# Emergency Alert Issued for Holidaymakers as Heatwave and Wildfires Ravage Greece



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British holidaymakers have been issued an emergency alert due to widespread wildfires in Greece, fueled by intense hot weather. Greek authorities have called for the evacuation of eight areas around Athens, including Keratea and Stamata, due to rapid fire spread, exacerbated by strong winds.

The region around Athens, Attica, a popular tourist destination, is facing unparalleled challenges as the national fire service contends with the earliest recorded heatwave. Fires have also significantly impacted the islands of Kos and Chios. Evacuation orders have been issued for the Metohi area in western Chios, directing locals and tourists to nearby beaches for safety. On Kos, firefighting efforts involve 20 firefighters, a helicopter, and volunteer support.

Vassilis Kikilias, Greece's Climate Crisis and Civil Protection Minister, dubbed residential fires "extremely dangerous." Fire service spokesman Vasilis Vathrakogiannis described the situation as the hardest day of the firefighting season so far.

Greek Prime Minister stated that June has already been exceptionally difficult due to high levels of drought and unusually strong winds. He cautioned that the most challenging times are yet to come.

Holidaymakers are advised to stay informed and take necessary precautions while traveling to affected areas.