



FESTIVAL

“IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF KAZANTZAKIS AND ZORBAS: Land, Human Being, and Freedom in Kazantzakis’ Mani”

Stoupa, 25–27 September 2026

Organised by: [KALLIERGON syn](#)

[Under the auspices of the Region of
Peloponnese](#)

[Under the auspices of and in
collaboration with the Municipality of
West Mani](#)

[With the support of
the Messinia Chamber of Commerce](#)

[In collaboration with
the Cultural Association NARTURA](#)

[Major Sponsor: UHU](#)

ORGANIZERS’ NOTE

Mani, and specifically Western Mani, functions here as an active field — as a land that carries memory, resistance and freedom. The festival *“In the Footsteps of Kazantzakis and Zorbas”* approaches the meeting of two individuals as a dynamic relationship within the framework of this historical encounter. A relationship born from the coexistence of opposites and transformed into creative tension.

Kazantzakis and Zorbas met in a place both harsh and open, between the land that is excavated and the sea that unfolds. There, their friendship operated as a mirror that, after recognizing the limits of the self, finds the strength to move beyond them.

The festival unfolds in the very places where this relationship was formed and shaped, through artistic and narrative actions that engage in dialogue. The sites do not simply host works; they actively participate in them. The particular becomes unified, contrast becomes a bridge, and friendship becomes an act of creation. We seek conditions for encounter, freedom and inner movement.

As a contemporary form of intangible cultural heritage, the festival activates a shared journey in the present, without remaining confined to yet another reading of the past.

On behalf of KALLIERGON syn,

Vasiliki Kateri