National Marine Park of Zakynthos

You are visiting a protected area that is a landmark in the history of environmental protection in Greece. The National Marine Park of Zakynthos (N.M.P.Z.) was established by a Presidential Decree in December 1999 (Government Gazette 906D, December 22, 1999), and is the very first institutionally established National Park area in Greece administered by a Management Agency. The National Park is, of course, the site of a variety of human endeavours, with tourism and agriculture as the main activities.

The N.M.P.Z. aims to protect the nesting beaches of the loggerhead sea turtle *Caretta caretta*, the monk seal *Monachus monachus* habitat and population, the avifauna, terrestrial and coastal flora and fauna, the marine ecosystem and fish stocks. In parallel, the Park is engaged in local development activities that are in line with nature conservation, as well as landscape and cultural heritage preservation.

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