

# My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3

My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 is a 2023 American romantic comedy film written and directed by Nia Vardalos. The third installment in the My Big Fat Greek Wedding franchise, the film stars Vardalos, John Corbett, Louis Mandylor, Elena Kampouris, Gia Carides, Joey Fatone, Lainie Kazan, and Andrea Martin. It is the first entry not to star Michael Constantine (who died in 2021), Bess Meisler, and Ian Gomez. Filming took place in Athens, Greece, from June through August 2022. [4][5]

The film was released in the United States on September 8, 2023, by <u>Focus Features</u>. It received generally negative reviews from critics and has grossed \$39 million worldwide.

#### **Plot**

In the wake of Gus Portokalos and Ian's father Rodney's passing a year ago, the Portokalos family is grappling with grief. Nick, now separated, returns home, displaying immature behavior. Athena and her husband Yiannis are caring for Maria, who is battling dementia. Toula and Ian, though happily married, are facing the challenges of parenthood as their daughter Paris struggles with the responsibility of college, this is completely unbeknownst to them.

Victory, a distant relative and the mayor of Gus' hometown Vrisi, invites the family here for a supposed reunion. On the flight, Aunt Voula introduces her assistant Aristotle, Paris' college-mate, and Toula reveals she's bringing Gus' journal, containing his life story, to give to his three childhood friends in Greece as promised.

They arrive in Athens, where Victory greets them, and go sightseeing. In the nearly abandoned Vrisi, they find Gus' childhood home and meet Alexandra, Gus's old flame. There, Victory confesses there's no reunion, hoping the Portokaloses would revive the village. The family goes to a nearby town the following day, where Toula searches for Gus's friends without success and gets drunk on ouzo. Nick searches for the village's oldest tree and Ian befriends a monk, who possesses

#### My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3



Theatrical release poster

Theatheat release poster	
Directed by	Nia Vardalos
Written by	Nia Vardalos
Produced by	Rita Wilson
	Tom Hanks
	Gary Goetzman
Starring	Nia Vardalos
	John Corbett
	Louis Mandylor
	Elena Kampouris
	Gia Carides
	Joey Fatone
	Lainie Kazan
	Andrea Martin
Cinematography	Barry Peterson
Edited by	Annette Davey
	Craig Herring
Music by	Stephanie
	Economou

information about everyone's activities in the village. Meanwhile, Aristotle tries to communicate with Paris, who rebuffs his advances without explaining why.

At dinner, Toula and Ian meet Peter, Alexandra's son by Gus, whom the latter never knew about, as well as his son Christos, and Alexandra's assistant Qamar. Afterwards, Christos and Qamar take Aristotle and Paris to a club, where they reveal they are secretly betrothed. The next day, Toula informs her family about Peter, but struggles to locate Gus' friends. Fortunately, the monk gave Ian a list of those who left the village, pinpointing one who moved to Syros. Toula shares this with Nikki and Angelo, who head to Syros and return with them.

Meanwhile, Toula discovers Nick brought Gus's ashes to Greece, following his father's wish for them to be scattered by the oldest tree in Vrisi. Later that evening, the family learns about Christos and Qamar's engagement, coupled with the

Production companies	Gold Circle Entertainment Home Box Office Playtone Artistic Films
Distributed by	Focus Features (United States) Universal Pictures (International)
Release date	September 8, 2023
Running time	92 minutes <sup>[1]</sup>
Country	United States
Language	English
Box office	\$39.1 million <sup>[2][3]</sup>

revelation of Paris being on academic probation. Peter and Alexandra express disapproval, prompting Ian to offer intervention for Paris. However, the younger generation rejects external interference, opting to address their issues independently.

The next day, Peter comes to terms with Christos and Qamar's relationship, with Alexandra eventually doing the same. Victory recognizes the potential of a wedding to revitalize the village and initiates plans. Toula and Ian receive encouragement to unwind and relish their vacation while the rest of the family collaborates in organizing the wedding, albeit with their assistance in the final stages.

In a joyous celebration, Qamar's family joins them for her wedding to Christos. Paris opens up about her split with Aristotle, citing struggles with independence, and they agree to take things slow, much to Aunt Voula's delight. Nikki and Angelo arrive with Gus' friends, and Toula presents them with his journal.

Later, Toula, Nick, and Peter privately scatter Gus' ashes around the tree, and Victory's mayorship receives praise. Toula and Nick decide to bring Peter with them to America, now as part of the family. The siblings, on the way, engage in a playful dispute over who should now lead the family, each citing their actions during the journey.

#### Cast

- Nia Vardalos as Fotoula "Toula" Portokalos
- John Corbett as Ian Miller
- Louis Mandylor as Nick Portokalos
- Elena Kampouris as Paris Miller
- Lainie Kazan as Maria Portokalos
- Andrea Martin as Theia Voula
- Gia Carides as Cousin Nikki
- Joey Fatone as Cousin Angelo
- Maria Vacratsis as Theia Freida
- Elias Kacavas as Aristotle

- Melina Kotselou as Victory
- Anthi Andreopoulou as Alexandra
- Alexis Georgoulis as Peter
- Giannis Vasilottos as Christos
- Stephanie Nur as Qamar
- Gerry Mendicino as Uncle Taki
- Stavroula Logothettis as Athena Portokalos
- Kathryn Haggis as Marianthi
- Jayne Eastwood as Mrs. White
- Kathryn Greenwood as Marge
- Tannis Burnett as Edie

### **Production**

#### **Development**

In late June 2016, Nia Vardalos hinted at the possibility of a third film, saying that she had an idea for the plot, although no writing had been done. In April 2021, it was reported that My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 was in development as an independent film, written by Vardalos, who will also reprise her role as co-star. As an independent film, the studio could not get insurance to begin filming amid the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021. In October 2021, Vardalos confirmed that the script for the third film had been completed and that it would involve another Greek wedding. In June 2022, it was reported that Vardalos will serve as director on the third film.

### **Filming**

<u>Principal photography</u> commenced in <u>Athens</u>, Greece, on June 22, 2022. Large portions of the film were shot on <u>Corfu</u> from July 5 to August 3, 2022. On August 10, 2022, filming officially <u>wrapped</u>.

## Release

*My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3* was released by <u>Focus Features</u> in the United States on September 8,  $2023.^{\boxed{12}}$  It was released on digital platforms on September 26, 2023, three weeks after its theatrical release. It was then released for <u>Blu-ray</u> and <u>DVD</u> on October 31, 2023. $\boxed{13}$ 

# Reception

#### **Box office**

As of October 31, 2023, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3* has grossed \$28.5 million in the United States and Canada, and \$10.6 million in other territories, for a worldwide total of \$39.1 million. [3][2]

In the United States and Canada, My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 made \$3.7 million on its first day, including \$550,000 from Thursday night previews. It went on to debut to \$10 million from 3,650 theaters, finishing third at the box office behind fellow newcomer  $\underline{The}$   $\underline{Nun}$   $\underline{II}$  and holdover  $\underline{The}$   $\underline{Equalizer}$   $\underline{S}$ . In its second weekend the film made \$4.7 million (a drop of 53%), finishing in fourth.

### **Critical response**

On the <u>review aggregator</u> website <u>Rotten Tomatoes</u>, 29% of 94 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 4.4/10. The website's consensus reads: "Amiable and sunny if often unamusing, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3* repeats much of what audiences loved the first time around but suffers from diminishing returns." Metacritic, which uses a weighted average, assigned the film a score of 35 out of 100, based on 26 critics, indicating "generally unfavorable" reviews. Audiences surveyed by CinemaScore gave the film an average grade of "B" on an A+ to F scale, while those polled at PostTrak gave it a 73% overall positive score, with 55% saying they would definitely recommend the film.

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## **External links**

- Official website (https://www.focusfeatures.com/my-big-fat-greek-wedding-3/)
- *My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3* (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt21103300/) at IMDb
- My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/my\_big\_fat\_greek\_wedding 3) at Rotten Tomatoes
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