

Secrets of the traditional Mediterranean Diet

Marina Savvides







### The Mediterranean Diet

Studied for its health benefits for 50+ years
Backed by organizations like the WHO and the American Heart Association





# **Health benefits**

Hundreds of studies have shown that the Mediterranean Diet...

...reduces risk of:

- heart disease
- high blood pressure
- 'bad' cholesterol
- diabetes
- Alzheimer's
- Parkinsons



- ... improves:
- $\boldsymbol{\diamondsuit}$  brain function
- rheumatoid arthritis
- eye health
- body weight management

...promotes:

- ✤ longevity
- defense against chronic diseases
- better breathing
- mental health
- dental health



### Where to find the science

**OLDWAYS** A Food And Nutrition Nonprofit Helping People Live Healthier, Happier Lives

TRADITIONAL DIETS	RECIPES	RESOURCES	HEALTH STUDIES	PROGRAMS	SHOP	EVENTS & COURSES	Q
Home » Health Studies							
HEALTH ST	<b>TUDIES</b>						

#### SEARCH HEALTH STUDIES SEARCH RESULTS

#### BY KEYWORD

Show 12 per page

#### BY TRADITIONAL DIET

- Mediterranean Diet
- African Heritage Diet
- Latin American Heritage Diet
- Asian Heritage Diet
- Vegetarian & Vegan Diet
- Traditional Diets, General

#### BY HEALTH FACTOR

- Abdominal / Visceral Fat
- Acne
- Aging
- Alzheimer's Disease
- Arthritis
- Asthma / Allergies

### MEDITERRANEAN DIET LINKED WITH 44% LOWER RISK OF HEART DISEASE

Prospective studies, which follow groups of people over long periods of time, help researchers to identify patterns for chronic diseases like heart disease that often appear later in life. In this prospective study, nearly 2,000 adults were followed for 20 years to see if their diet had any relationship with developing heart disease down the road. Those most closely following a Mediterranean diet were 44% less likely to develop cardiovascular disease during the 20-year study, even after adjusting for family history, smoking, physical activity, and other risk factors. The authors also suggested that inflammation and kidney function may play a role in this relationship.

Nutr Metab Cardiovasc Dis. 2024 Jan;34(1):153-166. doi: 10.1016/j.numecd.2023.09.019. (Georgoulis M et al.)

#### MEDITERRANEAN DIET IN PREGNANCY MAY IMPROVE NEURODEVELOPMENT IN CHILDREN

Lifestyle habits during pregnancy can support healthy growth and development for babies and children. To measure prenatal

https://oldwayspt.org/health-studies





# So what is it...?

It's a window into

a simple way of eating
a lifestyle
traditions and philosophy





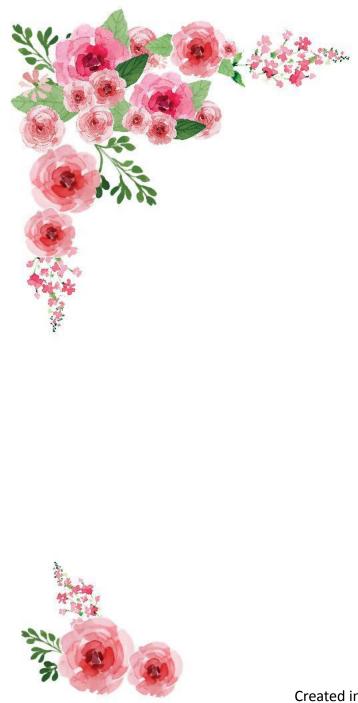


### A simple way of eating

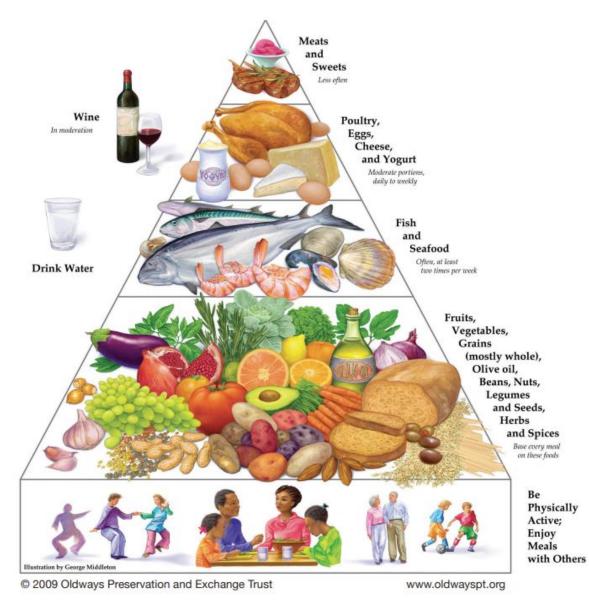


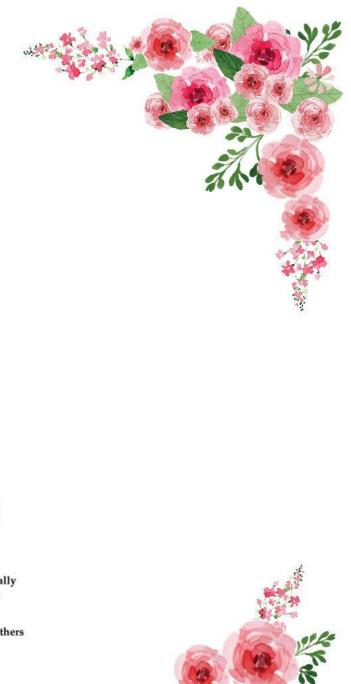
Lots of fruit, vegetables, nuts, beans, grains, olive oil
Moderate dairy, eggs, fish, poultry
Limited red meat and sweets





### **Mediterranean Diet Pyramid**





Created in 1993 by the nutrition nonprofit Oldways together with the Harvard School of Public Health, and the WHO

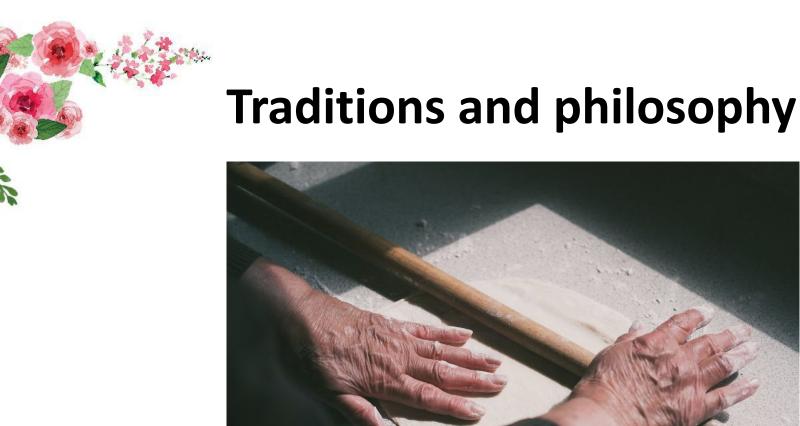
# A lifestyle





- Eating seasonal produceEnjoying the company of family and friends
- Talking, laughing, singing, dancing
- Exercise
- Enjoying nature











- Back to basics
- Eating in moderation
- Sharing

# **UV protective food**

Emerging research shows that there is one more method of suncare apart from sunscreen and protective clothing.

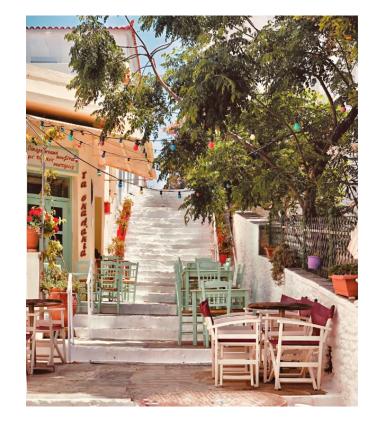
Antioxidant rich foods and food containing the vitamins lycopene and lutein provide UV protection.

- Tomatoes, leafy greens, carrots, cauliflower, watermelon, red oranges
- Nuts and Seeds





## Year-round healthy eating practices



A well balanced diet should become a long term habit and not just a seasonal trend.





### Thank you!



www.yummycyprus.com

marinasavvides@googlemail.com

