



The Greek Seas and their islands in a historical path of over 4000 years have never ceased to be the channel linking Europe to Asia and Africa... The crossroads of peoples and ideas, the cradle of history and the development of an unrivalled culture which has been inherited by all of mankind. In the land of the Greek islands, a civilization and a universally accepted humanism, which projects all the worthy aspects of life, was born. The great philosophers, who lived and walked on these lands formed a uniform stance towards life. They brought forth ideas which touched all peoples and have constituted the basic elements of not only Greek, but of civilization the world over. They moulded an overall attitude towards life which sparked the beginning of the evolution of the psyche.

The internationality of ideas and of spirit which are present on the islands of the Greek Seas has inspired the [Aegean DX group](#) since its creation. One of the main priorities of the team is the development, support and promotion of these ideas and this spirit.

[Greek Islands On The Air, GIOTA award programme.](#)

This is a series of activities aimed towards further reinforcing radio-amateur activity from each Greek island individually. Getting [GIOTA](#) started...

This project has not been nor is easy. There have been great difficulties but our determination has been equally great. In this undertaking we sought support and insight from many fellow-DXers not only in Greece, but also abroad. The response from most was warm and enthusiastic. Their ideas were valuable and all were discussed and utilized in the development of the [Greek Islands On The Air – GIOTA – award programme.](#)

The name... and the RSGB...

From the beginning there was great speculation as to the name of the programme. It had to be catchy, easily pronounced and comprehensible.

It didn't take us long to look towards the world renowned RSGB «Islands On The Air» IOTA programme and with the addition of the prefix «Greek» G, we came up with [Greek IOTA](#) that is, [GIOTA «Greek Islands On The Air».](#)

We feared however, that we may be making an arbitrary choice in using this title. For this reason, we promptly contacted the Radio Society of Great Britain and the IOTA committee. In a letter from us to the manager of the Islands On The Air award programme, Mr. Roger Balister, G3KMA, we put forth our idea for the creation of a programme for the Greek Islands and inquired if the use on our part of the initials «IOTA» as a suffix in the name of the award programme for the Greek Islands [«Greek Islands On The Air GIOTA»](#), would pose a problem for the RSGB.

He reply we received from him was very positive and thus our programme was given its official name...

**[Greek Islands On The Air](#)**  
**[Greek IOTA](#)**  
**[GIOTA](#)**

## The **GIOTA** Emblem

The name **GIOTA** had to be accompanied by a suitable glyph.  
The emblem that would be the trademark of the programme. The label which would accompany each activity.  
This label had to say "GREECE!" at first glance...  
For this reason we chose the blue of the Greek seas and sky...  
We chose the bright sun, light of the Greek spirit, which reigns above all...  
We chose the rock of the Greek islands...  
We chose the pillar of our civilization...  
And finally we chose the branch of the age-old olive tree which has united Greeks throughout the centuries.

