

# news

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## Patras Carnival 2023

The biggest carnival  
in Greece is back!

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**1025**

# Editorial

**Panayotis Papanikolas**  
*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*

Olympia Odos, the road that connects the capital of Greece with the capital of Carnival, this year gets into the rhythm and actively participates in the Patras Carnival celebrations, conveying the carnival culture along its entire length.

In cooperation with the Public Benefit Company of the Municipality of Patras (KEDIP) and the Municipality of Patras we installed "bastakes" (kibbitzers) -large carnival figures- at the Motorists Service Stations. Their mission is to convey to everyone the carefree spirit and fun and to announce the Patras Carnival.

Olympia Odos family cannot but take part in this celebration and participate in its own unique way!

Happy Carnival!

**Kostas Peletidis**  
*Mayor of Patras*

After the pandemic that lasted for three years and the resulting banning of mass events, our city will revive its Carnival. A unique Carnival, the Carnival of Greece.

In the difficult circumstances we live in, we need uplift, strength. Patras Carnival comes to assist us, since it is an authentic folk festival characterized by mass participation, creativity, sarcastic and self-satirizing humor. It is the spur we need to face everyday difficulties.

People of Patras and especially our youth, thanks to their inspiration, imagination, vitality, liveliness, cheerfulness, inventiveness, satirical and controversial spirit, broad participation, constantly enrich and renew the events, both artistically and creatively. These are the characteristics that make the difference and mark Patras Carnival in an unfading way, making it known and loved both in Greece and abroad.

Our Carnival will be the best one in Greece also this year! You all will make the difference once again.

Happy Carnival!



**Ira-Irini Kouri**  
*President of KEDIP – Patras Carnival*

This year, we are relaunching the city's premier institution and will celebrate it as it truly deserves.

The city will be flooded with music, dance, street theater performances, carnival celebrations.

Parades of floats and carnival groups will enliven the city center and its neighborhoods, conveying messages of rebirth and joy.

All together at the 2023 Patras Carnival!

# Enjoy Patras Carnival 2023, the first after the pandemic

Patras Carnival, with a history of two centuries, is the largest carnival celebration in Greece, one of the most important carnivals in Europe and the leading event of Patras.

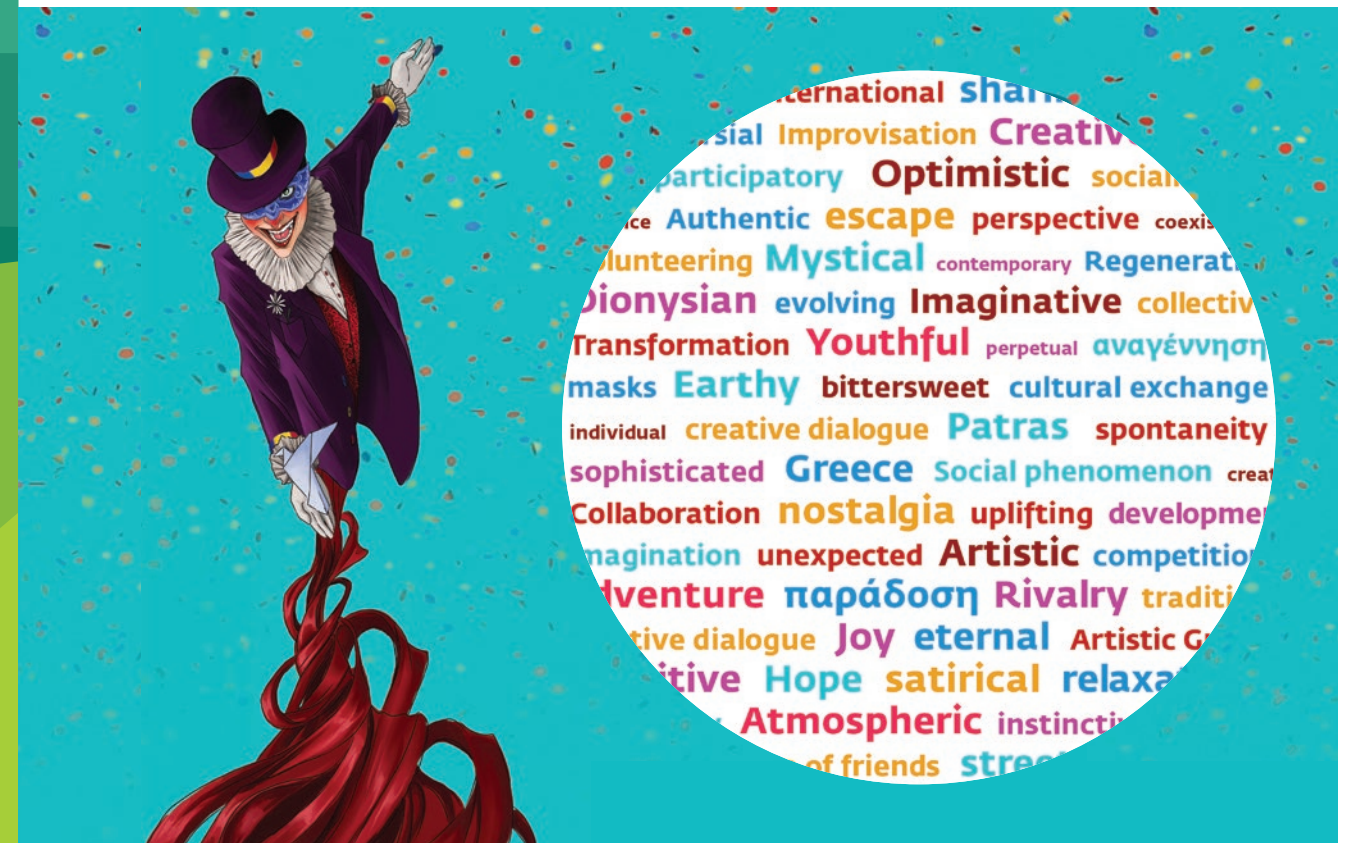
The **organizing authority** is the Public Benefit Company of the Municipality of Patras – Patras Carnival (KEDIP), organizing the Carnival since 2011. It aims at promoting Patras Carnival and showcasing and protecting the institutionalized Patras Carnival.

KEDIP has its headquarters in the Old Slaughterhouse (Akti Dymion 84, Patras), a multi-functional cultural site, recently renovated, having the Carnival and Karagiozis as its center of reference. The complex of the Old Slaughterhouse

in its final configuration includes, among others, the main large hall dedicated to Patras Carnival as a room for multi-thematic exhibitions, the Shadow Theatre-Karagiozis Hall as a room to display archival and exhibition material, the multi-purpose hall, three workshops (creative industry workshop, creative workshop for children and young people and 3D applications workshop) and the production and image and sound processing workshop.

Numerous activities (e.g. educational workshops, exhibitions, cultural events, etc.) are organized throughout the year, in the Old Slaughterhouse, aiming at fostering carnival culture and education.

# Patras Carnival means...



## 72 events spreading joy, fun and entertainment started on 17 January and will end on Sunday, 26 February

MONDAY – 13 FEBRUARY		
09:00	Education activities 3rd KAPI (Carnival hat, mask making)	Old Slaughterhouse
11:30	Shadow Theater performance <i>"Carnival Member from the Cradle"</i> by Christos Kalpouzanis	Old Slaughterhouse
18:00	Carnival party of the 1st KAPI	7 Vosporou St.
18:00	Musical Float	South District
19:00	Παράσταση Θεάτρου Σκιών «Ο Αρλεκίνος και ο Καραγκιόζης στους ρυθμούς του Πατρινού Καρναβαλιού» από τον Χρήστο Πατρινό	Sella – space opposite the Church of Saint Nicholas
TUESDAY – 14 FEBRUARY		
11:30	Shadow Theater performance <i>"Carnival Member from the Cradle"</i> by Christos Kalpouzanis	Old Slaughterhouse
17:00	Patras DJ's Square Carnival Party – Parallel action to collect food for the KODIP's Social Grocery	Georgiou Square A'
17:30	<i>"Love and Carnival songs"</i> by the 20-member children's choir of Mrs. Amalia Antonopoulos – Song: Mrs. Theodora Papadopoulou, Face painting for children	Riga Feraiou and Gerokostopoulou
18:00	Carnival party 3rd KAPI	2 Edipsou St. & Ag. Ioanni Pratsika
18:00	Musical Float	Messatida
	58° Παιχνίδι Κρυμμένου Θησαυρού — Τα κάνω όλα μετά τις...	Πάτρα
WEDNESDAY – 15 FEBRUARY		
09:00	Education activities 1st KAPI (Carnival hat, mask making and VR)	Old Slaughterhouse
10:00	Musical Float	South District (Zachloureika)
11:30	Shadow Theater performance <i>"Carnival Member from the Cradle"</i> by Christos Kalpouzanis	Old Slaughterhouse
16:00	Karnavaloupolis – Interactive Carnival games, face painting, workshop for making carnival masks for children	Ovria, N. Deve Square
18:00	Carnival party 2nd KAPI	Aghia, 21 Kazantzaki St.
19:00	Shadow Theater performance <i>"Karagiozis as the Artist of the Carnival"</i> by Konstantinos Laliotis	Taraboura, Ergatikes Katikies
20:00	Theatrical performance <i>"They Did It"</i> by the ORFEUS Music Club of Patras	Orofos Theater, 112 Othonos Amalias St.
20:00	Opening of the <i>"FUTURA"</i> exhibition	Old Slaughterhouse, Exhibition hall K4
THURSDAY (ΤΣΙΚΝΟΠΕΜΠΗ) – 16 FEBRUARY		
10:00	Musical Float	South District (Schools)
10:00	Musical Float	Arctic District (Schools)
10:00	Musical events curated by the Municipal Library – Cultural Organization of the Municipality of Patras	Patra
11:00	Carnival music program by Nikos Lekkas (organization: Jury Committee of 2023 Patras Carnival)	Riga Feraiou and Gerokostopoulou
19:00	Cantadori concert <i>"Santa Maura"</i> of the Lefkadian Association of Patras, "I Faneromeni"	Gerokostopoulou Steps
19:00	<i>"The Wedding of the Queen of Carnival"</i> activities organized by the Cultural Associations of Patras	Upper City
21:00	★ Concert of the 20-member musical group, <i>"Gidiki"</i>	Georgiou Square A'
21:00	Announcement of Awards – Praises – Distinctions of the 12th Online Momos	<a href="http://www.carnivalpatras.gr">www.carnivalpatras.gr</a>
	58th Hidden Treasure Game – Time for...	Patra



FRIDAY – 17 FEBRUARY		
11:30	Shadow Theater performance <i>"Carnival Member from the Cradle"</i> by Christos Kalpouzanis	Old Slaughterhouse
16:00	58th Hidden Treasure Game – In radio broadcasting time #1	(on FM: ERA Radio Station Patras)
18:00	Musical Float	City center
19:00	Galaktoboureko Festival organized by the Cultural Association "Terpsis" of Patras	38 El. Venizelou St.
20:00	Artistic program with dance schools (organization: Jury Committee 2023 Patras Carnival)	Georgiou Square A'
SATURDAY – 18 FEBRUARY		
10:00	★ Baby Rally	Psila Alonia Square
11:00	Carnival music program by Nikos Lekkas (organization: Jury Committee of 2023 Patras Carnival)	Riga Feraiou and Gerokostopoulou
11:30	Karnavaloupolis – The x-saltibagos in an interactive game with puppetry and circus techniques. Face painting for children. Interactive performance of mask and puppet theater "The Loony Circus" by the ADAMAPANTACHOU puppet theater of Nikolaos Tombros	Psila Alonia Square
13:30	<i>"CHOCOLATE CARNIVAL PIE"</i> cutting by the associations of chocolate throwers: <i>"Chocolate throwers"</i> , <i>"Chocolate lovers"</i> , <i>"Chocolate races"</i> , <i>"Chocolate maniacs"</i> , <i>"Chocolate battles"</i> , <i>"Chocolate players"</i>	Argiri Market
16:00	58th Hidden Treasure Game – In radio broadcasting time #2	(on FM: ERA Radio Station Patras)
20:00	<i>"TROYAN WAR"</i> theatrical performance – Aristophanic satire from the Theatrical Workshop of the Polyphonic Choir of Patras	Old Slaughterhouse
21:00	58th Hidden Treasure Game – No lost moments	Patra
SUNDAY – 19 FEBRUARY		
11:00	Children's Carnival Parade	Starting point: Omonia Square
13:00	<i>"Orpheus"</i> Philharmonic Orchestra of Lechaina	Georgiou Square A'
14:30	58° Παιχνίδι Κρυμμένου Θησαυρού — Today is Tomorrow's Yesterday	Patra
19:00	Shadow Theater performance <i>"Karagiozis as the Artist of the Carnival"</i> by Konstantinos Laliotis	Primary School of Midilogli
19:00	58th Hidden Treasure Game – The greatest time is now	Achaia Clauss
19:00	<i>"Launch at Neraidoupolis"</i> theatrical performance by the Theatrical Workshop of the Adult Polyphonic Choir of Patras	Stavropoulio Cultural Center of Vrachneika
20:00	Mayor's Dance – with the participation of the 20-member children's choir of the piano teacher Mrs. Amalia Antonopoulos - Song: Mrs. Theodora Papadopoulou, and the Rising Flames dance group	Old Slaughterhouse, Carnival Hall (K6)
MONDAY – 20 FEBRUARY		
9:00	Education activities 2nd KAPI (Carnival hat, mask making and VR)	Old Slaughterhouse
11:30	Shadow Theater performance <i>"Carnival Member from the Cradle"</i> by Christos Kalpouzanis	Old Slaughterhouse
18:00	Musical Float	Arctic District
19:00	Shadow Theater performance <i>"The Harlequin and Karagiozis to the rhythms of the Carnival"</i> by Christos Patrinos	Primary School of Voudeni
20:00	Concert of Kostas Chatzis	Conference Center of the University of Patras

TUESDAY – 21 FEBRUARY		
11:30	Shadow Theater performance <i>“Carnival Member from the Cradle”</i> by Christos Kalpouzanis	Old Slaughterhouse
18:00	Musical Float	Eastern District
21:30	<i>“Life...I gave...it stays”</i> – Dance of the Patras Carnival 2023 Jury Committee	Royal Patras, 51 Akti Dimeon

WEDNESDAY – 22 FEBRUARY		
10:00	Musical Float	City center
11:30	Shadow Theater performance <i>“The Harlequin and Karagkiozis to the Rhythms of the Carnival”</i> by Christos Patrinos	Old Slaughterhouse
18:00	Musical Float	Saravali
20:30	Music and dance performance by the group, <i>“SFIGKES”</i>	Gerokostopoulou Steps

THURSDAY – 23 FEBRUARY		
19:00	<b>Regional Carnival Parade</b> , accompanied by the Musical float	Aghia
19:00	<b>Regional Carnival Parade</b> , accompanied by the Musical float	South District
19:45	Demonstration by the Patras Sports Association <i>“Olympic Medalist of Patras”</i>	Georgiou Square A'
20:00	<i>“A Dose of Carnival Again”</i> by Giuli Doubou, Theatrical Workshop for Children and Youngsters of the Regional Theater DIPETHE of Patras	Georgiou Square A'
20:30	Music and dance performance by the group, <i>“SFIGKES”</i>	Gerokostopoulou Steps
21:00	Concert of the Polyphonic choir of Patras	Georgiou Square A'



FRIDAY – 24 FEBRUARY		
19:00	★ Parade of Floats of the Municipality of Patras	City center
19:00	★ <i>“All White”</i> , performance of the Street Theater, “Helix Action Theatre”	City center
21:30	★ Concert: <b>Goran Bregovic &amp; The Wedding and Funeral Band</b>	Georgiou Square A'

SATURDAY – 25 FEBRUARY		
11:00	Street Theater	Historical City center
12:30	<b>Chocolate Fight</b> – Mini-parade, accompanied by the Musical floats	City center
18:00	★ <b>Night Foot “Podarati” Parade</b>	Korinthou St.

SUNDAY – 26 FEBRUARY		
14:00	<b>Grand Parade of the 2023 Patras Carnival</b>	Korinthou St.
21:00	<b>Closing Ceremony - Burning of the King of Carnival</b> – Concert by the groups 1550: <i>“Patras, I live in your love, 2023”</i> and ABOVE SUSPICION	Saint Nicholas Quay

ASH MONDAY – 27 FEBRUARY		
11:00	Koulouma celebration curated by the Municipal Library – Cultural Organization of the Municipality of Patras	Beach, Kokkinos Milos, South Park
19:00	Award Ceremony for the Carnival Parade, the <b>58th Hidden Treasure Game</b> and the posters for 2023 Patras Carnival	Old Slaughterhouse, Carnival Hall (K6)

## The Road Fills with color!



Photography: Costas Fasoulas

This year, Olympia Odos actively participates in the Patras Carnival, carrying it all along its length. Colored, huge “bastakes” were installed at the Motorist Service Stations in the direction to Patras, where they will stand vigilant guards of laughter and carefree fun until the end of the Carnival.

*Bastakes* are large carnival figures created at the Carnival Workshop of the Municipality of Patras. Their mission is to convey fun and carnival spirit to those who look at them. This year they left their city and traveled for the first time to Aigio, Akrata, Velo and Megara to trumpet Patras Carnival to the travelers along Olympia Odos.

## The Carnival Workshop of the Municipality of Patras



The Carnival Workshop of the Municipality of Patras – located at 12 Lefkas Street, Mavromandila – makes a key contribution to the unique carnival atmosphere. A unique site of its kind in Greece, where the magnificent floats are created, such as the Carnival King, the Queen’s float, the Flower float, artistic or satirical floats, often inspired by political and social current affairs, but also constructions of the Carnival parade. It is also here where the carnival elements and the “*bastakes*” figures are made, which, together with the carnival lighting, contribute to the festive decoration of the city.

This year’s Grand Parades will see 17 floats, while 120 *bastakes* and 3 new compositions were installed in the city, in public areas of the historic center.

**We are waiting for you at the 2023 Patras Carnival, the first Carnival after the pandemic adventure to celebrate together!**

**Patras Carnival, the Carnival of Greece is near you.**

*We warmly thank Vassilis Papaioannou for the use of his photos, including our cover, of the Patras Carnival!*



## Olympia Odos has introduced **Distance-Based Tolling** in Greece

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Traffic Prediction



Interactive Map



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