "Soures" of Mandra.</li> <li>• It has natural vegetation (reeds). Waterfowl (white-fronted and ash-breasted kingfishers, cormorants) live there.</li> <li>• The outflow of the stream is blocked by many tons of rubble, which were placed there for the construction of the harbour but they must be removed as they increase the risk of flooding.</li> <li>• Buildings and eucalyptus vegetation are visible through the wall of the now-closed pyrite production plant of the now-closed PYRKAL powder industry. The site is claimed by the inhabitants as a historical, recreational and cultural site.</li> <li>• Nature is resisting and the wetland can act as a CO2 absorber.</li> </ul>	<p>Value of the stream</p> <p>Value of wetlands</p> <p>Water birds and plants</p> <p>THE PYRKAL</p>

10'	7	<p><b>HELLENIC PETROLEUM-ENERGY</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On the left is the oil refinery of HELPE (Hellenic Petroleum), formerly Petrola.</li> <li>• In the background is a decommissioned tanker loaded with liquefied natural gas LNG, whose demand has increased due to the war in Ukraine and the restriction of gas sales from Russia.</li> <li>• The site is being used as a starting point for the debate on the move away from fossil fuels and the transition to renewable energy sources.</li> <li>• HELPE is already investing in renewable energy, as the article about the creation of the largest photovoltaic park in Greece by HELPE in Kozani states.</li> <li>• We are talking about placing photovoltaic panels on the roofs of public buildings and schools.</li> </ul>	<p>Fossil fuels</p> <p>Investing in Renewable Energy</p> <p>Sources</p> <p>Installing PV in schools</p>
		<p><b>CONSULTATION</b></p>	<p>This path will feed data to <b>tables 1, 2, 3 (day 1) and 12, 13, 14 (day 2)</b>, where students will deliberate and come up with proposals for the climate neutrality of Elefsina on the issues of <b>Industry and Energy, Sea and Public Spaces, Buildings and Green Architecture.</b></p>	