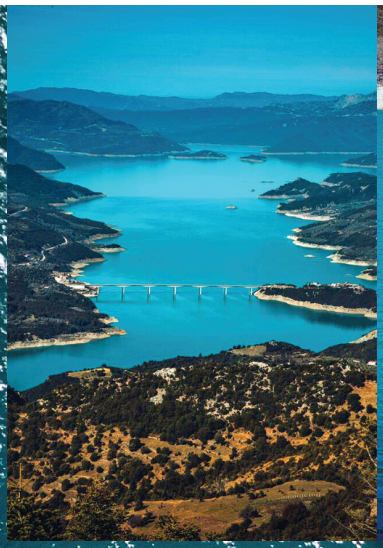

Anyone who has experienced the alpine beauty of Central Greece won't be surprised to learn that the area holds another secret, virtually unknown to an international audience. Lake Kremastor lies below the Agrafa mountains, an hour and a half from the town of Karpenisi and near the villages of Evritania. An undisputed hidden gem of the mainland, it was created during a 1960s hydroelectric project to dam four rivers (the Agrafioti, Acheloos, Tavropos and Trikeriotis) and is Greece's largest artificial lake, ideal for exploring by canoe or kayak.

More like a fjord than a lake, it is dotted with islets that appear or disappear depending on the water level and is surrounded by the pine trees and other greenery so characteristic of Evritania. The water is an intense shade of blue. There are times you could mistake it for the sea, especially in the summer.

Largely set between two bridges (Kremaston or Episkopis and Tatarnas), it is an 81km^2 body of water.

Up the Agrafiotis River you'll find the Manolis Bridge, an arch of stones that united the banks of the river for more than 300 years. Unlike other old bridges (and some buildings) that were covered with water during the damming project, the Manolis bridge is either partially submerged or fully revealed depending on the time of your visit.

Holiday 2024

For sheer variety Water by Nature's New Zealand trip over Feb 17th - Mar 3rd took some beating. As well as sea kayaks in Abel Tasman and a night paddle in the Bay of Islands there was hiking, snorkelling, angling, swimming with wild dolphins, rafting, helicopter up the Landsborough River, jet boat on the Shotover, steamer to Walter Park, flying to Milford Sound, the Fox Glacier, life in a shearer's quarters, Maori culture, wineries and a cable car. Presumably there must also have been some time for catching up with sleep.

Some of Water by Nature's most interesting activities on their eight day Zambezi trips are not about paddling. Here are viewing Victoria Fall from Devil's Pool, camping by the river and viewing the river during the return trip upstream.