

# Dodecanese

The islands of the Dodecanese are the furthest grouping from the Greek mainland, and hug the Turkish coastline so closely that in some places one could seemingly swim between the two continents. Being in Greece's far south-eastern corner, they not only enjoy an enviable sunshine record but a very strategic location, and it is their turbulent past which has resulted in such a distinctive history, culture and architecture.



Within the group, however, there is a great deal of variety, and each island has its own character, from Patmos in the north – which has amore Cycladic style – to tiny, remote Kastellorizo in the south.

Over the millennia the Dodecanese have been under the control of outsiders for much of the time – Persians, Macedonians, Romans, Crusader knights, Ottoman Turks and, until 1943, Italians have all held sway.

In the 1st century AD St Paul and St John visited (John eventually settling on Patmos), and in the 20th century the islands saw fierce fighting between German and Allied forces during WW2. So if you like history you will not be disappointed! Evidence of most past invaders is still all around, from the Crusader castles – medieval Rhodes Town is the outstanding example – to the grandiose public buildings left by the Italians.

Add to this a decent smattering of Hellenistic ruins, a myriad of Byzantine chapels, and atmospheric harbours lined by 19th century sea captains' mansions and you have a unique and vibrant mix.

But overlying all this is the islands' overwhelmingly Greek character. All the elements which make Greece such a

wonderfully relaxed, friendly and picturesque holiday destination are here, from the small whitewashed villages clinging to the hillside above the sea to beaches as good as you will find anywhere.

The main hubs here are popular Rhodes and Kos, which have organised tourism served by direct charter flights. But hop on a ferry for an hour or two and you are transported to an older, quieter world.

Rhodes apart, we feature most of the smaller islands either in this brochure or on our website. Should you wish to sample a selection, island hopping holidays are easy to arrange here – please enquire.

As with all Aegean islands, there can be strong winds – notably the Meltemi which normally blows from the north in July and August – so do be prepared for possible disruption to the boat schedules. Although rare, in this event we will make all arrangements necessary at no extra cost to you, which may include an unscheduled overnight in Rhodes or Kos.

## Important – Transfers and Ferries

We include all transfers and all ferry tickets. However please note that full ferry schedules may not have been published when your holiday is booked, in which case we base our transfer arrangements on last year's. If there is subsequently no same-day connection we will add overnight hotel(s) and additional transfers where required - we do not consider this to be a major change to your holiday. Even once published, ferry schedules are subject to change and can be affected by weather conditions, delays and mechanical problems. In this event we shall amend your itinerary on the spot at no extra cost.



Tilos



Symi



Halki

# Tilos

Tiny Tilos (pop. 550), midway between Rhodes and Kos, is the most enlightened Greek island we know and leads the way in environmental protection and eco-tourism.

The islanders, led by a progressive mayor, realised years ago that the way forward was in limited, high quality tourism a world away from the mass market. To this end they dedicated their efforts to sustainable tourism – becoming the first island in Greece to ban hunting was a bold start – and have never looked back.

The island's 64 sq kms, together with its surrounding archipelago of 16 uninhabited islets, have been designated an Important Bird Area, an EU-registered Special Protection Area and a Natura 2000 site amongst others. What this all means is that visitors here will find a protected natural environment with a wonderful diversity of flora and fauna, especially birds (there are 155 documented wild species, including the rare Eleonora's Falcon).

Tilos is therefore a paradise for walkers and now boasts 67km of signed walking trails (many being restored cobbled mule paths) which run through untamed countryside, linking rugged mountains with fertile valleys of wild flowers, pine, oak and almond watered by the island's many underground springs. From the heights, the views to six neighbouring islands and Turkey are stunning. A walking map is available locally. For a good idea of the walking possibilities here see the website [www.tilostrails.com](http://www.tilostrails.com).

And there are certainly things to explore whilst out and about – some 200 Byzantine country chapels, seven Crusader castles, abandoned villages, a Byzantine monastery, and one of the most important archaeological finds in recent history – a cave full of dwarf elephants, the last of their kind to survive in Europe. The small museum here is a must-visit.

## TILOS INFORMATION

### Getting To Tilos

Wednesday flights from Gatwick, Manchester and Birmingham to Rhodes (other regional airports may be available).

After several years without a direct boat connection on a Wednesday, we are pleased to advise that a service has been reinstated, operating in 2018 from mid-May. The local boat Panayia Spiliani is operating from the small port of Kamiros Skala on Rhodes' west coast, an approximate 35 minute transfer time from the airport.

Departs Kamiros Skala 18.00, arrives Tilos 20.00  
Departs Tilos 07.00, arrives Kamiros Skala 09.00

Should your flight not connect with this boat service, or if for any reason (e.g. weather, technical, early or late season) it does not operate we will overnight clients in Rhodes Town on arrival and/or departure with ferry transfers to Tilos on Thursday morning and from Tilos on Tuesday afternoon.

Many walking trails start from the main port of Livadia. This sleepy, traditional and overwhelmingly friendly little village boasts a lovely long pebble beach, shaded by tamarisk trees, lapped by the clearest of seas and backed by a car-free walkway. It also has some dozen very good tavernas and the same number of café-bars, seven mini-markets (will deliver), a bakery and a bank with an ATM. Cars can be rented and some organised trips do run, by bus, boat or on foot, including (last year) Tilos Highlights and Monastery and Sunset. A bus runs to the other main settlement of Megalo Chorio and (in season) to sandy Eristos beach. Tilos has 19 beaches, many of which can be reached only on foot or by boat as they have been purposefully left road-free.

Of course all the usual benefits which make Greece such a great destination for a relaxing holiday are present in abundance on Tilos – sun, sea, tavernas, village life etc. But Tilos offers so much more, and is a shining example to other small islands under similar economic pressures. By visiting you will not only have a splendid holiday, you will be supporting the island's initiative and helping others to see that an alternative to mass tourism can work.

### Representative

We have our own local representative based on Tilos. However please note that transfers are not escorted.

### Car Hire

Available locally – see your representative.

### Multi-Centre Options

With any other Dodecanese island (via Rhodes). Should ferry schedules remain as last year this will mean an overnight is required in the middle except for Nissyros, Kos, Kalymnos and Halki which had a direct connection on Tuesday and Thursday.



## Iliidi Rock Livadia

The Iliidi Rock has the best views in town and is highly praised by our guests. It occupies a splendid position above the bay overlooking the village and is a three minute walk above the sea to the harbour. A pair of pretty shingle coves afford fine swimming below the hotel.

Modern in style (opened fully in 2009), the hotel comprises several buildings. The studios contain twin or double beds, a kitchen area with 2-ring mini-oven or microwave and fridge, air-conditioning, tiled shower room, TV, hairdryer, room-safe, iron and a front balcony with wonderful views over the bay. The apartments have the addition of a living room with two sofa beds (some built-in) for children and a bigger terrace. The hotel also has Junior Suites, which are really just bigger versions of the studio, and a corner Honeymoon Suite.

There is a fitness room and a sauna (both free) and a comfortable lounge-bar in the main reception

area with a huge outdoor terrace, again boasting splendid views to Livadia. WiFi is available here (and in some rooms) at no extra charge, and there is also a PC guests can use.

Steps lead down to a pair of small pebble beaches below with complimentary sunbeds for guests. From June onwards the hotel operates a very smart beach bar in a stunning location above the sea, offering breakfasts, snacks and meals during the day. Although there are many steps within the hotel (as it is built into the cliff) please note that, on request we can book rooms in the first block, which is at the lowest level just by the start of the footpath to the village (so no steps).

**Air Conditioning:** available at a local charge of €7 per day.

The Apartments:	Self Catering Studios for 2 Apartments for 2/4 Air Conditioning Free WiFi
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## Eleni Beach Hotel Livadia

This popular family-run beachfront hotel is very friendly and offers good service and value. It has a traditional flavour in its pretty blue and white décor, local pottery and nautical theme.

The 36 rooms are contained in four low-rise buildings, a mix of doubles, twins and triples. All are simply and attractively furnished (some with iron bedsteads) and possess air-conditioning, ceiling fan, fridge, tiled shower room and balcony with good sea or side sea views. Kettles and hairdryers can be provided on request.

The hotel also has some studio rooms with light cooking facilities (although breakfast is still included), a couple of which can interconnect for families - these rooms are on request.

Above the beach is the hotel's snack bar where breakfast is served. The beach to the front is pristine and the hotel provides sun beds free of charge for its guests. A ten minute walk along the paved beachfront footpath, past a choice of tavernas and cafes, brings you to Livadia's fishing harbour and the centre of the village.



The Hotel:	3 Stars Bed & Breakfast Air Conditioning Free WiFi
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## Livadia Beach Apartments Livadia

The Livadia Beach Apartments offer very good quality self catering accommodation directly on Livadia beach. They comprise 16 units within three separate buildings, each of two floors, with pretty garden surrounds.

There is a choice of studios and suites. All units are spacious, nicely furnished in a light, modern style and possess air-conditioning (local charge), WiFi, TV, iron with board and safety deposit boxes (free).

Standard Studios are to the rear and are twin-bedded with an open-plan kitchenette (2-ring mini-oven, fridge), nice tiled bathroom with bath and shower, and good-sized balcony or garden terrace with mountain or side sea views.

The Grand Studios are similar but double-bedded and larger in size with the addition of an attractively furnished living room area. All are on the first floor and possess a large covered balcony boasting full sea views.

The Suites are very spacious. All are ground floor with a double bedroom and a separate living room containing one or two full-size

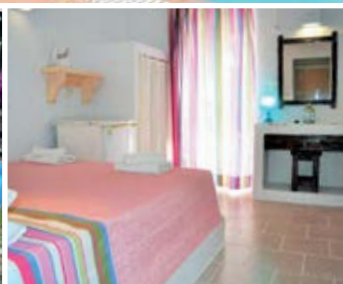
sofa-beds and a plasma tv. All, too, have a generous sea view terrace to the front and a second terrace over the gardens.

A seasonal snack bar (operates from June) to the side and front of the garden serves breakfast and light meals through the day. It is directly above the super shingle beach, where sun beds and umbrellas are offered free of charge to guests.

A 15 minute stroll above the beach via the pedestrian path brings you to Livadia harbour, and you will find a tempting choice of restaurants along the way.

**Air Conditioning:** Air Conditioning: available at a local charge of €7 per day.

The Apartments: Self Catering  
Studios for 2  
Suites for 2/4  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



## Irini Hotel Livadia

This small family-run hotel stands in a quiet residential area just 2-3 minutes walk from both the beach and the centre of Livadia. The hotel was fully refurbished in 2017 and has 23 rooms set in semi-tropical gardens of rose, hibiscus, palm and banana trees. Within the gardens is the large swimming pool (12m x 8.5m) - still a rarity on Tilos.

Rooms are ground or first floor and comprise twin or double beds (usually built-in), air-conditioning, ceiling fan, fridge, kettle, room-safe, small ensuite shower room and private balcony or terrace - views are either towards the pool (a handful have some sea views on request only) or mountains and surrounding gardens. Furnishings and décor are simple, bright and cheerful.

A continental breakfast is served inside or on the garden terrace, and within a short easy 5 minute walk you will find a good choice of tavernas, either in the centre of the village or behind the beach.

Recommended for its convenient but quiet location, large swimming pool and lush gardens.

**Air Conditioning:** available at a local charge of €7 per day.

The Hotel: 2 Star  
Bed & Breakfast  
Air Conditioning  
Swimming Pool  
Free WiFi  
(lobby)

## Olympus Studios Livadia

These comfortable studios are just a minute's walk from the centre, 3 minutes from the harbour and about the same to the start of the beach.

They have been nicely renovated, with new furniture, bathrooms and kitchens, and combine good quality with tasteful modern decor.

There are ten studios in all. Those on the top floor are for couples only, those on the ground floor are larger and can accommodate one or two



children. They all possess twin beds, an alcove kitchen area (2-ring mini-oven, full fridge), a modern shower room and two balconies - one to the rear with sunblind and mountain views, and one to the front.

Some on the top floor have partial sea views over the village rooftops. All units have air-conditioning (included in the price), light wood furniture and tiled floors.

Cool and airy, Olympus offers simple but good quality accommodation close to the heart of the village.

The Studios: Self Catering  
Studios for 2 and 2/4  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



## Marina Studios Livadia

The elevated position of these 12 studios ensures panoramic views over Livadia village and bay from their front balconies.

The studios are spacious, nicely but simply furnished. All are air-conditioned and mostly twin-bedded (double on request) with a basic kitchenette (hob, fridge), TV, hairdryer, iron and shower room.

French doors open onto the good-sized balcony from which to sit and admire the views. Most studios have free WiFi access.

It is not so far from the centre of the village as it may look. A short cut, via a small path and some steps, brings you to the harbour in five minutes, and the beach in just a few more.

**Air Conditioning:** available at a local charge of €5 per day.



The Studios: Self Catering  
Studios for 2/3  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



Mikro Horio

## Walking on Tilos

Sadly Ian and Lyn Fulton, who operated guided walks on Tilos for many years, have left the island. However they have left a legacy for independent walkers of a network of researched paths, some of which are (at the time of writing) still available to view on their website [www.tilostrails.com](http://www.tilostrails.com) e.g the Introductory walk up to the abandoned old village of Mikro Horio. Our island representative will also be able to give information on walking options locally.

TILOS ACCOMMODATION		PERSONS BASIS	Guide prices per person in £s departing during								
			Low Season (May - end Jun & mid Sep - Oct)				High Season (early Jul - early Sep)				
			From		To		From		To		
Eleni Beach	Standard Room	2	BB	869	1122	984	1300	992	1308	1012	1330
	Studio	2	BB	924	1234	1016	1380	1039	1404	1060	1425
Iliidi Rock	Studio	2	SC	918	1208	1025	1362	1025	1362	1046	1383
	Junior Suite	2	SC	946	1263	1076	1466	1076	1466	1098	1486
	Apartment	2	SC	1010	1390	1180	1672	1180	1672	1201	1693
		3	SC	896	1192	1090	1522	1090	1522	1111	1543
	4	SC	852	1076	1012	1338	1012	1338	1034	1359	
Irimi Hotel	Standard Garden View	2	BB	813	1011	920	1166	920	1166	941	1186
	Standard Pool View	2	BB	861	1106	972	1269	972	1269	992	1290
Livadia Beach	Studio	2	SC	930	1232	1017	1346	1017	1346	1082	1454
	Grand Studio	2	SC	946	1263	1029	1370	1029	1370	1102	1494
	Suite	2	SC	1002	1374	1136	1584	1136	1584	1193	1678
		3	SC	896	1192	1019	1378	1019	1378	687	694
Marina	Studio	2	SC	791	953	874	1060	874	1060	914	1120
Olympus	Studio	2	SC	RQ	RQ	926	1163	926	1197	986	1264

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**Not included: Overnight Stay Tax of €0.50 to €4 per room, apartment or villa per night payable locally - the amount varies according to the category of the accommodation (i.e. most self catering and 1-2 star hotels = €0.50, 5 star hotels = €4).**

# Halki



Tiny Halki is the closest island to Rhodes, just 6 kms off its western coast, and you will not find a better example of two completely contrasting neighbours.

Halki is tiny, the smallest inhabited island in the whole Dodecanese group, measuring just 28 sq kms and with a resident population numbering just a few hundred (Rhodes pop 115,000!) easily outnumbered by foreign visitors in the summer months. There is one proper hotel, one village and one sandy beach. You are forced to relax, because there is not much to do here except eat, swim, read, sleep and generally forget the world. In other words you are free to enjoy a blissfully guilt-free holiday!

The local population live in Emborio. This handsome natural amphitheatrical harbour is lined by elegant Venetian stone mansions and boasts the tallest freestanding bell tower in the Dodecanese. The bells are silent now, ever since it was decided that people would sleep better without its loud chiming every 15 minutes. But the fact that they had to stop the clock to achieve this sums Halki up - this is one island on which time really has stood still!

The harbour is archetypal and as pretty as a postcard. We have not seen clearer water in any harbour than you will find here. Multi-hued and almost translucent, it is certainly a joy to swim - if you don't mind the small fish having a nibble! We even saw cuttlefish, which rarely visit shallow waters.

Nightlife revolves around the fine half-dozen or so waterfront tavernas which of course specialise in fish caught that morning (and which you may well have seen coming in off the fishing boats). There is a similar number of cafes and low-key bars, and various small shops selling all you should need.

The village behind is as exactly as you would expect - whitewashed lanes lined

with old houses (some crumbling), sudden splashes of colour provided by brightly painted doors and shutters, an unexpected burst of bougainvillea, or hardy geraniums thriving in an old olive oil tin.

You can swim to the side of Emborio harbour - there are jetties, steps or a ladder here and there to enable you - but should you prefer a beach the nearest is the small shingly cove of Ftenagia, a 5 minute walk behind the harbour via a rough path. The taverna here lays out its sun beds above the sea. The island's main beach is sandy Pondamos, a 10-15 minute walk and also with attendant taverna. Further coves and bays, mostly pebble, can be reached on foot; others, better but more remote, are best reached by taxi-boat from the harbour. The swimming in crystal-clear water is excellent everywhere.

There is a walking map you can buy on the island but trails are not well signed and can be difficult to find. But on an island as small as Halki you can't get lost for long! One walk most visitors make is to the old village, now deserted, of Chora, 3 kms to the west and topped by a crumbling Crusader castle. Your reward for the stiff walk up is panoramic vistas over Emborio to Rhodes and towards distant Karpathos.

Alternatively take the island public minibus high up the mountain to the Monastery of St John (c €5) and walk back - it takes around 2 hours. Halki was designated 'the island of peace and friendship' by UNESCO in 1983. They got it absolutely right - Halki is certainly peaceful and you could not find a friendlier island anywhere.

## HALKI INFORMATION

### Getting to Halki

Arrivals are on Wednesdays from Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham and a range of regional airports via Rhodes which connect with the late afternoon local ferry service (late flights may not connect - we will arrange transfers an overnight hotel in Rhodes Town with transfers). Taxi transfer to port (40 mins) and small ferryboat to the island dep. c. 17.30 (c 1 hour, tickets included). Short walk to your accommodation with luggage transfer. On your return the reverse applies.

### Representative

We do not have a representative on Halki. There are local travel agents for information and our main agent in Rhodes can always be contacted.

### Multi-Centre Options

With any other Dodecanese island via Rhodes. Last year Halki had a fast direct sea connection with Tilos, Nissyros, Kos and Kalymnos (Tue and Thu) which avoided travelling via Rhodes Town. Should mid-centre transfers be via Rhodes we can store luggage to allow free time to explore the Old Town before your late afternoon ferry or flight.



## Villa Antonis Emborios, Halki

This lovely stone house enjoys an excellent location just 20m back from Emborios waterfront and offers harbour and sea views. It is attractively furnished in a traditional island style and has the atmosphere more of a home than a holiday villa.

The house is on the upper (first) floor, reached by a path and a few steps up from the harbour. Entrance is into a spacious, light and high-ceilinged living room with a well equipped kitchen area (full cooker and fridge) to one end. There is a TV and a sofa bed for a child. French

windows open onto the front stone balcony, which has table, chairs and a sun umbrella and affords fine views to the harbour and bay over the roof of the house in front.

Off the living room are two bedrooms – one twin and one double (both with AC) – and a full bathroom with bath and shower above. There is also a small shaded area you can sit to the rear of the house, overlooking the courtyard.

Although you are just steps from the harbour and just a few minutes' walk from a choice of some good local tavernas, the location is quiet. Guests staying here may also swim very close by, using a ladder from the quayside into very clear waters. Sandy Pondamos beach is an approximate 15 minute walk and small boats leave the harbour daily in season for trips to other beaches.



Emborios

The Villa: Self Catering House for 2/5 Air Conditioning Free WiFi



Pontamos beach



View from Aretanassa

## Aretanassa Hotel Halki

Situated above the sea at the entrance to sweeping Emborio bay, the Aretanassa offers 19 stylish rooms on its 3 floors, served by a lift and all with panoramic sea views. Rooms are tastefully furnished with light and airy decor, and possess twin or king sized beds, AC, TV, fridge, room safe, bath or shower, hairdryer and sea view balcony or terrace (the terraces of the ground floor and second floor rooms are particularly generous).

A large sea-facing terrace to the front of the hotel provides the perfect setting for breakfast, the

lunchtime restaurant (seasonal) or just to relax with a drink or snack.

At the water's edge you'll find a decked platform, and sun loungers and parasols are provided as well as a ladder directly into the crystal clear water - the swimming from here is superb. The hotel is 600m from the harbour (8 mins walk) via the narrow lanes behind.

The Hotel: 3 Stars Bed & Breakfast Air Conditioning Free WiFi



HALKI		Guide prices per person in £s departing during								
ACCOMMODATION	PERSONS BASIS	Low Season (May - end Jun & mid Sep - Oct)				High Season (early Jul - early Sep)				
		From		To		From		To		
		1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wk	
Antonis Villa	2 Bedroom	2 SC	926	1200	1134	1586	1164	1617	1186	1638
	3 SC	810	994	992	1322	1015	1345	1036	1366	
	4 SC	813	973	964	1232	980	1247	1001	1268	
	5 SC	771	907	927	1173	940	1185	961	1206	
Aretanassa	Standard Ground Floor	2 BB	962	1272	1084	1512	1141	1570	1162	1590
	Standard First Floor	2 BB	1002	1352	1126	1602	1188	1665	1210	1686
	Deluxe Second Floor	2 BB	1042	1431	1170	1670	1212	1712	1234	1734

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**Not included: Overnight Stay Tax of €0.50 to €4 per room, apartment or villa per night payable locally - the amount varies according to the category of the accommodation (i.e. most self catering and 1-2 star hotels = €0.50, 5 star hotels = €4).**

# Patmos

Patmos' fame belies its size. This is where St John the Divine wrote the Book of Revelation, and the island hence receives many visitors, most of whom stay for only a few hours before returning to their cruise boat. That leaves the rest of this starkly beautiful island to those who, like us, prefer to fall under Patmos' spell in its own time.



It is the most northerly island of the Dodecanese and one of the smallest, measuring little over 20 square miles. Its hilly interior and highly indented coastline, however, means there is plenty of scope for walking and independent exploration.

The attractive port of Skala is the best place to stay, as everything seems to start from here. Skala is a bustling, quite sophisticated little place, with elegant arcaded cafés (a legacy of the Italians, who were here until 1947), fine tavernas and some smart shops hidden in the narrow backstreets.

A surprisingly good bus service runs at regular intervals to beaches and villages north and south, and to Hora and the monastery above. Skala has sand of its own, and caiques leave the quay for other

beaches, such as sandy Psili Ammos (only accessible by boat or on foot). Sea excursions operate 'around the island', as well as to nearby Arki and Lipsi.

High on the hill above Skala is the Monastery of St John, the white houses of Hora clustered below its imposing fortifications for protection. It is one of the magnificent sights of Greece. Founded in the 11th century, the monastery contains treasures second only to Athos. The best way to visit is by a 40 minute walk up the shaded cobbled path from Skala, via the Cave of the Apocalypse where St John received the Word of God. Hora is quite beautiful, with its old mansions and flower-filled courtyards, and has some good restaurants. The views from the square over Patmos and the Aegean are stunning..



## PATMOS INFORMATION

### Getting to Patmos

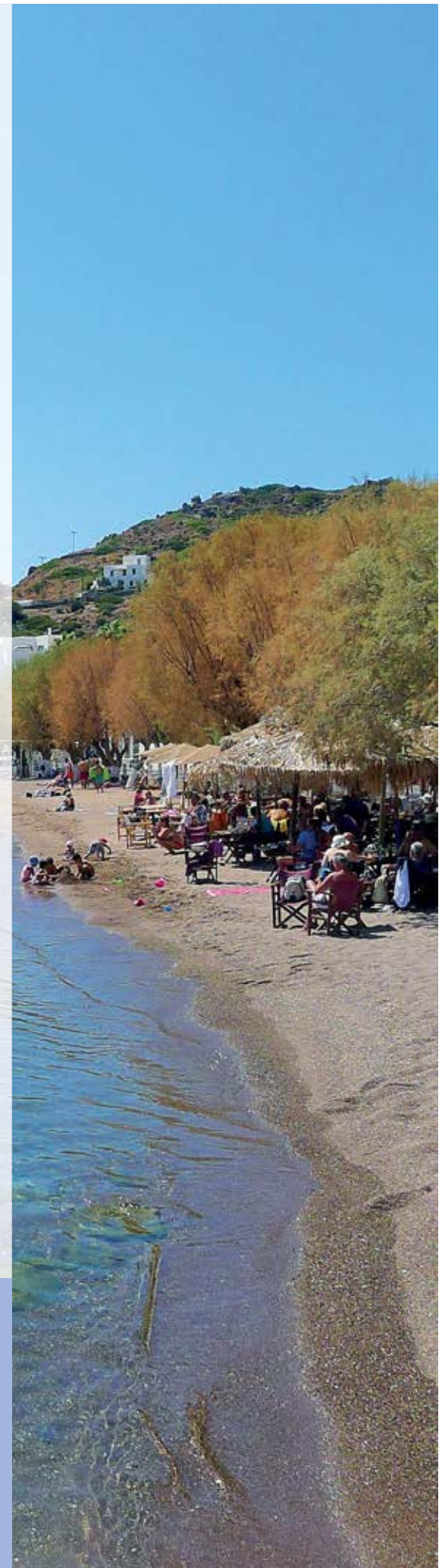
Thursday Day flight Gatwick to Samos (note: inbound flight via Lemnos) or flights via Kos from Gatwick, Manchester and a range of regional airports. Should flights and ferry timings remain as last year, an overnight will be required in one direction - either on arrival or on departure (ferry timetables vary by season). Ferry journeys vary from 1 hour (catamaran) to 3hrs 30mins (local ferry). We will not have precise transfer information until shortly before your departure but rest assured, all required transfers and overnight B&B hotel will be arranged for you by Sunvil.

### Multi-Centre Options

Patmos with Samos, Icaria (note: last year a fast direct boat on Friday and Sunday afternoon took 1 hour). Patmos can also be included in a tailor made island hopping itinerary with many of the other Dodecanese islands e.g. Lipsi, Leros, Kos, Kalymnos, Telendos, Rhodes - please enquire for details.

### Representative

We do not employ a resident representative on Patmos but have a local agent based in Skala. Our rep in Samos can always be contacted if required.





## Patmos Garden Skala

Flowers and shrubs surround this highly praised accommodation, which is in a quiet corner of Skala just 500m from the harbour (no hills) with views to Chora and the monastery.

The seven studios are mostly ground floor. They are tastefully furnished and all possess a double or twin beds, kitchenette area with cooking rings, mini-oven and fridge, and a tiled shower/wc. A pair are maisonette-style with a sleeping gallery above a living area. All studios have a sitting-out area in the garden.

The four detached cottages are a little further up the garden. Each has two twin bedrooms (or one bedroom and a sleeping gallery) - there is one double - plus a spacious living room, a kitchen (oven, hob, fridge), a shower room, and a spacious covered veranda to the front overlooking the colourful gardens and pool.

Décor and furnishings throughout are tasteful and of good quality, and all studios and cottages possess hairdryer, safety deposit box (free) and air conditioning.

In the beautiful garden is a lovely freshwater swimming pool measuring over 100 sq. m. (depth 1.1m - 2.6m).

Despite the somewhat convoluted journey, Patmos Garden has many repeat guests, which speaks for itself.

**Air Conditioning:** available at a local daily charge of 6 euros (studio), 12 euros (cottage which has 2 AC units)

The Apartments:

- Self Catering
- Studios for 2/3
- Cottages for up to 5
- Air Conditioning
- Swimming Pool
- Free WiFi



Cottages

Studio



## Skala Hotel Skala

This well-established hotel (since 1983) enjoys an excellent location close to the centre of Skala and only 50m back from the harbourfront. Entrance is via a tunnel of jasmine and bougainvillea into a tranquil garden courtyard – a haven from the bustling port beyond.

The hotel has 78 rooms housed in two buildings. All rooms possess air-conditioning, mini-bar, tv, telephone, hair-dryer, shower room (some bath) and balcony – views are mainly to the mountain, monastery or garden. Recent renovation means that furnishings

and décor are light, up-to-date and tasteful. Rooms in the main building are served by a lift.

The hotel has a bar, free wi-fi throughout (as well as an internet corner) and offers a good continental buffet breakfast. The pool is to one side of the garden and measures 15m x 8m.

The Hotel:

- 3 Stars
- Bed & Breakfast
- Air Conditioning
- Swimming Pool
- Free WiFi

PATMOS		Guide prices per person in £s departing during									
ACCOMMODATION	PERSONS BASIS	Low Season (May – end Jun & mid Sep – Oct)				High Season (early Jul – early Sep)					
		From		To		From		To			
		1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wk		
Patmos Garden	Studio	2	SC	914	1135	1116	1474	1116	1474	1152	1508
		3	SC	900	1094	1045	1330	1045	1330	1080	1365
	2 Bedroom	2	SC	970	1254	1300	1840	1300	1840	1334	1874
		3	SC	892	1084	1122	1484	1122	1484	1157	1519
	4	SC	853	998	1033	1306	1033	1306	1068	1341	
Skala Hotel	Standard Room	2	BB	955	1272	1069	1392	1069	1507	1342	1904

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# Symi

For centuries Symi was a major commercial centre, which is why such a small island has such an impressive port. Grand neoclassical houses and mansions, many once owned by wealthy sea captains of yore, line the horseshoe-shaped bay on three sides and climb the steep hill behind.

Symi Town has two parts – Chorio above and Yialos below. Each has its own atmosphere, shops and tavernas, and the two are linked by a wide street (and nearly 400 steps) known as Kali Strata.

Given that Symi is only 24 miles from Rhodes, the waterfront can be busy with day-trippers, but only for a few hours during the hottest time and easily avoided. Beaches tend to the pretty pebble variety and best reached by one of the regular water-taxis that shuttle to and fro through the day (there is a bus alternative to Pedi in the next bay). Boats also run to nearby islands and you can visit Turkey only 4 miles distant.

Both Chorio and Yialos come into their own in the evening when the lights of the town and the waterfront restaurants reflect from the bay to create a very special mood. Chorio also has good tavernas, and can have a lively traditional village atmosphere.

Symi is quite mountainous and not as barren as may first appear. Some good walking opportunities exist, to small bays or inland, which contains many chapels as well as a monastery or two.

But most visitors come simply to relax; to enjoy Symi's very clear seas, warmth of welcome, and one of the most atmospheric small harbour towns in the Aegean.



## SYMI INFORMATION

### Getting to Symi

Flights from Gatwick, Manchester or Birmingham to Rhodes - other regional airports may be available (please enquire). Taxi transfer to Rhodes port (40 mins). Flights should land by around 16.00 latest to connect with the daily 18.30 ferry to the island (70 mins, tickets included). Depending on your accommodation (see descriptions) short walk, luggage transfer or transfer to accommodation. On your return the reverse applies, departing Symi on the daily 08.00 ferry.

Ferry schedules for 2019 are not yet published so these arrangements are based on last year. If the flight does not connect same day, or the ferry schedules change, an overnight hotel in Rhodes Town will be arranged and you will transfer to Symi the following morning.

### Representative

We do not have a representative on Symi - the hoteliers are happy to give local information and our main agent in Rhodes can always be contacted.

### Multi-Centre Options

With any other Dodecanese island as they all have either a direct sea connection or via Rhodes (may need an overnight). See page 8.

### Odd durations

As there is a daily ferry service (2018) that connects with most flights on arrival and departure odd duration holidays are easy to arrange - please enquire.



## Iapetos Village Hotel Yialos

The attractively designed Iapetos Village offers good modern standards in an enviable location. It is quietly situated yet an easy 2 minute walk (no steps) brings you to the central part of Symi's atmospheric harbour.

The hotel's 30 spacious rooms are built around three sides of a Mediterranean garden containing palms, cacti and shrubs, and boasts a beautiful swimming pool (rare on Symi). Although the rooms are fully equipped for self catering, breakfast is included.

The studio suites are mostly double bedded and possess open-plan kitchen area (full cooker, fridge, TV, AC, Wifi, safety-deposit box, hairdryer and nice shower room. A sofa-bed can be opened for a child and there is a garden patio or balcony to the front.

The maisonette apartments have the same facilities and comprise a first floor twin bedroom (AC) and downstairs a living/kitchen area with a pair of sofa-beds for children, and the shower room.

The pool measures 9m x 5m (depth 0.90m-1.60m) and is sensibly covered to give respite from the sun (sunbeds are placed outside the stone archways). There is a low-key garden snack bar for guests in the central courtyard.

**Early Booking Offer**  
Reductions apply for bookings made by 31/3.

**The Hotel Apartments:**

- 4 Star Hotel
- Apartments
- Bed & Breakfast
- Air Conditioning
- Swimming Pool
- Free WiFi



## Nireus Hotel Yialos

Designed in the neoclassical style this well established hotel is ever popular and enjoys a premier position on the waterfront, with commanding views across the entrance to Symi harbour.

The hotel has 36 nicely renovated rooms on its two upper floors. Rooms belie the hotel's official category and are spacious and tastefully furnished and decorated. All possess air-conditioning, TV, fridge, telephone, safety deposit box, hairdryer and tiled shower room. Most are twin-bedded and those to the front have wonderful views over the bay from their balcony. The hotel also has rear rooms with views over the town to the hillside.

The ground floor houses the reception area, an internet corner (local charge), a large sunny outside terrace, and a popular restaurant and cafe-bar with tables and chairs above the sea. The jetty to the front of the hotel acts as a lido, with sun beds and a ladder into the sea if you do not wish to walk the 10-15 minutes to Nos, the nearest beach. The Nireus has many regular guests so early booking is recommended, especially for the sea view rooms. Please note that, as the ferry docks almost next to the hotel, no luggage transfers are provided.

**The Hotel:**

- 2 Stars Plus
- Bed & Breakfast
- Air Conditioning

SYM I		Guide prices per person in £s departing during								
ACCOMMODATION	PERSONS BASIS	Low Season (May - end Jun & mid Sep - Oct)				High Season (early Jul - early Sep)				
		From		To		From		To		
		1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wk	
Iapetos Village	Studio Suite	2 BB	1046	1470	1198	1810	1292	1904	1313	1924
		3 BB	891	1176	1012	1422	1074	1484	1095	1505
	Maisonette	2 BB	1102	1582	1274	1960	1368	2054	1388	2076
		3 BB	1023	1441	1179	1777	1263	1861	1284	1882
	Master Suite	4 BB	1006	1391	1157	1708	1232	1784	1253	1805
		2 BB	1197	1772	1498	2451	1634	2588	1655	2608
Nireus	Standard Rear View	2 BB	843	1065	958	1235	958	1242	1002	1304
		2 BB	887	1152	1002	1322	1002	1336	1070	1439
Standard Sea View	2 BB	930	1240	1045	1410	1045	1426	1122	1542	
	Suite	2 BB	4602	8582	4660	8641	4660	8641	4682	8662

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Symi

# Lipsi & Leros



Unspoiled **Lipsi's** sleepy atmosphere, limited tourist numbers and fine beaches make it ideal 'away from it all' territory. The little port is the only village. Most tavernas are, of course, on the quayside, from where steps lead up to the old part of the village. There is a good sandy town beach, and others can be reached on foot or by minibus.

Lipsi offers good walking amongst its gentle rolling landscape dotted with blue-domed chapels, and even has its own archipelago of deserted satellite islets, many of which can be visited by excursion boat. Boats also run to Patmos for the day.

This is a pastoral island, green and rural, where you can completely relax and forget the world outside.

Gentle **Leros** has a heavily indented coastline, resulting in plenty of sheltered coves and bays. These made Leros an attractive anchorage in WW2, and the Battle of Leros is commemorated here every September.

Inland, there are a surprising number of traditional villages for such a small island, as well as Crusader castles and Byzantine chapels to discover.

There are three beaches within the wide sweep of Alinda Bay and quiet Krithoni is the middle one. To the north is the small resort of Alinda; to the south the attractive little port of Ayia Marina, above which is the handsome capital Platanos topped by a Knight's castle.

Leros is an untouristic, very friendly and genuine island worthy of exploration, and one where you can still often find a small beach or cove to yourself.



Lipsi



Leros



## LIPSI & LEROS INFORMATION

### Getting to Lipsi & Leros

Wednesday flights from Gatwick and a range of regional airports to Kos. Then taxi to port (20 mins) and high speed ferry to Leros (90 mins) and Lipsi (2 hrs. – ticket included). Short transfer to accommodation. On your return the reverse applies. Based on last year's ferry connections it will probably be necessary to overnight in Kos on arrival or departure and this will be prebooked in a BB hotel with all additional transfers provided.

### Representative

We do not have a representative on these islands. The hoteliers will happily provide local information and our main agent in Rhodes can always be contacted.

### Multi-Centre Options

Lipsi and Leros and a perfect combination as they are contrasting and only 20 mins apart by ferry. However they can also combine with any other Dodecanese island – Kalymnos and Telendos are the next closest.

## Lipsi Nefeli Hotel Lipsi

This is a really lovely accommodation, offering plenty of space, peace and quiet, high standards, good views and easy access to both beach and the pretty port. Built directly above the sandy beach of Kampos, a 10 minute walk from Lipsi harbour, its hillside location provides magnificent views over the sea.

All 20 units are spacious and stylishly furnished - a mix of traditional and modern - with large front terraces to make the most of the views.

The studios have built-in twin beds, a kitchenette (electric rings, fridge) and shower room. The 1-bedroom apartments are open-plan with a living area. The 2-bedroom apartments have a separate living room with a full kitchen. All units possess sofa-beds for one or two

children, air-conditioning, TV, WiFi and sea view terrace.

As access from the main road is a little steep in parts a stay here may not be suitable for those with walking difficulties.

This is a sister-hotel to the Leros Nefeli, and equally as well run - a split-stay holiday between them is highly recommended and very easy as the islands are only 20 minutes apart by sea.

The Hotel: 3 Stars  
Bed & Breakfast  
Studios for 2/3  
Apartments for 2/5  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



## Leros Nefeli Hotel Leros

Designed in harmony with the local architecture, the Leros Nefeli Hotel enjoys a quiet location in the little village of Krithoni, 60 metres from the long sand/shingle beach.

There are 24 units here, contained within two-storey blocks split between studios and apartments. All are spacious inside, with studios comprising built-in twin beds, open-plan kitchen area (electric rings, fridge) with a built-in sofa bed for a child, and shower room. The 1-bedroom apartments are open-plan and have an additional living/kitchen area with two built-in sofa-beds for children. The 2-bedroom apartments have a separate living room.

All units possess air-conditioning, TV and balcony or garden terrace with some offering sea view.

There are beautiful gardens of palm trees and bougainvillea where breakfast is served and there is bar service during the day. Tavernas can be found nearby, or a wider choice within the picturesque port of Ayia Marina ten minutes walk away.

This is a sister-hotel to the Lipsi Nefeli, and equally as well run - a split-stay holiday is highly recommended and very easy as the islands are only 20 minutes apart.

The Hotel: 3 Star Hotel  
Bed & Breakfast  
Studios for 2/3  
Apartments for 2/5  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi

LIPSI & LEROS		Guide prices per person in £s departing during									
ACCOMMODATION	PERSONS BASIS	Low Season (May - end Jun & mid Sep - Oct)				High Season (early Jul - early Sep)					
		From		To		From		To			
		1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wk		
Nefeli Leros	Studio	2	BB	1007	1236	1007	1324	1094	1412	1206	1522
	One Bedroom Apartment	2	BB	1118	1460	1118	1527	1186	1594	1297	1706
	One Bedroom Suite	2	BB	1142	1507	1142	1594	1230	1682	1340	1793
	Two Bedroom Suite	3	BB	1024	1299	1024	1418	1143	1537	1254	1648
		4	BB	985	1193	985	1282	1074	1372	1186	1483
	5	BB	927	1094	927	1166	998	1238	1109	1349	
Nefeli Lipsi	Studio	2	BB	959	1188	1046	1455	1138	1546	1249	1658
	One Bedroom	2	BB	1046	1364	1182	1770	1317	1904	1428	2016
	Two Bedroom	3	BB	982	1257	1069	1551	1189	1670	1300	1781
		4	BB	937	1145	1002	1366	1092	1455	1203	1566
		5	BB	885	1052	937	1229	1009	1301	1120	1412

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# Kalymnos & Telendos

Just a short hop from Kos, the very friendly island of Kalymnos offers plenty of variety. From the bustling main port of Pothia in the south to the sleepy Greek charm of Emborios in the north, the island can accommodate a wide range of holiday tastes within its 21km length. The distinctive island of Telendos, lying just a kilometre off the mid-western shore, is a step back in time.

In the past **Kalymnos** was famed for the bravery of its sponge-divers. However recent years have seen this trade in decline, as has package tourism, and the island has reinvented itself as an activity holiday centre. The island is now a mecca for rock climbers and attracts off-season walkers. Scuba diving and sea-kayaking are also available.

Pothia, the capital, is a large thriving town with a very Greek atmosphere, its harbour lined with cafes and tavernas. Narrow backstreets wind up the hill and hide a number of neoclassical mansions, one of which is now a hotel featured in our programme (see our website). Pothia has an open-air cinema, and in season excursion boats leave from here for Pserimos, Kos and Leros.

Most visitors stay in the narrow coastal area halfway up the western side. This was a popular tourist destination in the 90s but much quieter now. Fringed by a string of sand/pebble beaches, accommodation is centred in Myrties and Massouri, which are so close together it is difficult to say where one stops and the other begins! A reasonable choice of restaurants and beach tavernas offer good value in traditional relaxed surroundings. Views from just about everywhere are spectacular to rocky Telendos opposite.

In the far northwest of the island, where the road ends 20 kms from Pothia, is tiny Emborios. This is the real Greece, comprising simply a tamarisk-fringed shingle beach (you can walk to others nearby), five good taverna restaurants, a

church and a small shop. Not much more to do here, then, other than swim, walk, read, eat and sleep in very peaceful surroundings, interrupted only by the occasional goat and church bells. We love Emborios!

From Myrties, Massouri and Pothia it is possible to explore the island quite nicely by the local bus which has a reasonable service. Elsewhere there are numerous Byzantine chapels, ruined Knights' castles, the abandoned citadel-town of Pera Kastro and the impressive Kefala cave to discover.

Tiny **Telendos** is easily reached from Myrties in just ten minutes by water-taxi (which cost €3 last year and runs every half-hour until midnight). There is one tiny fishing hamlet and a number of sand-shingle beaches, one of which is naturist - the closest is just a five minute walk over the headland from the harbour. Blissfully tranquil (no cars), the pretty waterfront has half-a-dozen tavernas, a couple of cafes and a small shop or two. But for brighter lights just hop on the water-taxi to Kalymnos. The advantage here is that you can, in effect, have a two-centre holiday without bothering to move! (The same applies, of course, in reverse - anyone staying in Massouri can easily pop over for dinner on Telendos).

A very sweet little island with a delightful 'away from it all' atmosphere, Telendos was once joined to Kalymnos but separated by an earthquake in AD 554. They say that, if you look hard, you can see the remains of a submerged village on the way across.

## KALYMNOS INFORMATION

### Getting to Kalymnos & Telendos

Flight on various days from Gatwick, Manchester and a range of regional airports via Kos. Short taxi transfer to Mastihari (10 mins) and a 20-30 minute boat or hydrofoil journey (there may be some waiting time at the port). Onward transfer to your accommodation (10-50 mins incl. a 10 min watertaxi ride for Telendos). On your return the reverse applies.

### Representative

We have a local agent on Kalymnos but do not employ our own representative.

### Car Hire

Can be arranged locally by our agent or your hotel.

### Multi-Centre Options

Kalymnos combines very easily with Telendos or with any other Dodecanese island - please enquire.



Massouri beach

## Myrties Apartments Myrties

These top notch apartments are the best we have found on Kalymnos. They are on a small hill at the entrance to Myrties, far enough from the main road to be peaceful but close enough for quick access to the beach, bus stop, shops and tavernas. They also enjoy spectacular views to Telendos just over the bay, which is easily reached.

There is just a pair of very spacious apartments here. Each has a living room with a double sofa-bed (can be two singles), a well equipped kitchen area (2-ring mini-oven, microwave, fridge), a twin bedroom (can be double on request), large modern full bathroom, and a choice of either the large front veranda or side terrace, with garden furniture and sunbeds from which to admire the views over Myrties Bay to Telendos.

Mod cons include sat TV, DVD, full AC (both rooms), safety deposit box, free Wifi, beach towels, bathroom amenities and robes.

The apartments are 350m from Myrties beach and the watertaxi for Telendos, which takes just 10 mins, costs peanuts and runs every half hour until midnight, making it easy to pop over for dinner.

### Early Booking Offer

Reductions apply on bookings made by 30/4. Please enquire for a costing.

### The Apartments:

Self Catering  
Apartments for 2/4  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



## Harry's Paradise Garden Emborios

When you see the gardens here you will understand why this small block of six studios is named as it is. They are really quite magnificent, full of shrubs, trees, plants and rioting flowers! Set in this garden, away from the rooms, is an excellent restaurant, well known in the area.

The rooms are equally as lovely, being spacious and contemporary with a beautiful design and decor. Each is double or twin-bedded, with air-conditioning, safety-deposit box, a small kitchen area with light cooking facilities (2 rings, fridge), a very nice modern shower room, and large covered terrace overlooking the gardens to the front.

Next door is a small stone cottage called Alexandra. This is very traditional with a raised double bedded platform to one side of the air conditioned living room, a simple kitchen, shower room and a shaded stone garden terrace. The cottage has plenty of rustic Greek charm.

It is just 100 metres to the beach, and you will find another four tavernas and a mini-market close to hand in this peaceful and most relaxing little village. Please note the bus service from here is limited.



### The Hotel:

Self Catering  
Studios for 2/3  
Air Conditioning  
Free WiFi



Telendos waterfront



## Porto Potha Hotel Telendos

The Porto Potha is the only hotel on Telendos and built on the hillside above a narrow sand-shingle beach. It is a five minute walk to Telendos' quite charming waterfront.

The hotel is family-run and has 20 rooms, a mix of BB hotel rooms and suites on the first floor and SC studios in a separate building to the side. Mostly twin bedded, all possess air conditioning, shower room, fridge and a balcony with wonderful views over the strait to Kalymnos. The new Suites are corner rooms and possess double bedroom, separate living room and three balconies. The studios also possess basic kitchen facilities (2 rings). Furnishings are simple and traditional throughout.

Steps lead down to the good-sized sea water pool below, and continue on down to the beach and seaside path. Other small beaches may be found a 15 minute walk away.

Simple accommodation in peaceful natural surroundings (albeit a little scruffy in places) with great views. A taste of old style Greece - the family are most welcoming but do not expect very slick service! - we think you will have no option but to relax.

The Hotel: **2 Stars**  
 Bed & Breakfast or Self Catering  
 Air Conditioning  
 Swimming Pool  
 Free WiFi

KALYMNOS & TELENOS ACCOMMODATION		PERSONS BASIS	Guide prices per person in £s departing during							
			Low Season (May - end Jun & mid Sep - Oct)				High Season (early Jul - early Sep)			
			From		To		From		To	
		1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wk	
Harrys Paradise Garden	Studio	2 SC	905	1134	905	1178	1018	1292	1130	1403
		3 SC	831	1005	831	1026	922	1118	1033	1229
Myrties Boutique	One Bedroom	2 SC	1018	1392	1070	1486	1140	1556	1330	1826
		3 SC	949	1286	997	1372	1067	1442	1250	1697
		4 SC	962	1281	1008	1363	1078	1433	1257	1680
Porto Potha	Standard Room	2 BB	903	1139	927	1199	1009	1280	1120	1392
		2 SC	911	1155	931	1214	1021	1304	1132	1416
	Suite	3 SC	849	1062	867	1115	953	1201	1064	1312
		2 BB	1022	1378	1054	1477	1160	1583	1271	1694
		3 BB	947	1258	973	1343	1075	1445	1186	1556

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# Other Dodecanese Islands

see [www.sunvil.co.uk](http://www.sunvil.co.uk) for details

## Astypalea

Fashionable, remote Astypalea feels more Cycladic than other islands in the Dodecanese, due to its whitewashed Hora, one of the most striking in the Aegean and crowned by the inevitable Kastro. Livadia, in the next bay, is a fine beach, wide and long, but avoid August when the island is heaving! Has a ferry link with Amorgos.

### **Astypalea Palace** (4 Star Boutique Hotel, B/B)

Surprisingly luxurious small hotel at the top of the town a short walk from the atmospheric old town. The rooms are like mini-suites, lushly furnished with all mod cons and great sea and Hora views. A small plunge pool completes the picture. Car hire recommended.



## Karpathos

Karpathos lies between Rhodes and Crete and is the third largest of the Dodecanese. Long, narrow, remote and starkly beautiful (especially in the vertiginous north, famed for the traditional village of Olymbos) it is similar in these respects to Amorgos and Ikaria. The south is lower lying, home to the attractive capital Pighadia and some excellent beaches. Best reached by domestic flight from Athens or Rhodes.

### **Astron Hotel** (3 Star, B/B or S/C)

The Astron is set in extensive gardens 1 km from Pighadia and a 5 minute walk from a superb sandy beach. The hotel has 68 traditionally furnished bungalow-style rooms and a large swimming pool.



## Kastellorizo

Kastellorizo is the most south-easterly island of the Dodecanese and one of the smallest. It lies very close to Turkey – the town of Kas is but 3 miles across the strait. The main port is called Mandraki. A natural horseshoe-shaped harbour, Kastellorizo (like Symi and Halki) enjoyed a wealthy sea-faring past, as is reflected in its handsome neoclassical harbour mansions now slowly being restored.

### **Kastellorizo Hotel** (3 Stars, B/B)

Located directly above the sea on the quiet side of Kastellorizo's harbour, this small boutique-style hotel offers 14 rooms housed in five separate buildings, all traditionally furnished with care and taste. The majority have front or side sea views over the harbour to the pastel-shaded houses which line the waterfront opposite and the mountain behind.



## Kos

The third largest island in the Dodecanese, Kos has managed to balance catering for tourists' interests without losing its identity as an island steeped in history and blessed with natural beauty. Certainly you will find beach resorts but just as easily you can discover secluded bays and traditional villages. Kos Town is elegant and historic, as evidenced by its large Agora and the Asklepieion where Hippocrates himself practised medicine.

### **Alexandra City Hotel** (3 Stars, B/B)

Centrally located in Kos Town, the Alexander is extremely well placed for exploration as it is a just few minutes' walk from all the main attractions and 10 minutes from the start of the long town beach should you need a dip to cool off.



## Nissyros

Atmospheric Nissyros is distinguished by the pair of large volcanic craters at its centre which are still active (the last eruption was in 1888!) and a variety of walking trails offer fabulous views over these to neighbouring islands. You can explore the moonlike crater floor and its bubbling mud pools. Legend has it that the seismic sound effects are the groaning of a giant defeated in battle by Poseidon!

### **Porfyris Hotel** (2 Stars, B/B)

Quietly located close to Mandraki's attractive central square, the Porfyris has 38 comfortable rooms and fine views over the port to the sea. Facilities include a large swimming pool, particularly welcome to those who have spent the day exploring the volcano.



## Rhodes

Rhodes is the largest of the Dodecanese and the most popular, as the island enjoys one of the best sunshine records in the Med. and a string of fine sandy beaches. It also boasts one of the best preserved medieval cities in the world in Rhodes Old Town. Here the Crusading Knights of St. John had their headquarters for over 200 years, and it is their silent presence that holds sway still.

### **Cava D'Oro Hotel** (3 Stars, B/B)

This 800 year old building is in what was once the Jewish Quarter of the Old City. Although in a quiet corner beneath the walls, you can walk to the main square in less than five minutes. The Cava D'Oro combines character and modern comforts with an atmospheric location.

