

THE  TIMES

The coastal region in northern Greece untroubled by British tourists

The historic city of Kavala, in the Eastern Macedonian region, has impressive archeological remains and empty beaches — make the most of it while you still can



Kavala is relatively unknown to British tourists

GETTY IMAGES

Four more under-the-radar destinations in Greece

By Siobhan Grogan

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3. Metsovo

A two-hour drive west of Thessaloniki, in the Pindus Mountains of northern Greece, unspoilt Metsovo has an Alpine feel, with snow-capped mountains, wildflower meadows and sightings of wildlife including brown bears, wolves and golden eagles. There is skiing and snowboarding in winter, and horse-riding, truffle-hunting, mountain biking and canyoning over summer. The mountain town is also known for its smoked cheese, traditional stone architecture, wood-fired oven bakeries and a 15th-century church with an intricate wood-carved interior. The luxurious five-star Grand Forest Metsovo is on a private mountaintop estate in the black pine forest near the town. Its 62 suites have a swish chalet feel — with handwoven textiles, dark wood and soft neutral colours — and overlook the gardens or mountains. The spa has a hammam and outdoor infinity pool with mountain views, while the restaurant serves traditional Epirus dishes, plus fondue by the fireside in ski season. The Unesco-listed Meteora Monasteries are an hour's drive away.

Details B&B doubles from £240 (grand-forest.gr). Fly to Thessaloniki