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## Costa Navarino recognised for its sustainability practices at the World Travel Awards 2017

**2 October 2017, London** – [Costa Navarino](#), the prime sustainable destination in the Mediterranean, has been awarded first place in the category **'Europe's Responsible Tourism Award 2017'** at the 24<sup>th</sup> annual World Travel Awards.

This is the second time Costa Navarino has achieved this prestigious accolade, following previous success in 2014, reinforcing the destination's commitment to responsible tourism and further strengthening its position as a sustainable tourist destination.

Winners were announced at The World Travel Awards Europe Gala Ceremony on 30 September 2017, at the Russian Museum of Ethnography in St Petersburg, Russia.

Located in the unspoiled Greek region of Messinia, in the southwest Peloponnese, the philosophy of Costa Navarino is driven by a genuine desire to promote Messinia, while protecting and preserving its natural beauty and heritage.

It has introduced a new model of sustainable tourism, enhancing the local economy with respect to the environment, history and traditions, and local communities.



Costa Navarino has applied several practices, including among others, the biggest olive-tree transplanting programme in Europe in an effort to preserve the age-old landscape, with more than 6,500 trees transplanted so far. It also created two water reservoirs to cover all irrigation needs, including the two signature-designed golf courses.

Costa Navarino, in partnership with the Academy of Athens and Stockholm University, and a number of NGOs (non-governmental organisations), created Navarino Natura Hall, an interactive environmental centre which is open to guests and the local communities to educate adults and children alike on Messinia's flora and fauna, as well as ways of protecting this for future generations.

In a region with one of the highest biodiversity levels in Europe, a monitoring and protection programme was put in place for the loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), as

well as contributing to a pioneering programme for protecting the habitat of the only European population of the African chameleon in Gialova lagoon, a Natura 2000 site.

Encouraging guests to immerse in the local traditions and practices of the region, Costa Navarino offers a variety of authentic experiences. From olive oil tasting sessions, to cookery lessons with local ladies and engaging Philosophy Walks, Costa Navarino allows guests to return home with an in-depth knowledge of the history and beauty of the area, while also generating income for local businesses.

The World Travel Awards is globally recognised as the ultimate hallmark of industry excellence, voted for annually by worldwide travel and tourism experts as well as business and leisure travel consumers. The Awards acknowledge and celebrate excellence across all sectors of the global tourism and hospitality industries.

**For further information about Costa Navarino please  
visit: [www.costanavarino.com](http://www.costanavarino.com)**

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#### **Media Information:**

#### **COSTA NAVARINO**

Costa Navarino is the prime, sustainable destination in the Mediterranean, located in the Greek region of Messinia in the southwest Peloponnese. One of the most unspoiled and breathtaking seaside Mediterranean landscapes, this area has been shaped by 4,500 years of history. Its philosophy is driven by a genuine desire to promote Messinia, while protecting and preserving its natural beauty and heritage. It will comprise a number of distinct sites featuring 5-star deluxe hotels, luxury residences, conference facilities, spa and thalassotherapy centres, signature golf courses, as well as a wide range of unique year-round activities for adults and children. Navarino Dunes, the first area, is home to two luxury 5-star hotels, The Romanos, a Luxury Collection Resort and The Westin Resort, Costa Navarino; The Dunes Course – the first signature golf course in Greece- Anazoe Spa, a 4,000sq.m. spa & thalassotherapy centre; the state-of-the-art conference centre House of Events; specially designed facilities for children; as well as a variety of gastronomy venues, sports, outdoor and cultural activities. Navarino Bay, the second area is home to the signature golf course, The Bay Course.

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