

Greece is a great place to shop. There are a lot of [fantastic things to buy](#), and many of them are very affordable. Chances are some of the more expensive items you purchase can be even cheaper if you claim the tax back. Getting a VAT refund in Greece, can be a straightforward process if you follow the required steps.

Here is a detailed guide on how to claim your refund:

## PLANNING A TRIP TO GREECE?

Whether you've been before or it's your first time it can be hard to process all the information out there. Be sure to check out our complete [Planning Guide](#) as well as our [FREE 13-page downloadable itinerary](#).

If you are feeling really overwhelmed you might like a [Trip Consultation](#) perhaps!?

And come join our private [Facebook Group](#) where you can ask questions and get advice from real travellers!

Note: This article may contain affiliate links.

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### What is VAT?

VAT - Value Added Tax is a consumption tax applied in many countries, including Greece. It is levied on most consumer goods and services and in 2024 these are the rates:

- **Standard Rate:** 24% - This applies to most goods and services.
- **Reduced Rate:** 13% - This applies to certain goods and services such as food, non-alcoholic beverages, passenger transport, and hotel accommodation.
- **Super-Reduced Rate:** 6% - This applies to specific items such as medicines, books,

newspapers, and cultural events.

Some islands have reduced rates including Lesvos, Chios, Samos, Icaria and Lemos in the Northern Aegean as well as Karpathos, Kos, Leros and Symi in the Southern Aegean.

These islands often face logistical and economic challenges due to their remote locations and reduced tourism and as such they are partially compensated.

These reduced rates are:

- **Standard Rate:** 17% (instead of 24%)
- **Reduced Rate:** 9% (instead of 13%)
- **Super-Reduced Rate:** 4% (instead of 6%)

## What is the VAT refund?

If you are not a resident of the European Union you are eligible to get a VAT refund on certain purchases.

You can do this by following the process outlined below and submitting your claim by mail, or at the following airports:

- Athens
- Thessaloniki
- Heraklion ( Crete)
- Chania (Crete)
- Rhodes
- Kos
- Santorini
- Mykonos
- Corfu
- Kefalonia
- Zakynthos
- Skiathos
- Preveza

## ***Cruise Ships***

It is possible to claim the VAT you have spent while shopping on your cruise but you have to do it at the last place you depart the EU.

*Examples.*

- *Your 11-day Mediterranean Cruise starts in Rome, visits Santorini and ends in Barcelona where you fly home to the USA, then you claim the VAT at Barcelona Airport.*
- *Your 10-day Istanbul to Trieste stops at several Greek Islands but you are staying in Italy before flying home, then you claim it in Italy.*
- *Your Athens - Istanbul cruise means you will not be ending in the EU. Unless you are flying back into a EU country you will have to mail your claim.*

*Note: To make a mail claim you will need to get your forms stamped by Customs and, at the time of publication, that is only at the airport. If your claim is sizeable it may be worth catching the train out there.*



## Eligibility Criteria

Before you start, ensure you meet the following eligibility criteria:

- **Non-EU Resident:** Only non-EU residents are eligible for VAT refunds.
- **Minimum Purchase Amount:** Typically, you must spend a minimum amount - usually €50 in Greece, in a single store on the same day. Check with the specific store for their minimum purchase requirement.
- **Export Goods:** The goods must be taken out of the EU within three months from the end of the month of purchase.

# **VAT refund in Greece process**

## **Shop at Participating Stores**

- Look for stores displaying “Tax-Free Shopping” signs. These stores are affiliated with VAT refund services like Global Blue or Premier Tax Free and are usually larger department stores or luxury boutiques. If you do not see a sign ask just in case.
- When making a purchase, inform the cashier that you want to claim a VAT refund and they will provide you with a Tax-Free Form. Ensure that this form is filled out completely with your details (name, passport number, home address) and the details of the purchase.

## **Collect Required Documentation**

- Along with the Tax-Free Form, you need to keep the original receipts.
- Ensure your passport is handy, as you may need to present it .

## Immediate Cash / City Center Points

Athens, 4 Karagiorgi Servias St, Syntagma	Onexchange
Athens, 1 Areos st, Monastiraki	Onexchange
Athens, 109 Adrianou st, Plaka	Onexchange
Athens, Designer Outlet Athens	Onexchange
Thessaloniki, 9 Aristotelous sq	Onexchange
Thessaloniki, 10 Kotta Roulia st	One Salonika Outlet Mall
Rhodes, 22 Aristotelous st, Old Town	Onexchange
Santorini, Fira Central Square	Onexchange
Mykonos, 14 Voreiou Ipirou st, Lakka	Onexchange
Corfu, 32 Michail Theotoki st, Old Town	Onexchange
Mediterranean Cosmos, Thessaloniki	Onexchange

## International Refund Points Greece

Athens Int. Airport El. Venizelos & Satelite Terminal, Schengen	Onexchange
Thessaloniki, Int. Airport - Makedonia	Onexchange/Duty Free Shops
Rhodes, Int. Airport - Diagoras	Duty Free Shops
Heraklion (Crete), Heraklion Int. Airport Kazantzakis	Duty Free Shops
Corfu, Int. Airport - I. Kapodistrias	Duty Free Shops
Chania (Crete), Int. Airport - I. Daskalogiannis	Duty Free Shops
Araxos (Patra), National Airport	Duty Free Shops
Mykonos, National Airport	Duty Free Shops
Zakynthos, Int. Airport - Dionisios Solomos	Duty Free Shops

### Boarder Stations

Evzoni / Kakavia / Kristalopigi / Kipi	Duty Free Shops
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## FYROM Refund Points

Skopje / Vasil Glavinov, 3/1/1, lok. 9/1, 1000	Globalex
Skopje / Kej 13-ti Noemvri - GTC, 1/1, prizemje, 1000	Globalex

months after the month  
in three (3) months.

[weareplanet.com](http://weareplanet.com)



approved form within 21 days to avoid charges.

已经收到现金退税了吗? 为了避免您信用卡的扣费, 您需在 21 天之内将带有海关出口验证盖章的退税单返还到我们手中。

21 дня, во избеж

نموذج مصدقا من

٢٠

## Follow these steps to get your refund



1. Complete your form  
填写完整您的退税单  
Заполните бланк Tax Free  
أكمل النموذج الخاص بك



[planetpayment.com/form](https://planetpayment.com/form)



2. Get Customs approval  
获取海关出口验证  
Получите таможенный штамп  
احصل على موافقة الجمارك



[planetpayment.com/approval](https://planetpayment.com/approval)



3. Return your Tax Free form  
返还您的退税单  
Отправьте чек Tax Free по почте  
قم بإرجاع نموذج الإعفاء من الضرائب



[planetpayment.com/track](https://planetpayment.com/track)

GR

Important: Planet Tax Free Voucher is valid only for three (3) months from the date of purchase. Please stamp and claim your VAT refund with

planet  
Tax Free

Strategic Partner / Merchant Data



SGR30010110310023370154

Planet Payment Greece  
203 Hellenic St.  
105 61 Hellenic  
Avenue, Greece  
Tel: +30 210 87 40 887  
planetpayment.com

ANSWER A.E.E. 'HONDOS CENTER'  
ΚΑΛΥΝΤΙΚΑ ΤΟΥΡΙΣΤΙΚΑ ΕΙΔΗ ΚΑΙ ΕΙΔΗ ΝΕΟΤΕΡΙΣΜΟΥ  
ΚΑΤΑ ΕΡΜΟΥ 36 & ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΤΡΙΑΣ 2, ΑΘΗΝΑ 10563  
ΕΔΡΑ: ΕΡΜΟΥ 36 & ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΤΡΙΑΣ 2, ΑΘΗΝΑ 10563

84195

Doc. num

23370154

Planet Tax Free Voucher

Retail Receipt  
ΑΠΟΔΕΙΞΗ ΑΛΛΗΛΟΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣΙΑΚΗΣ ΠΑΡΑΧΩΡΗΣΗΣ  
ΑΡΙΘ. ΠΩΛ. 103638-103638-13827001  
ΑΡΙΘ. ΠΩΛ. 103638-103638-13827001

ΑΡ.Μ.Α.Ε. 22110/01/Β/90/303  
Γ.Ε.ΜΗ. 00872001000  
Α.Φ.Μ. 094287055  
Δ.Ο.Υ. ΦΑΕ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

Store code: 110310

Φ.Π.Α. 24%

Description of goods / Περιγραφή Εμπορευμάτων	Quantity / Ποσότητα	Price (ex tax) / ΑΒΔ (χωρίς Φ.Π.Α.)	Tax / Φ.Π.Α.	Tax amount / Ποσό Φ.Π.Α.	Total price / Συνολική Τιμή	
062025618 FREZYDERM SEA SIDE MIST 300ML	1	13,40	24	3,21	16,61	
060285498 APIVITA ΕΝΥΔΑΤΙΚΟ 100ML AFTER SHAVE	1	11,78	24	2,83	14,61	
064104124 KORRES Α.ΠΕΥΚΗ ΚΡ.ΗΜ.Σ 40ML NEW	1	26,97	24	6,47	33,44	
064218804 APIVITA PR XM 3 EXP&MINI FOAM #23	1	6,11	24	1,47	7,58	
064156610 EVA BELLE EYE CREAM 15ML	1	11,10	24	2,66	13,76	
064161725 KORRES Α.ΠΕΥΚΗ ΚΡ.ΜΑΤΙΩΝ 15ML	1	22,47	24	5,39	27,86	
064109665 EVA BELLE PROTEOLYCAN&VIT.C AMPOUL.X	1	6,05	24	1,45	7,50	
<b>TOTAL / ΣΥΝΟΛΟ</b>					<b>23,48</b>	<b>121,36</b>

Date / Ημερομηνία: 04/10/2023 Invoice No / Αρ. Τιμολογίου: ΕΥ 7960 IEL#: 1 / 1 Refund / Ποσό Επιστροφής: 14,00

### Original Copy

**Customer / Αγοραστής (Please complete in capitals)**

Name / Ονοματεπώνυμο  
PAPAS

Home Address / Δευτερεύουσα Κατοικία

Country / Χώρα  
AUSTRALIA

Passport No / Αριθ. Διαβατηρίου Issued by / Εκδότρια Αρχή

Email

**Refund Choice / Τρόπος Επιστροφής**

Credit card

**VISA**

Cheque  Airport Cash

**Declaration / Τρόπος Επιστροφής**

I hereby declare that:  
 - The returned information corresponds myself to true and accurate.  
 - The purchased goods are for my personal or family use.  
 - The purchased goods will be exported within three months after the month of purchase.  
 - I authorize Planet to collect on my behalf the refundable V.A.T. amount.  
 - I confirm that the credit card cardholder to receive the VAT refund is the same used for the payment of the goods described.

Με την υπέρβαση των προϋποθέσεων επιστροφής μου (όρους, ημερομηνία, τελεμαρκάκι, δευτερεύουσα κατοικία) παραδίδω ένα έξι (6) μήνες προηγούμενη πληροφορία στον Πλανήτη ή διαφορετικά / ανεπιθύμητα επιστρέφω τα αποκτηθέντα προϊόντα της μάρκας μου επιστροφή για να κερδίσω προμήθειες επί πληρωμή κ.λ.π., για τη οποία η Πλανήτη ή διαφορετικά / ανεπιθύμητα / ανεπιθύμητα επιστρέφω τα αποκτηθέντα προϊόντα μου με την προϋπόθεση να μην επιστρέψω τα προϊόντα, προμήθειες επί πληρωμή κ.λ.π.

Yes  No  If you disagree select NO

I agree to conditions above and reverse

Customers signature / Υπογραφή πελάτη  
ΠΡΩΤΟΤΥΠΟ

Retailers signature / Υπογραφή πωλητή / Καταστήματος

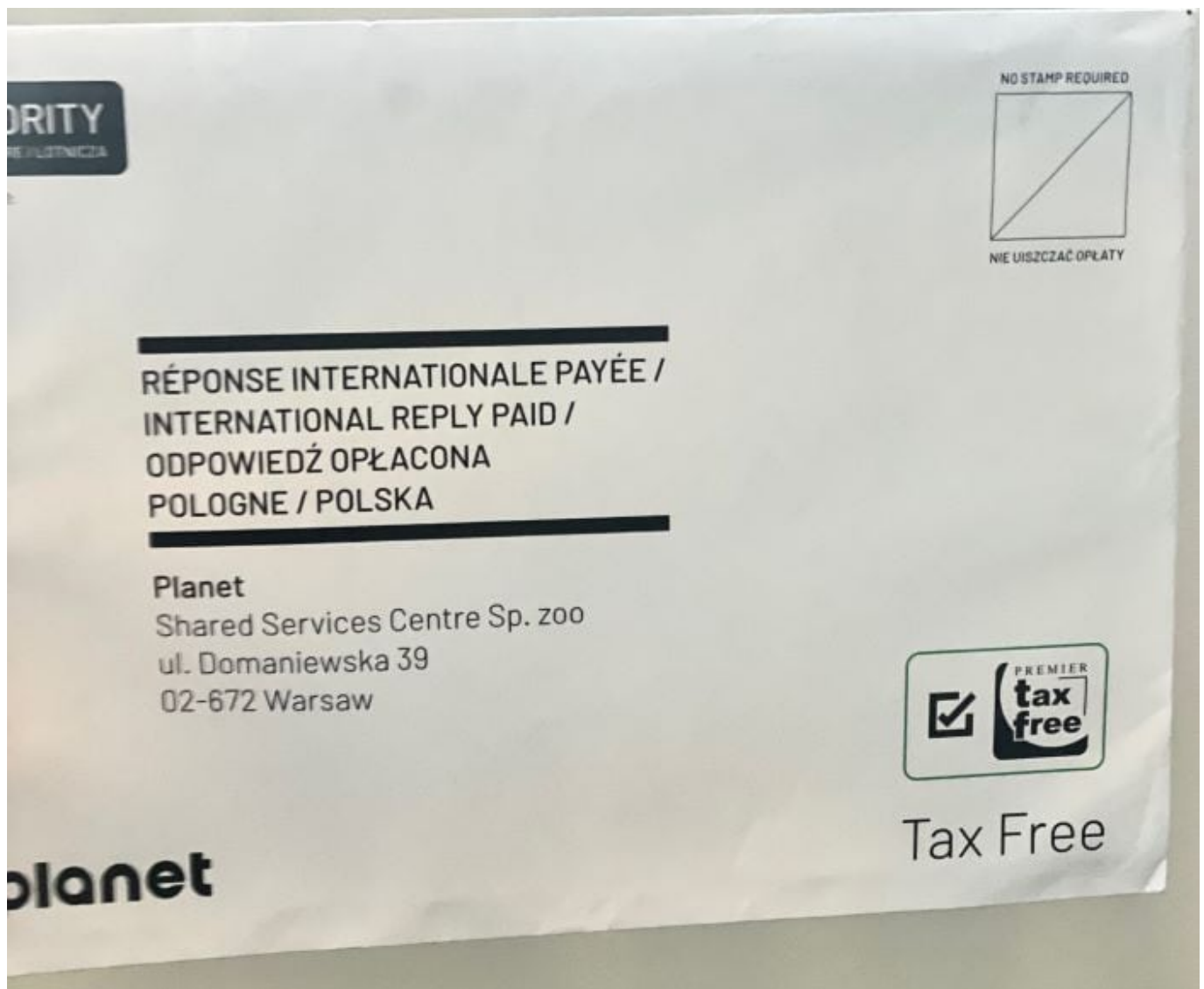
The Customs confirm the exportation of the above goods / Επιβεβαιώνεται από το τελωνείο η εξαγωγή των εμπορευμάτων

Customs Stamp / Σφραγίδα Τελωνείου

No E.U. Customs stamp. No Refund

Purchase must be shown to E.U. Customs





## Customs Stamping

Before leaving Greece, you must get your Tax-Free Form stamped by customs at the airport or other point of departure. Follow these steps:

- **Arrive Early:** Arrive at the airport at least three hours before your flight to allow enough time for the VAT refund process.
- **Visit Customs Office:** Go to the customs office **before** checking in your luggage. The customs office is usually located in the departure hall.
- **Present Documents:** Show your passport, Tax-Free Forms, original receipts, and the purchased goods. The customs officer needs to verify the goods, so keep them in your

carry-on luggage.

## **Submitting the Tax-Free Form**

After getting the customs stamp, you have two options to submit your forms and claim your refund:

### **Immediate Refund at the Airport:**

- Look for the VAT refund service counters (such as Global Blue or Premier Tax Free) after security control in the departure area.
- Present your stamped Tax-Free Form, passport, and receipts at the refund counter.
- You can choose to receive your refund in cash (usually in euros) or have it credited to your credit card. Note that cash refunds might have higher service fees.

### **Mailing the Form:**

- If you cannot claim your refund at the airport, you can mail the stamped Tax-Free Forms and original receipts to the VAT refund service provider.
- Make sure to fill out all required sections of the form, including your credit card details for the refund.
- Drop the envelope in a mailbox or at designated drop-off points at the airport.

## **Receiving Your Refund**

- **Cash Refund:** If you opted for a cash refund at the airport, you will receive it immediately.
- **Credit Card Refund:** If you chose to have the refund credited to your credit card, it may take a few weeks for the amount to appear in your account.



VAT Desk queue curbside ( on the left with all the people)



The Global Blue drop box on the counter curbside



The counter on the other side in Hall A, just before immigration

## Tips for a Smooth VAT refund process in Greece:

- **Keep Everything Handy:** Keep all your receipts, forms, and purchased goods easily accessible.
- **Be Aware of Fees:** Be mindful of potential service fees deducted from your refund

amount.

- **Plan Ahead:** Allow ample time at the airport to complete the VAT refund process without stress.

By following these steps, you can efficiently process your VAT refund and enjoy savings on your purchases made during your trip to Athens.

If you require any further clarification please check the official [EU VAT page](#).

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# Claim your VAT refund - Greece



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