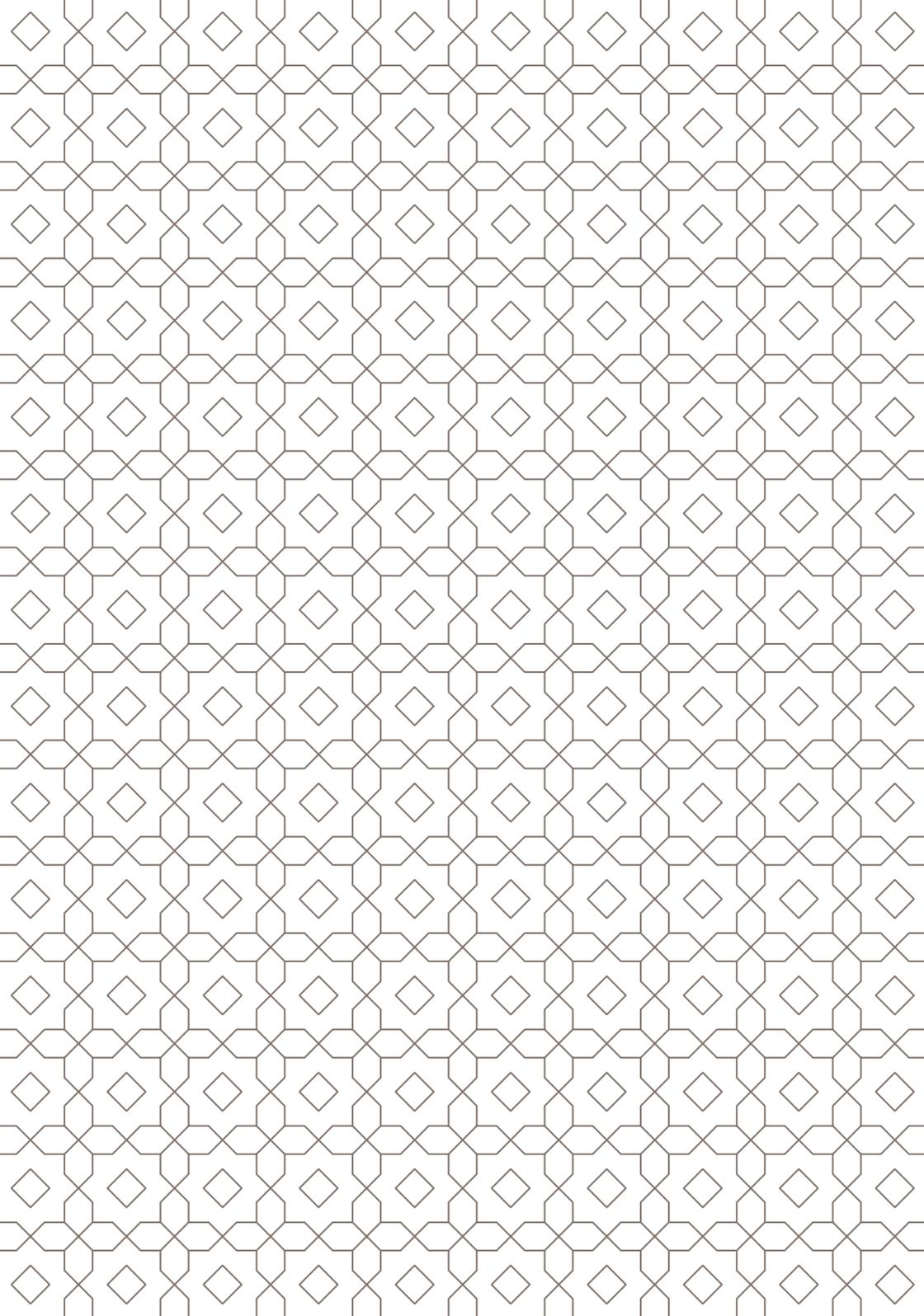


# SANTORINI



BRIGHT BLUE

VILLAS



## EXPLORE SANTORINI

Santorini, A mythical island: essentially what remained after an enormous volcanic eruption that created a giant, central, rectangular lagoon with high, steep cliffs on three sides and the current geological caldera (volcanic crater).

Our Bright Blue Santorini villas perched along the top of the cliffs will make you feel like you live in a unique place on earth.

The main island slopes downward to the Aegean Sea. The capital Fira, with its whitewashed cubic houses with their vertiginous terraces – now home to fabulous restaurants and cafes, clings to the top of the cliff looking down on the lagoon. The white clusters of the town of Oia sitting on the rim of the island’s circling cliffs, will thrill you with one of the world’s most breathtaking sunsets.





## HISTORY

Although most tourists can't leave behind the unique view and tend to explore less the real Santorini, our dedicated concierge team offers plenty of unique suggestions for an authentic UNFORGETTABLE Santorini experience.

Santorini is known as the "Greek Pompeii" and claims the title of "The Lost Atlantis" since the archaeological site of ancient Akrotiri, an ancient Minoan city was discovered in 1967. Don't miss an educational visit to this site, which re-opened in April 2012, after being buried under the grey volcanic ashes for some 3,000 years; in fact a whole intact ancient city is still waiting to be unearthed.

Take a guided tour and explore the traditional architecture of Santorini, the low-lying cubical houses, made of local stone and whitewashed or lime-washed with various volcanic ashes used as colors. The unique characteristic is the common utilization of the hypóskapha: extensions of houses dug sideways or downwards into the surrounding pumice.

## ARTS

Whether you want to buy art, or just browse through contemporary creations of Greek and international artists, visit one of the numerous galleries located on the island. They very usually host exhibitions from contemporary, innovative and awarded Greek & foreign artists.

## ACTIVITIES

Santorini has a plethora of activities for its visitors to enjoy ranging from the truly active to the most sedentary of lifestyles. The towns and settlements of Fira and Oia with their cobblestoned streets and alleyways feature chic boutiques and shops and countless dining options for those who wish to while away days and nights looking out over the wondrous views of the Caldera.

### Climbing

Santorini is a climber's paradise. The steep cliffs raising 300m above the caldera offer challenging climbing paths that have attracted even the most famous and experienced world climbers.

### Walking

Don't leave Santorini without walking at least once the amazing path from Fira to Oia – total time about 2 hours! Only in this way will you have experienced the absolute grandeur of the beauty of this unique island. Make sure you set off early in the morning to avoid the big heat, or in the evening so that you reach Oia in time for the sunset.

### Photography Tour

Get to know Santorini with the guidance of an experienced photographer/guide, following a wide variety of itineraries. You will improve your skills in photography, capture the Aegean beauty through your camera and come back with an authentic photo album full of unforgettable experiences.

### Cooking classes

We can arrange for you to take a cooking lesson in one of the best restaurants based on the local cuisine only with Santorini products, as this volcanic soil also yields riches: the legendary 'Santorini cherry tomato' deep red with tough skins outside, flaming red and juicy inside; the famous Santorini fava beans, which have a light, fresh taste; barley; wheat; and white-skin eggplants.

### Wine tasting

For the wine tasting lovers, let us guide you through this unique aroma journey by taking you to some of the best organized vineyard destinations in Greece; coupled with excellent food and wine tasting experiences. The White wines from the island are extremely dry with a strong, citrus scent with metallic aromas enriched by the ashy volcanic soil. At Estate Argyros, you can also taste the Vinsanto 20 years barrel aged wine, one of the oldest and most aged Vinsanto of the island – awarded several prizes all over the world.



### BEACHLIFE

Due to the volcanic activity on the island, Santorini's beaches differ from others in Greece, so here the beaches have either black or red coloured sand.

Amongst the most popular ones are Perivolos Beach, Perissa Beach, Kamari Beach, Vlychada and the Red Beach of Akrotiri. These organized beaches feature sun beds and umbrella's for rent, beach sports and tavern's near by.

### Sailing

Sail around the magnificent caldera in brand new catamarans, ideal for a romantic sea escape, a family educational sea experience and you will be surrounded by the breathtaking Santorinean landscape. You can hire it for a half day cruise or just for a short tour to admire the spectacular sunset. Book your private or group boat cruise and enjoy the unique opportunity to see the awesome volcano from up close, dive in the hot springs, swim in the deep green waters and enjoy a barbeque or picnic at the island's most secluded parts.

### **Water sports**

Jet-ski lovers get ready for organized jet ski safaris around the island. Start your adventure from Perivolos or Perissa and master the waves till you reach White and Red beach, the volcano and the islands of the caldera. If you like the adrenalin change, you can try paragliding using the special parasailing boat, private water ski or wakeboard lessons.

### **Scuba diving and snorkeling.**

Scuba diving aficionados can really appreciate the unique experience of the underwater Santorini world. There is an amazing distinctiveness of the bottom of this sea: the volcanic stones and the bottomless depth of the caldera.



Let us organize for you private lessons at PADI accredited diving centers throughout the island. A great experience for adults but also for children that wish to discover the sea world's secrets!

### **HAPPY CHILDREN**

#### **Journey to history**

Families with children will find a memorable educating experience visiting the Museum of Prehistoric Thera and the Archaeological Museum which hosts the important findings that were brought into light during the excavations in Akrotiri. Visiting Akrotiri itself is like travelling back in history.

Walk around the streets and squares of a pre-historic city town with around 30.000 people and admire the multi-storey public buildings, earthquake-proof houses and the ancient sewage system. Carved stones, wall paintings, and rococo furniture – all remains of elegant mansions that were built around 1700 B.C.

#### **Have your children ever visited a volcano?**

Santorini is essentially what remains after an enormous volcanic explosion that destroyed the earliest settlements on a formerly single island and created the current geological caldera. Walk on the edge of the biggest crater called Daphne; you will be impressed with the colorful rocks and their formations.

#### **Mountain bike**

For the mountain bike fanatics, discover Santorini through your wheels on a guided or a self-guided family tour!

## DINING

An island with many restaurant choices, Santorini gives you the option to dine in luxury or in elegant simplicity, choosing numerous cuisines in a variety of locations. In the summer months, reservations are highly advised as dinner in Greece is served quite late. We have a few recommendations for our guests, but please do not hesitate to ask us further for our tips.

### **Selene Restaurant** (+30 22860 22249)

Selene is now probably the best restaurant in the Cyclades, offering elegant settings and service and an extensive Greek wine list. With a deep love for island cuisine and local ingredients, Selene is located in Pyrgos, which is one of the most beautiful and well-preserved villages of Santorini built around a medieval castle. In the summer, owner George Hatziyianakis and his chefs give daylong cooking classes. Reservations at Selene are highly recommended.



### **1800 Restaurant** (+30 22860 71800)

One of the Cyclades most famous restaurants, 1800 located in Oia, is a magnificently restored old captain's house; original colors and furnishings, including antique sofas, wooden travel chests, and a hand-painted Venetian bed create a very romantic dinner ambiance. The eclectic menu offers a blend of Greek fusion and molecular cuisine and will appeal especially to the most adventurous palates. A superlative roof terrace offers breathtaking views of Oia's most spectacular church cupolas and the famous sunsets.

### **Restaurant Ambrosia** (+30 22860 71413)

The balcony of this restaurant in Oia looks out onto the caldera's edge and offers contemporary adventurous Mediterranean cuisine. With only a dozen tables on the two terraces, it makes for one of the most intimate candlelit meals on the island. Its nearby sister restaurant Ambrosia & Nectar is less formal and easier to get a table.

## **BARS AND NIGHTLIFE**

Santorini has a history of wild nightlife that dates back to the disco era. A great starting point to your evening, enjoy a huge array of bars with music ranging from deep progressive house music to acid jazz. Most of them enjoy magical atmosphere as they sit right on the caldera.

### **Beach clubs**

Santorini offers a number of exceptional organised beaches. You can head to the exclusive Red Beach, a rare volcanic beach or chose to swim with your family in Monolithos or in the cosmopolitan Perivolos – a beach with totally black sand and crystal waters where you can spend your day relaxing and sipping cocktails under the sun and the sound of the music.

Please see below a list of our favorite beach bars and restaurants:

**Anemos** – Perivolos (+30 22860 82711)

**Sea Side Lounge** – Perivolos (+30 22860 82801)

**Tranquilo** – Perissa (+30 22860 85230)

**Theros Wave Bar** – Vlyhada (+30 22860 25469)

## **BY AIR**

There are several daily flights from Athens to Santorini with Aegean Airlines; flight lasts 35 minutes. British Airways also connects directly Santorini with London in the summer months. Easyjet and Ryanair are also operating direct flights.

## **BY FERRY**

Santorini is easily accessible by ferries leaving Athens ports (Piraeus and Rafina), especially in the summer when ferry companies add to their scheduled journeys; the trip lasts around 5.5 hours. Modern high-speed catamarans offering several classes of service are operated by Hellenic Seaways ([www.hellenicseaways.gr](http://www.hellenicseaways.gr)) and Sea Jets ([www.seajets.gr](http://www.seajets.gr)) and are twice as fast if you wish to travel by boat. You can also reach Santorini via other Greek islands if you want to island-hop.

## **BY HELICOPTER**

The helicopter ride from Athens to Santorini lasts around 45 minutes and makes the island easily accessible to the most demanding travelers.



## DIRECTORY

Santorini Airport  
+30 22860 28400

Athens International Airport  
+30 210 3530000

British Airways (Athens)  
+30 210 3530453

Aegean Airlines  
(Athens) +30 210 6261000  
(Santorini) +30 22860 31666

Taxi Santorini  
+30 22860 22 555

Cable car  
+30 22860 22 977

Port Authority Piraeus  
+30 210 4147800

Port Authority Rafina  
+30 22940 22300  
+30 22940 22487

## SPEEDBOAT AGENCIES:

Hellenic Seaways  
+30 210 41 99000

Rafina Agency  
+30 22940 26239  
+30 22890 26623

## MEDICAL SERVICES

Central Clinic of Santorini  
+30 22860 21728

Ambulance  
+30 22860 60300

## DOCTORS

Paediatrician  
Christina Chalkiopolou  
+30 6974 310178

General Practitioner  
Aristotelis Mastakas  
+30 6944 384869

Dentist  
Vasilis Nikolitsis  
+30 22860 23769

General Surgeon  
Stavrou Andreas  
+30 6945 148446

Veterinary Clinic  
Margarita Valvi  
+30 22860 31482

## PHARMACIES

Fira Town  
+30 22860 23444

Oia Town Tel  
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## BANKS

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