**Field Work**

Greek landscapes are adorned with ubiquitous olive groves. Olives and the oil pressed from them have been ubiquitous in Greek cuisine for thousands of years, and their production and sale are the basis of existence for many Greeks.

Due to the terrain, traditional farming methods are used. In mountainous areas, machines cannot replace animals or humans. Particularly, the harvest period is very difficult and exhausting because the reaping of grains is done manually, using sickles. The grain is laid out in the fields to dry, and then it is carried to the village where it is threshed. Machines are increasingly used for threshing, but in remote villages, you can still see donkeys walking in circles and crushing the sheaves with their hooves. The farmer must blow and sift the grain to clean it.

A typical Greek village consists of 20 to 100 farms, where chickens, pigs, and goats are raised. Usually, each village has road connections, landline phones, and mobile phones in operation. In Greek villages, you can find three categories of farmers. The first group consists of goat and sheep breeders. Herds range from 100 to 500 animals. The animals are raised for meat, and cheese is made from their milk. The second category is smallholders who work for the needs of their own families, supplying them with bread, legumes, and all kinds of vegetables. Farmers most commonly grow tomatoes, potatoes, beans, and eggplants. The last group consists of older, single villagers who raise a few goats and cultivate 1 to 2 hectares of land.

Unfortunately, in the summer, residents of Greek villages often struggle with a lack of running water.

These traditional farming methods in Greek villages are rapidly disappearing because young people do not want to work hard in agriculture. They move to cities or to the mainland and take up jobs there. The lack of labor in rural areas causes numerous fields to be covered with stunted shrubs and become fallow. However, a keen and persistent tourist who loves mountain climbing may encounter the old style of farming in Greek villages.