TOURIST GUIDE

Let's be S.M.A.R.T.
Successfully Managing Animal Rights Today



A guide to helping

Stray Cats & Kittens

How to Adopt



Our Free Guide to Helping Stray Cats and Kittens

www.letsbesmart-greece.org

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Welcome to Greece

If you are travelling for business or pleasure there is no doubt that Greece is a wonderful destination.

If you have been to Greece before we are sure you will already know about the stray cats and dogs. Whether it's cats around the Acropolis, at a Taverna, or a stray dog walking the street. Let's face it, Greece is famous for it's Cats, Dogs, Donkeys and an amazing variety of animals!



Welcome to Greece

Since 2021 Greece has been working hard for animal welfare change, and new legislation to combat cruelty to animals and to help reduce the stray population and find homes for all the animals.

Some tourists see stray cats and want to help the animal immediately, some leave feeling sad, frustrated and unhappy. Others would like to come back to volunteer and help or donate.

We created this helpful guide to give you the basics you need to know to help a cat or kitten.



Helping a Stray Cat

First of all we need to check that the cat is a stray.
Look at the ear - if its clipped the cat may be sterilized and living on the streets as a stray cat in the community.

If it's very friendly it may be someone's cat out for a stroll. So please use your instincts. If it looks well fed and cared for it's likely it has an owner but it may not.

If the cat is sick you can take it to the nearest vet office by using google maps to locate one nearest you. You can also borrow a cage from some vet offices to help you transport the cat.



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Kitten Care

Schedule a veterinary check-up as soon as possible, especially if the kitten was orphaned or rescued. The vet can assess their health and provide necessary vaccinations. Monitor the kitten's weight gain and general development to ensure they are progressing well.

Warmth

Kittens cannot regulate their body temperature well, so keep them warm. Provide a heating pad set on low under part of their bedding or use a warm water bottle wrapped in a towel.



Feeding

If the kitten is very young (under 4 weeks), they will need to be bottle-fed with kitten milk formula. Use a specifically designed kitten nursing bottle and follow the instructions for mixing and feeding. Feed the kitten according to their age:

Under 4 weeks: Every 2-4 hours.
4-6 weeks: Every 4-6 hours.
6-8 weeks: Every 6-8 hours.

Stimulation

After feeding, stimulate the kitten's bottom gently with a warm, damp cloth or cotton ball to encourage them to urinate and defecate.

Safe environment

Provide a safe, quiet space for the kitten to rest and play. Make sure there are no hazards such as small objects they could swallow

Weaning

Around 4-5 weeks old, start introducing wet kitten food mixed with formula. Gradually decrease the amount of formula as the kitten begins to eat solid food.



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Kitten Care – Important

Hydration:
Ensure the kitten stays hydrated. If they are not nursing well from the bottle, you may need to use a syringe (without a needle) to carefully administer fluids.

Vet Check:
Book a vet check-up as soon as possible, especially if the kitten was orphaned or rescued. The vet can check their health and provide necessary vaccinations. Monitor the kitten's weight gain and development to ensure they are progressing well

Parasite Control:
Observe closely for the two main categories of parasites that are of major concern for kitten and cat health: intestinal worms and fleas.

Kitten Care – Important

Socialization:
Handle the kitten gently and frequently to promote socialization and bonding. This also helps them get used to human interaction

Toilet Training:
Introduce a shallow litter box with non-clumping litter once they start to explore and use it. Keep it very clean and easily accessible.

Playtime:
As the kitten grows older, provide safe toys for mental stimulation and opportunities for gentle play to help develop their coordination and strength.

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Kitten Care – Important

Parasite Control:
Observe closely for the two main categories of parasites that are of major concern for kitten and cat health: intestinal worms and fleas.

Health Monitoring:
Watch for signs of illness such as diarrhea, lethargy, or lack of appetite. Contact a vet immediately if you notice any symptoms. There are highly contagious, potentially fatal diseases such as Feline Parvovirus.

Isolation:
Keep your other cats isolated from the new kitten until your vet can proceed with testing and you receive the results.

Let's be S.M.A.R.T.

Our mission is to make positive change for the stray animals of Greece.

Our projects are various and include:

- Cat Foster home and rehabilitation center
- Adoption Program
- Sterilization Program/Feeding/Medical Care For Strays
- Educational Programs
- Internship Opportunity
- Volunteer Program and Community Projects.

Our rescue is home to 100 cats and 13 dogs.



Let’s be S.M.A.R.T.

How We Can Help

At Let’s Be Smart (Attica), we know that rescuing a stray cat often means falling in love and wanting to give them a forever home — even if that home is abroad. Travelling with a cat involves several important steps and official requirements, and we’re here to guide you through every part of the process so it’s smooth, legal, and stress-free for both you and your cat.

Step-by-Step Support

1. Microchipping

The cat must have a microchip before receiving the rabies vaccination.
The microchip number will appear on all veterinary documents and the passport/health certificate.

2. Rabies Vaccination

The rabies vaccine must be given after the microchip is implanted.
It must be valid at the time of travel and given at least 21 days before the trip (if it’s the first vaccine).
Annual boosters are required to keep it valid for future travel.

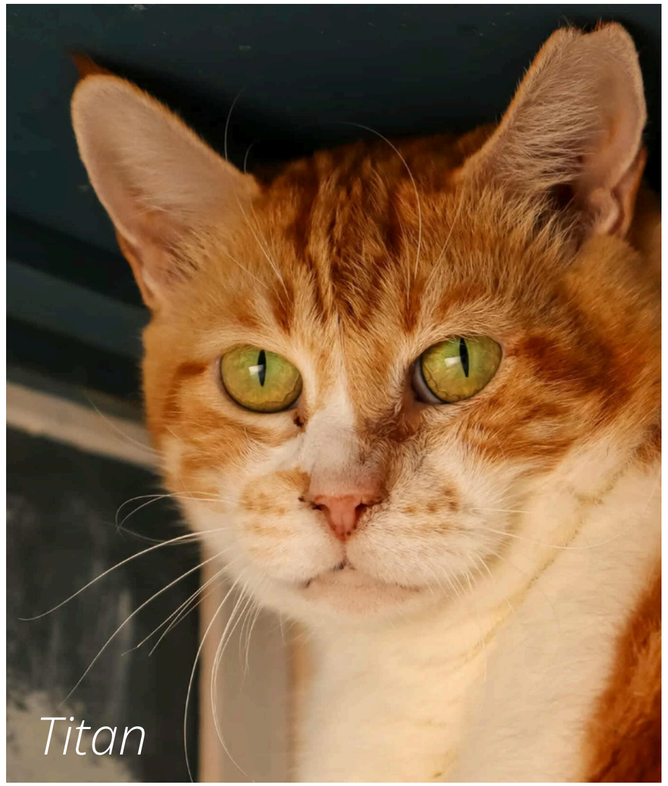


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3. Core Vaccinations
In addition to rabies, cats should be up to date on core vaccines (FVRCP: feline viral rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, and panleukopenia).

4. Health Checks and Parasite Treatments
A clinical examination by a licensed vet is required shortly before departure.
Internal and external parasite treatments (for worms, fleas, ticks, etc.) must be done and recorded and signed in the passport or health certificate. These are usually done within a few days before travel, depending on destination requirements.

5. Official Travel Documents
The cat will need an EU Pet Passport (for EU-resident cats) or an Animal Health Certificate (AHC) (for export from Greece to another EU country or the UK).
The certificate must be issued and signed by an official veterinarian and is usually valid for entry within 10 days of issue.



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For travel to the UK, post-Brexit regulations make travel slightly more complex — we can advise on approved routes or pet transport services.
For the US, there are no USDA animal health requirements for pet cats, but airlines and destination states may require proof of vaccination or a vet health certificate.

How We Help You Do It All

Advice & Coordination: We explain each step, help plan the timeline, and connect you with trusted veterinarians.

Testing & Preparation: We assist with FIV/FeLV testing, bloodwork, parasite treatments, and ensure all requirements are completed properly.

Paperwork Support: We help secure the correct certificates (AHC, passport, or health certificate) and ensure they’re signed and valid for travel.



Let’s be S.M.A.R.T.

Fostering Until Departure: We can arrange foster care at our sanctuary while the cat completes its waiting periods or paperwork.

Transport Arrangements: We guide you through booking flights, working with approved pet couriers, and preparing travel crates and documents for check-in.

Cost Estimates: We provide clear cost breakdowns for veterinary work, paperwork, and transport.

Ongoing Support: From the first vet visit to arrival abroad, we stay in touch to make sure everything goes smoothly.

In short:
Let’s Be Smart partners with each rescuer to make sure their cat is fully prepared, healthy, documented, and safely on their way to a new life abroad — with all legal requirements met.



Animal Welfare Organizations

Finding Animal Welfare Organizations

Please Go to *GOOGLE Maps*

If you use your mobile to search animal welfare organisations near me:

You will find a map showing every registered organization closest to you. Narrow down the search by using the type of animal you wish to find an organization for.

We recommend contacting them by telephone if its urgent, or go to their Facebook page, friend request or join and send a message. Take photographs to send to them.

When you call be ready with your location and any other important facts.

Reporting Animal Abuse

What to Do if You Witness Animal Abuse

Under Greek law (Law 4039/2012 & Law 4830/2021), both active and passive cruelty are crimes, punishable by fines from €5,000 up to €50,000 per animal.

The steps to report are:

Step 1: Call the Police Immediately

Dial 100 to report abuse; police must record and investigate. If you're willing, press charges. Provide photos (date-stamped) showing the animal's condition, environment, lack of shelter, food, water, chains, injuries—without revealing private property or people's faces

Reporting Animal Abuse

Step 2: File a Formal Complaint at the Police Station

Within 48 hours of witnessing, go to any station and make a written statement, request a case file, and obtain a protocol number—this is your legal proof. Without this protocol number, you're not officially in the system.

Step 3: Escalate if the animal is in imminent danger

Ask police to involve a veterinary department or Ministry vet—they can seize the animal and require medical care.

Reporting Animal Abuse

Step 4: Follow Up & Help Enforcement

Email your protocol number and any new evidence to:

Special Secretariat for the Protection of Companion Animals (Ministry of Interior):

egram.prostasiazwwn@ypes.gr

Ministry of Civil Protection:

genast@astynomia.gr

Call the Police's Special Animal Protection line: **10410**

Keep in touch with the police station or these agencies until action is taken; persistence is key.

Reporting Animal Abuse

Summary: Your Role in Helping Animals

If you find a stray or injured animal
Assess from afar → Call vet or rescue → Avoid feeding in public spots.

If you witness abuse
Call police (100), collect evidence → File complaint within 48 hours for a protocol number → Request vet intervention → Report to state agencies and follow up persistently.
By following these procedures, you're supporting legal enforcement and animal welfare efforts in Greece —even as a tourist.

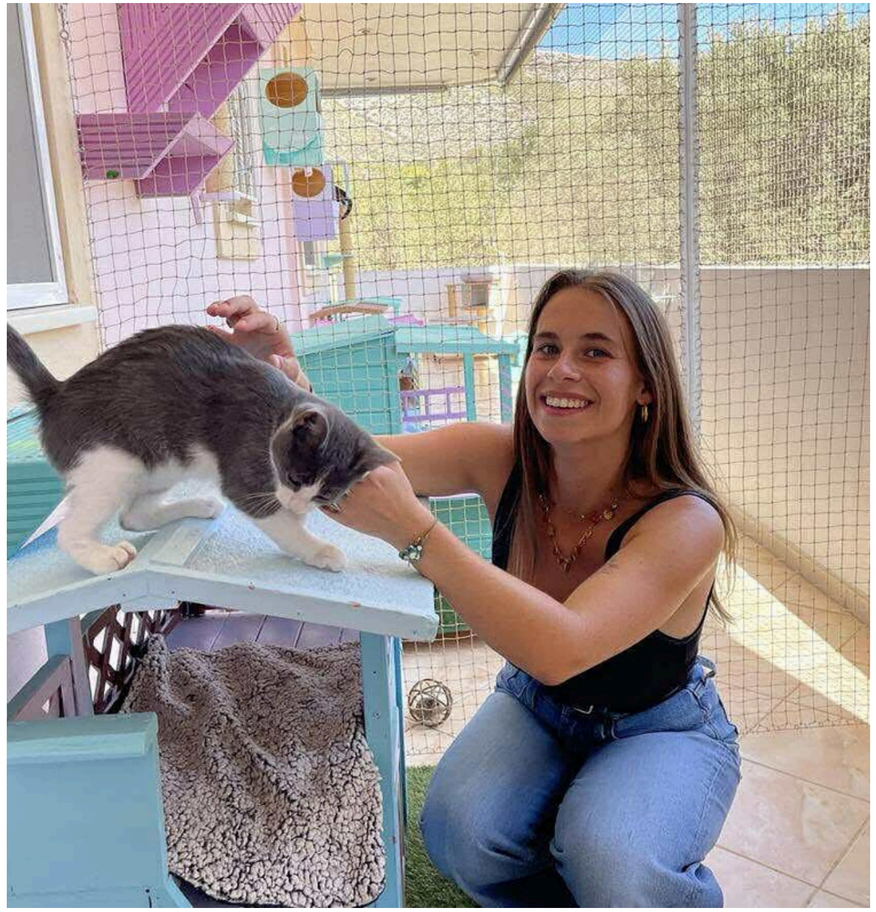
Become a Patreon

When you join Let's be SMART Patreon you become part of our team. You will receive as much information as you wish, depending on your level of membership!

By logging into the the Patreon platform you will see many of our rescue stories.

To find out more please visit:

https://www.patreon.com/LetsBeSmartRescue



Contact Us

www.letsbesmart-greece.org

Cats & Dogs for Adoption:
www.letsbesmart-greece.org/adoptions

Email:
administration@letsbesmart.org

Etsy Charity shop:
www.etsy.com/letsbesmartcharity

Follow us on socials:
@letsbesmart_



Wayne

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Adopt a Greek Kitty
Make Your Vacation Meaningful

Visiting Greece and
dreaming of adopting a cat?

At Let's be S.M.A.R.T. sanctuary, we offer a unique opportunity for travelers to adopt rescued cats and change lives — whether you plan ahead or decide during your stay.
Your visit to Greece can become more than just memories, it becomes a new chapter in your lives.



ADOPTIONS WILL BE DONE WITH A LEGAL CONTRACT, HEALTH DOCUMENTS AND PROPER APPROVALS



More Information
administration@letsbesmart.org
Attica, Greece
www.letsbesmart-Greece.org
Animal Rescue Charity
(NGO)

www.letsbesmart-Greece.org

By adopting a SMART cat, you're not just saving one life—you're making space at our sanctuary to save another in need.

Donate — SCAN ME
Rated on Tripadvisor — SCAN ME
Educational Series — SCAN ME
Adoption Vacation — SCAN ME