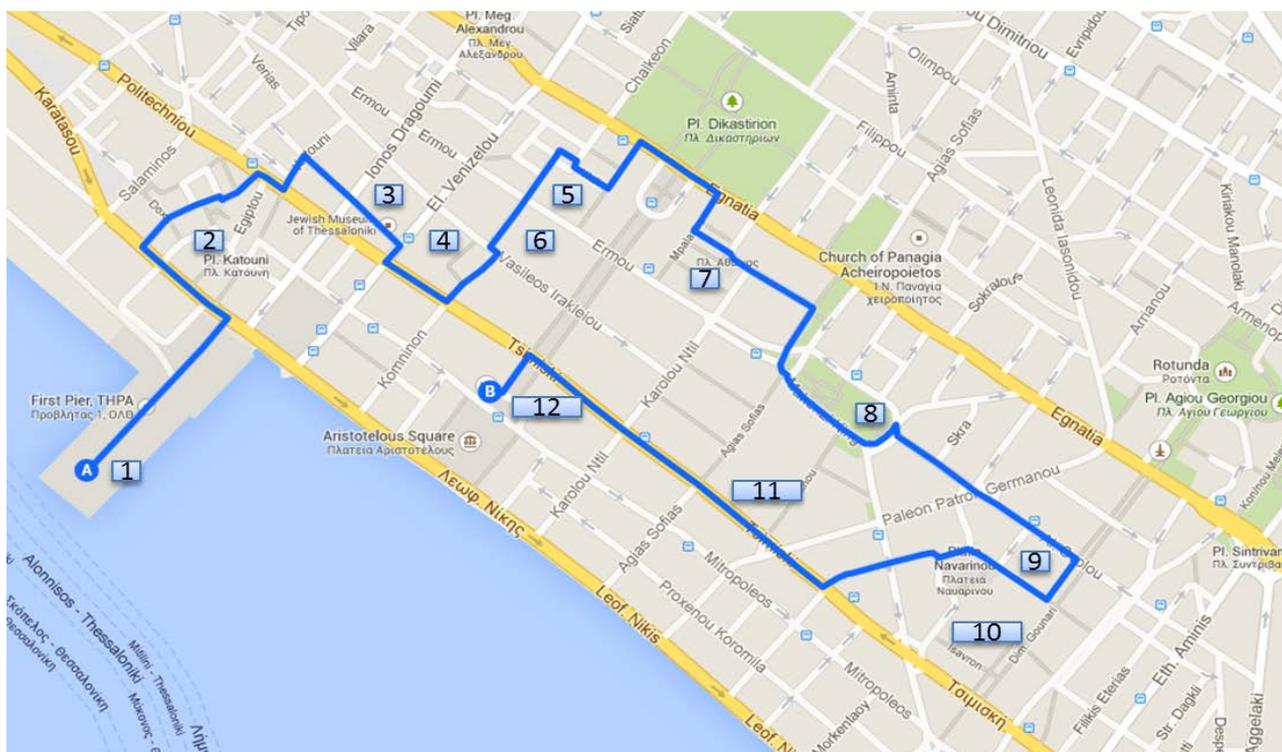


City Walk 2 “City Centre: food and shopping”

(approximately 3.5 km’s).



1. Port	2. Ladadika & Museum of Ancient Greek, Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Instruments
3. Jewish Museum	4. Louloudadika (Flower District) & Yahudi Hamam
5. Kapani	6. Modiano
7. Athonos Square	8. Agia Sofia Church
9. Navarino	10. Galerius' Palace
11. Tsimiski	12. Aristotle's Square

1. The modern dock of the **Port of Thessaloniki** was constructed in the late 19th century and has been recently renovated. Nowadays the **Museum of Photography**, the **Cinema Museum** and the **State Museum of Contemporary Art** are located in especially designed warehouses within the port precinct, and host various cultural activities every year such as the International Film Festival. The dock offers splendid views of the seafront of Thessaloniki and constitutes a terrific walking and relaxation area with restaurants and bars available.

2. **Ladadika** is an area that used to host a major market of oil shops (which is the literal meaning of the word “ladadika” in Greek) and spice shops. It has now been renovated completely and houses some of the most colourful buildings in the city. Notably, Ladadika hosts the **Museum of Ancient Greek, Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Instruments**, which is housed in a restored three-storey building. Remarkably, visitors can have the opportunity to hear the sound produced by some of the instruments. One can find in this area a large number of taverns, restaurants, bars and clubs.

Crossing Tsimiski Street and heading north-east towards Egnatia street, you will come across the Frankish Quarter or “Valaoritou District” as it is often called nowadays. This area has been transformed during the past years as the centre of Thessaloniki’s nightlife.

3. **The Jewish Museum** of Thessaloniki is housed in one of the few buildings that survived the great fire of 1917 in the area. Located in the very heart of Thessaloniki, this imposing building displays photographs and artefacts concerning the history of the Jewish people in Thessaloniki from the foundation of the city up to World War II. For more than 200 years Thessaloniki was the city with the largest Jewish population in the world, and was known as the “Mother of Israel” at the time.

4. **Louloudadika** is the central flower market in Thessaloniki. It is an open area full of colours, where one can buy flowers, pots, household items and decorations. Next door to the market lies **Yahudi Hamam**, an Ottoman-era bath that dates back to the 16th century and was still open until the beginning of the 20th century. Its Turkish name means “Bath of the Jews”, since the area was predominantly settled by Sephardic Jews.

5. **Vlali** or **Kapani Market** is the oldest market in the city, founded well before Thessaloniki took its modern shape. There are many stores that sell fresh fish, spices, milk products, fabrics, and just about everything else you can think of, in a hotchpotch of ramshackle shops crowded one next to the other as far as the eye can see. Shopping at Kapani can be one of the most unique experiences one can have in Thessaloniki.

6. Just a couple of minutes away one can come across **Modiano**, which is one of the most traditional markets in the city. The construction of the market started in 1922 and it was finished in 1930 by architect Eli Modiano. Most of the shops are food stores that sell meat, fish, spices, cheese and others. There is also a fair number of small tavernas and traditional fast food restaurants in the area, including “Myrovolos Smirni”, which is certainly worth visiting.

7. **Athonos’ Square** is located close to Aristotle’s square, and is considered to be one of the best areas to eat in Thessaloniki. There are several beautifully decorated taverns and restaurants, while some of them include live Greek traditional music.

8. **Agia Sophia** is one of Christianity's great monuments and a UNESCO World Heritage site. The church was for several centuries the city’s main cathedral and it was constructed based on the Agia

Sophia in Constantinople. The structure constitutes a typical example of a domed transitional cruciform church with ambulatory. The original church was probably built in the 4th century, immediately after the establishment of Christianity by the 1st Ecumenical Synod (325), and it was dedicated to the Wisdom of God. The church was built in its present form at the times of Justinian (6th century).

Nearby in Agia Sophia square (south-east of the church) do not forget to look for an astonishing building called the **Red House**. It was built in 1925 by architect Gennari and is a rather remarkable edifice of that era due to its tower shape, the use of evident masonry on its facades and its elaborate "sachnisia" (oriel windows) and balconies.

9 & 10 Navarino square and **Galerius' Palace**. This is a vibrant area and one of the most historic districts in Thessaloniki. Therein lay the ruins of Galerius' Palace, a large complex built by Roman Emperor Galerius in the 4th century, containing huge buildings, an octagon, a large Hippodrome, arcades, triumphal arches and others. A significant part has been excavated nowadays, bringing into the light beautiful peristyles, a large internal courtyard, corridors and rooms with stunning mosaic floors.

Just a few meters away you may also locate Zefxidos and Iktinou streets, two of the most crowded pedestrian streets of the city centre. Don't miss the chance to taste the famous crepes of Thessaloniki from the several creperies located in Navarino square.

11. Tsimiski steet is the major axis of the city centre's shopping district. It is the street where you can find famous international brands at relatively low prices. Moreover, here you will come across several beautiful neoclassical buildings. The western end of the street is home to the city's financial district, including the building of the Bank of Greece, which is regarded as one of the most impressive buildings in the city. The shopping centre "Plateia" is located on Tsimiski street near Aristotle's Square and contains plenty of stores, restaurants, cafes and entertainment facilities.

12. Aristotle's Square is named after the great philosopher Aristotle, who was born in ancient Stagira, about 55 km away from Thessaloniki. It is one of the most beautiful squares in Thessaloniki, designed by French architect Ernest Hébrard in 1918, following the city's great fire in 1917. Aristotle's square lies at the heart of the city; at the south end, there is Thermaikos Gulf and on the sides one can see several buildings with beautiful architecture. For a great view of the square and of the gulf, one can visit the rooftop coffee and restaurant of the Elektra Palace Hotel.