

ROMANIZATION OF GREEK

ELOT 743 System; BGN/PCGN 1996 Agreement

This romanization system supersedes the system approved by the BGN and the PCGN in 1962. It corresponds to the system devised by the Hellenic Organization for Standardization and approved for international use at the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in 1987.

	Greek				Romanization	Example		
1.	A	α	A	α	a	Άρτα	Árta	
	Aι	αι	Aι	αι	ai	Ακταίο	Aktaío	
	Aĩ	αĩ	Aĩ	αĩ	aĩ	Νεράϊδα	Neráïda	
	Au	αυ	Au	αυ	before β, γ, δ, ζ, λ, μ, ν, ρ, and all vowels	av	Μαυροβούνι	Mavrouúni
					before θ, κ, ξ, π, σ, τ, φ, χ, ψ and word final	af	Ναύπλιο	Náfplio
					when α is stressed or when u occurs with dieresis	ay	Ταϋγετος	Taýgetos
2.	B	β	B	β	v	Βόλος	Vólos	
3.	Γ	γ	Γ	γ	before all vowels and consonants other than γ, ξ, and χ	g	Γαράζο Γουριά Άγναντα Γλυφάδα	Garázo Gouriá Ágnanta Glyfáda
					before ξ and χ	n	Αγχίαλος	Anchíalos
	Γγ	γγ	Γγ	γγ	ng	Λόγγος	Lóngos	
	Γκ	γκ	Γκ	γκ	gk	Λαγκάδα	Lagkáda	
4.	Δ	δ	Δ	δ	d	Δένδρα	Déndra	
5.	E	ε	E	ε	e	Ερέτρια	Erétria	
	Eι	ει	Eι	ει	ei	Ηράκλειο	Irákleio	
	Eĩ	εĩ	Eĩ	εĩ	eĩ	Μαρινείκα	Marinéika	
	Eu	ευ	Eu	ευ	ev	Ρεύματα	Révmata	

					Greek	Romanization	Example	
					before θ, κ, ξ, π, σ, τ, φ, χ, ψ, and word final	ef	Λευκάδα	Lefkáda
					when ε is stressed or when υ occurs with dieresis	ey	rare	
6.	Ζ	ζ	Ζ	ζ		z	Ζεμενό	Zemenó
7.	Η	η	Η	η		i	Ηράκλειο	Irákleio
					before β, γ, δ, ζ, λ, μ, ν, ρ, and all vowels	iv	rare	
	Ηυ	ηυ	Ηυ	ηυ	before θ, κ, ξ, π, σ, τ, φ, χ, ψ, and word final	if	rare	
					when η is stressed or when υ occurs with dieresis	iy	rare	
8.	Θ	θ	Θ	θ		th	Θεσπιές	Thespiés
9.	Ι	ι	Ι	ι		i	Ίρια	Íria
10.	Κ	κ	Κ	κ		k	Καλαμάκι	Kalamáki
11.	Λ	λ	Λ	λ		l	Λίμνη	Límni
12.	Μ	μ	Μ	μ		m	Μαραθώνας	Marathónas
	Μπ	μπ	Μπ	μπ	initially and word final	b	Μπέχρος	Béchros
					medially	mp	Τέμπη	Témpi
13.	Ν	ν	Ν	ν		n	Νεστάνη	Nestáni
	Ντ	ντ	Ντ	ντ		nt	Ντία	Ntía
14.	Ξ	ξ	Ξ	ξ		x	Ξάνθη	Xánthi
15.	Ο	ο	Ο	ο		o	Όθος	Óthos
	Οι	οι	Οι	οι		oi	Δελφοί	Delfoí
	Οϊ	οϊ	Οϊ	οϊ		oi	Δοϊράνι	Doiráni
	Ου	ου	Ου	ου		ou	Βούναργο	Vounargo
					when o is stressed, or when u occurs with dieresis	oy	rare	

	Greek					Romanization	Example	
16.	Π	π	Π	π		p	Πάυλος	Pávlos
	Μπ	μπ	Μπ	μπ	initially and word final	b	Μπέχρος	Béchros
					medially	mp	Τέμπη	Témpi
17.	Ρ	ρ	Ρ	ρ		r	Μερόπι	Merópi
18.	Σ	σ	Σ	σ	Initially and medially	s	Άσσοσ	Ássos
		ς		ς	word final	s	Σάμοσ	Sámos
19.	Τ	τ	Τ	τ		t	Τίρυνθα	Tírynthá
		ντ		ντ		nt	Πέντε Βρύσεσ	Pénte Vrýses
20.	Υ	υ	Υ	υ		y	Υλίκη	Ylíki
21.	Φ	φ	Φ	φ		f	Φιλοθέη	Filothéi
22.	Χ	χ	Χ	χ		ch	Χαραυγή	Charavgí
23.	Ψ	ψ	Ψ	ψ		ps	Ψαρά	Psará
24.	Ω	ω	Ω	ω		o	Ωρωπόσ	Oropós

NOTES

1. Stress is shown in Greek by the use of the acute accent. This mark will be represented in romanization by an acute accent, e.g., Αθήνα → **Athína**, Ντία → **Ntía**. If the stressed vowel is written as a sequence of two vowel characters in Greek, the second vowel character would usually carry the accent. In romanization the acute accent would in these cases similarly be placed over the second vowel letter, e.g., Οινούσσεσ → **Oinousses**, Οίτη → **Oíti**.

When a syllable containing one of the combinations **au**, **eu**, or **ηυ** carries the stress, this is usually marked in Greek on the character **u**. When these character combinations are romanized **av**, **af**, **ev**, **ef**, **iv** or **if**, the stress should be placed on the preceding vowel letter, e.g., Αύρα → **Ávra**, Γάυριο → **Gávrio**, Καλλιπεύκα → **Kallipéfka**. When the character combinations **au**, **eu**, **ηυ** or **ου** are romanized **ay**, **ey**, **iy** or **oy**, and the stress is found in Greek on the character **u**, then in romanization the stress would be marked on the letter **y**.

Stress accents are sometimes omitted in Greek, for example, in words and names printed wholly in uppercase characters, but in romanization the stress should always be determined and marked with an acute accent. Usually there is no stress above the vowel character of monosyllabic words, e.g. Κωσ → **Kos**. In Greek abbreviations, any accent which may be found should not be romanized.

- The dieresis should be shown in romanization where it occurs in Greek, e.g. Μαρινεΐκα → **Marinéika**, Αχαΐα → **Achaí̈a**.
- In some older maps and publications employing an older form of the Greek language, certain accents and non-alphabetical characters may be encountered. These should be treated as follows:

	Greek accent	Representation in romanization
	´ (acute accent)	´ (acute accent)
	` (grave accent)	´ (acute accent)
	~ (circumflex accent)	´ (acute accent)

Any other marks and accents not previously mentioned should be ignored.

- An inventory of letter-diacritic combinations, with their Unicode encoding, in addition to the unmodified letters of the basic Roman script is:

Á (U+00C1)	á (U+00E1)
É (U+00C9)	é (U+00E9)
Í (U+00CD)	í (U+00ED)
Ó (U+00D3)	ó (U+00F3)
Ú (U+00DA)	ú (U+00FA)
Ý (U+00DD)	ý (U+00FD)
ï (U+00EF)	ï (U+00EF+0301)
ÿ (U+00FF)	ÿ (U+00FF+0301)

- The Romanization columns show only lowercase forms but, when romanizing, uppercase and lowercase Roman letters as appropriate should be used.