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## Important information about banking in Greece

The European Union is tightening up regulations regarding the opening of bank accounts by foreigners in any E.U. country.

This applies to Greece as to any other E.U. country.

To open a bank account here in Skiathos, which all prospective buyers will need to do in order to import funds for a purchase, several original documents will have to be shown to the relevant bank. These documents are so that you can prove who you are, where you live, where you pay tax and what you do for a living.

For those of you who already have a bank account here, you will also need to bring these documents so that the bank can verify your account.



Please see the following brochure issued by the Hellenic Bank association and (in this case) available from the Alpha Bank with whom we work extensively.

Have you introduced yourselves?

If not...  
...do it now

HELLENIC BANK ASSOCIATION

Dear Customer,

This leaflet is addressed both to existing bank clients and to any individuals making one and only transaction with banks.

The aim is to inform you that you are obliged to provide the Bank with sufficient personal identification details.

## 1. Why do I have to provide a Bank with my personal identification details?

In Greece, just like in Europe and internationally, **Law 2331/1995 as amended by Law 3424/2005** and the relevant provisions of the **Bank of Greece** for the prevention of money laundering and terrorism financing, and also for the protection of the legal interests and the assurance of the financial transactions of any individual dealing with a bank, **prevent banks from making any transaction unless they have verified and confirmed the identity of the individual involved in such transactions and also require from banks to request from their clients information** including legalization documents, customer identification documents, transaction documents etc. and maintain such information to records.

**Therefore, when a Bank asks for your identification details for a transaction, you should know that it simply applies the law, it is not in its discretion not to do so and it cannot do otherwise.**

## 2. How do Banks use the information I provide and any personal data contained in it?

The information you provide to banks according to Law 2472/1997 on the individual's protection from the processing of personal data is securely kept for as long as specified by the relevant laws and is exclusively used for the purpose of its collection, while any violation of such laws by banks and financial institutions is subject to very strict penalties and exhaustive fines.

Furthermore, you should know that credit institutions also comply with the provisions of the Hellenic Bank Association Code of Banking Ethics as regards the collection and maintenance of client information, confidentiality and banking and professional privacy.

### 3. Exactly which identification data will I have to provide and how will such data be verified?

In case you wish to open a savings account, hire a safe deposit box, get a loan or carry out any other transaction including remittances, the information you have to provide as a client according to the law – whether you are the main or a joint beneficiary, or the primary debtor or a guarantor – and the respective documents you will have to produce in order to verify such information include.

**INFORMATION REQUIRED ACCORDING TO THE LAW**

**DOCUMENTS WHICH CAN VERIFY YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION (as the case may be)**

Identification Information

- Identity Card
- Valid Passport
- ID card for persons serving in Law Enforcement and Armed Forces

Current Home Address

- Recent utility bill
- Lease agreement submitted to a Tax Office
- Itemized Tax Payment Statement
- Valid Residence Permit

Current Profession and Professional Address

- Employer's certificate
- Itemized Tax Payment Statement
- Copy of last salary statement
- Incorporation Statement
- Professional Identification Card
- Insurance Organization Contribution Payment Invoice

Tax Registration Number (AFM)

- Itemized Tax Payment Statement



You have to produce **original copies** of the above documents, while banks have to keep copies thereof.

The information that your bank will request may vary depending on your transaction type and amount. **Additional information may thus be required**, included VAT returns, invoices, bills of lading, ownership titles, lease or sale agreements and/or other documentation.

**When acting on behalf of another person**, in addition to providing your personal identification documents, you will be required to produce evidence of the third natural or legal person on behalf of which you are acting. Banks are obliged to demand and verify such information as well, according to the law.

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For most people you will need your passport and **original copies** of a utility bill with your name and address, and an Itemized Tax Statement from your local tax office which should state your profession or job, and your tax or National Insurance number.

These documents will vary from country to country but, as all banks in E.U. countries are now obliged to have this information, the relevant tax authorities should have it available for you.



ALPHA BANK

Let us thank you for your co-operation and the time you spent reading this document.

HELLENIC BANK ASSOCIATION  
[www.hba.gr](http://www.hba.gr)



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This document can be found and printed out at <http://www.skiathosproperty.com/bank-details.pdf>