

# SPORADES ISLANDS SKOPELOS

Relaxed and unpretentious, green and hilly Skopelos has spotlessly clean beaches and a laid-back, generous atmosphere.

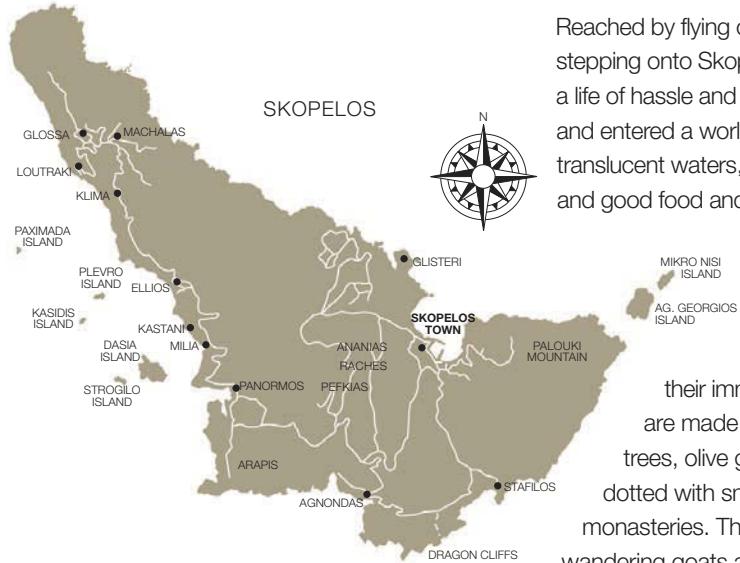
Skopelos Town

## SKOPELOS

A romantic, heavily wooded island with a classic amphitheatrical capital and wonderful coves to explore



View over Skopelos Town



Reached by flying cat/ferry from Skiathos, stepping onto Skopelos it feels like you have shed a life of hassle and manufactured entertainment, and entered a world of simple, timeless pleasures: translucent waters, cerulean skies, star-filled nights and good food and wine in friendly company.

With a coastline of mostly steep cliffs, the island's beaches have a special importance and are noted for their immaculate condition. The hillsides are made up of wild flowers and fruit trees, olive groves and pines, and are dotted with small churches and whitewashed monasteries. The only sounds are the bells of wandering goats and the calls of birds, and everywhere you look there are dramatic views across the Aegean Sea to neighbouring islands.

The steep, winding warren of Skopelos Town and the intimate tavernas under the lights of the waterfront are part of the changeless pleasures of Greek island life.

### Multi-Centre Options

Skopelos with Skiathos or Alonissos



Skopelos Town



View over Skopelos Town



Kastani Beach



Milia Beach

## SKOPELOS TOWN

Nothing epitomises what a Greek island town should be better than Skopelos, the capital of this, the largest island in the Sporades. Legend has it that Skopelos was founded by Staphylos, one of the sons of the god Dionysos. The island was a Cretan colony in the late bronze age. A town, with a current population of approximately 3,000, Skopelos was designated a traditional town of outstanding architectural heritage in 1978.

Strict building regulations and preservation orders have kept it colourful, clean and tidy, with narrow climbing streets, countless tiny chapels and houses linked by bridges in the typical architectural style of the Sporades. No house is higher than two stories, all must have a traditional stone or tile roof and all doors, windows and balconies have to be made of wood.

Mulberry trees line the waterfront and shade numerous cafes and restaurants and there are many good quality shops selling local crafts.

As well as offering a really relaxing holiday in friendly and attractive surroundings, Skopelos Town and its surroundings offer excellent walking. There are some very good beaches to choose from, most of them on the sheltered west coast and easily reached from Skopelos Town by bus or hire car. These range from tiny coves (generally shingle) to long stretches of dazzling white pebbles or sand/shingle, such as popular Stafylos Bay, 4km from the town. The sea is sparkling and clear and the swimming excellent.

The countryside around Skopelos Town is dotted with historic churches and monasteries (about 300 of them), three of which are still inhabited. An ideal spot to be in order to explore this picturesque island by either bike, car or local bus.

## PANORMOS

Twelve kilometres and a 20 minute drive from Skopelos Town and through the ever present pine forests is the seaside village of Panormos. On the south west coast of the island, the bay of Panormos is deep and sheltered and Panormos beach is one of the most popular on the island and tends to fill in the peak season. Mostly shingle but excellent for swimming, the beach here shelves pretty steeply into the sea which is crystal clear and of an emerald colour. The large bay has many other small coves and inlets which can be reached by walking around the bay and over rocks. You can, of course, always swim or wade there.

Strung along the sea front, the village has a mini market and is connected to Skopelos Town by a local bus service.

Set off on an adventure to one of Skopelos' most dramatic spots in your very own castle. Perched atop a cliff on the island's northeast coast is Villa Pyrgos, a special place where the views are endless and the air the freshest you will ever breathe.

A jeep is included in the rental of this magical, remote villa, for one is necessary to traverse the bouncy narrow road to the top. But the journey is more than worth it. The villa is a maze of artistry and intrigue, thanks to its local artist owners.

From every angle the views take your breath away, and none is more spectacular than the one across the sea towards Alonissos. Because of its location Villa Pyrgos isn't suitable for small children, but families with older children will appreciate the annexe. However, Villa Pyrgos comes into its own for couples seeking romance and adventure with a dash of quirkiness thrown in.

- Sleeps up to 5
- 2 bedrooms (1D-1T)
- 1 sofa bed (1S)
- 2 bathrooms
- Jeep hire included
- Swimming pool
- Air conditioning
- WiFi

#### The setup

##### The villa:

- Open-plan sitting room
- Bathroom

##### Gallery floor:

- Sitting area
- Double bedroom

##### Independent annexe (a few metres away):

- Twin bedroom
- Bathroom
- Swimming pool (7.5m x 3.5m and depth 0.90m-1.80m)





For more detailed information & photos visit [www.gicthevillacollection.com](http://www.gicthevillacollection.com)

SKOPELOS **155**

HOUSE OF DIMITRI  
NEAR SKOPELOS TOWN • SKOPELOS

Perched on a hilltop overlooking Skopelos Town and the sea, The House of Dimitri promises a relaxing holiday with a view. With an elegant traditional charm, beautiful outdoor spaces and a magnificent pool overlooking the bay, it's the perfect spot for couples or families.

During World War II, this hilltop home was used as a secret radio communications centre between the island and British submarines. Today, however, it's all about a more peaceful vibe. Swim to the pool's edge and look towards the island of Alonissos to imagine the villa's past life.

The interior of the house is unusual in its layout, with three levels, four entrances and private balconies allowing for quiet time to relax.

Outside is stunning. While the views take centre stage, the pool and sun loungers are perfect spots from which to enjoy them.

-  Sleeps up to 4
-  2 bedrooms (1D-1T)
-  2 bathrooms
-  Car hire included
-  Swimming pool
-  Air conditioning
-  WiFi

#### The setup

##### Ground floor:

- Sitting room
- Kitchen
- Cloakroom

##### First floor:

- Double bedroom
- Bathroom
- Kitchenette
- Balcony overlooking the pool and garden

##### Second floor:

- Twin bedroom with en suite bathroom and a Juliet balcony
- Swimming pool (8m x 5m and depth 1m-2.6m)





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SKOPELOS **157**

Thalassa Vista is a whitewashed neo-classical villa with Mediterranean elegance. Its perfect location, a short walk from Skopelos Town, offers the ideal balance of tranquillity and the gentle hubbub of the capital on the doorstep.

Thalassa Vista has a unique interior layout, making it perfect for a family or group of friends. The open-plan living and dining areas on the ground floor will bring loved ones together, while the first floor offers privacy with its extra open-plan living space. The harbour views from the balcony are stunning too.

In the garden, the scent of oleander wafts on the warm air and the swimming pool twinkles in the sunlight. It's a special space, where families will create memories splashing in the pool and dining al fresco.

Hire a car or explore on foot – the choice is yours, and that's part of the charm.

- Sleeps up to 7
- 3 bedrooms (3D/T)
- 1 sofa bed (1S)
- 3 bathrooms
- Swimming pool
- Air conditioning
- WiFi

#### The setup

##### Ground floor:

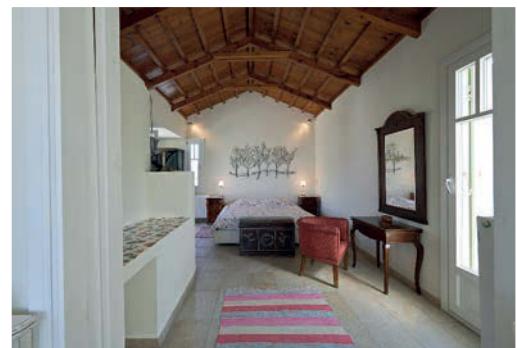
- Open-plan living room with dining and kitchen area
- Bathroom
- Reception room
- Cloakroom
- Double bedroom

##### Mezzanine floor:

- Twin/double bedroom with en suite bathroom

##### First floor:

- Bedroom with designated living area, en suite bathroom and private balcony
- Swimming pool (6m x 5m)





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SKOPELOS **159**

Within gated grounds and just a short walk from Skopelos Town is the magnificent Villa Joanna. Families or a group of friends will feel instantly at home here – drop your bags and head straight for a dip in the swimming pool.

The villa is spacious, with a fresh, white décor, open-plan ground-floor living space, and large bedrooms with modern en suite facilities and garden views. Win the coin toss and get the downstairs double to be in for the treat of being able to go from your bed to the pool in a few steps.

Days at Villa Joanna can be spent lounging in the tree-filled garden and walking to the nearby beach and getting to know the town's locals in quaint little tavernas. The adjacent Villa Lena and smaller Villa Juno offer the option to bring the whole family or larger groups together in the Skopelos sunshine. One of the joys of this enviable location is not needing a car, but if you are so inclined there are stunning remote beaches and wild landscapes to explore on day trips.

- Sleeps up to 9
- 4 bedrooms (2D-1T-1T/D)
- 1 sofa bed (1S)
- 3 bathrooms
- Swimming pool
- Air conditioning
- WiFi

#### The setup

##### Basement:

- Double bedroom with en suite bathroom

##### Ground floor:

- Open-plan living room with kitchenette
- Double bedroom with doors to the garden and pool
- Bathroom

##### First floor:

- Twin bedroom with en suite bathroom
- Twin/double bedroom with en suite bathroom
- Swimming pool (3.7m x 7.0m and depth 1.10m-1.60m)





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SKOPELOS **161**

# VILLA LENA

SKOPELOS TOWN • SKOPELOS

Villa Lena is a tranquil retreat just a stone's throw from the shops, cafes and tavernas of Skopelos Town. The villa is modern and exceptionally pretty, its whitewashed walls and sunny patio contrasted by the turquoise of the swimming pool. It is the perfect place for families or groups of friends who want to skip the hire car, enjoy peaceful time together and be within walking distance of beaches and eateries.

Dine poolside under the oleander and breathe in the fresh sea air, or get together for family meals around the large indoor dining table.

Spend your days splashing in the pool or reading under a parasol, or head off on day trips to experience the beauty of the island. The harbour front is just a 350m walk from the property's walled courtyard, where Villa Lena meets its sister properties, Villa Joanna and Villa Juno. Hop on a boat to explore the beautiful Sporades Marine Park and see dolphins and monk seals.

-  Sleeps up to 9
-  4 bedrooms (1D-3T)
-  1 sofa bed (1S)
-  3 bathrooms
-  Swimming pool
-  Air conditioning
-  WiFi

## The setup

### Basement:

- Double bedroom with en suite bathroom

### Ground floor:

- Open-plan living room with kitchenette
- Two twin bedrooms both with en suite bathroom
- Cloakroom

### First floor:

- Twin bedroom with en suite bathroom and balcony with pool view
- Single sofa bed on the landing
- Swimming pool (7m x 3.7m and depth 1.10m-1.60m)





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SKOPELOS 163

JUNO COTTAGE  
SKOPELOS TOWN • SKOPELOS

Juno Cottage is simply charming. Perched on the edge of Skopelos Town, it exudes peace and seclusion – the perfect choice for couples in search of a truly relaxing escape.

The cottage is compact and cosy, with a big sofa for putting your feet up, stylish décor, and a bright bedroom. Step outside and you enter your own little paradise of a patio. With the perfect balance of shade and sun you can choose to enjoy a romantic breakfast under a canopy of climbing plants or soak up the warmth in the little suntrap.

Pack a beach bag and walk just 350m, and you're dipping your toes into the Aegean or tasting Greek specialties at a little taverna in the town centre. With shops, restaurants and an authentic small-town vibe right on Juno Cottage's doorstep, there is no need to hire a car unless further exploration is desired.

While Juno Cottage is a couple's paradise, when combined with the larger neighbouring properties of Villa Lena or Villa Joanna, it can also offer a delightful escape for a group of friends or extended family. It gives you plenty of individual privacy and space with all the fun of a group getaway.

**Note:** Juno Cottage's guests can use pool at the Hotel Dioyssos 2 mins walk away.

- Sleeps up to 3
- 1 bedroom (1D)
- 1 chair beds (1S)
- 1 bathroom
- Air conditioning
- WiFi

**The setup**

- Open-plan living room with kitchenette
- Double bedroom
- Bathroom

