



Mykonos

A MINI TRAVEL E-GUIDE

HotelREZ
HOTELS & RESORTS



About

Presenting Mykonos

According to Greek mythology Mykonos was named after its first ruler Mykonos, the grandson of God Apollo. The island is also said to have been formed from the petrified bodies of giants killed by Hercules, and the location of a great battle between Zeus and the Titans. Part of the group of Greek Islands named the Cyclades, Mykonos is one of the most famous destinations in the world today, and a favourite hotspot for many celebrities, gaining the nickname 'The Capri of Greece'.

Extremely beautiful and well known for its bare hills, amazing sandy beaches, white washed country chapels and Cycladic architecture, Mykonos is Greece's most famous cosmopolitan island. HotelREZ Hotels & Resorts in collaboration with @54 Lounge & Discotheque break down the best of the island in this mini travel e-guide.



Facts

Capital: Mykonos (town) aka Chora (Greek)

Population: 10,134

Area: 105.2 km² (40.6 sq mi)

Trademarks: Windmills, pelicans, whitewashed houses with colourful doors, gay-friendly

Currency: Euro (EUR)

Timezone: EET (UTC+2)/EEST (UTC+3)

Language: Greek

Average temperature: January Max. 12°C/54°F – Min. 6°C/43°F
July Max. 30°C/86°F – Min. 21°C/70°F

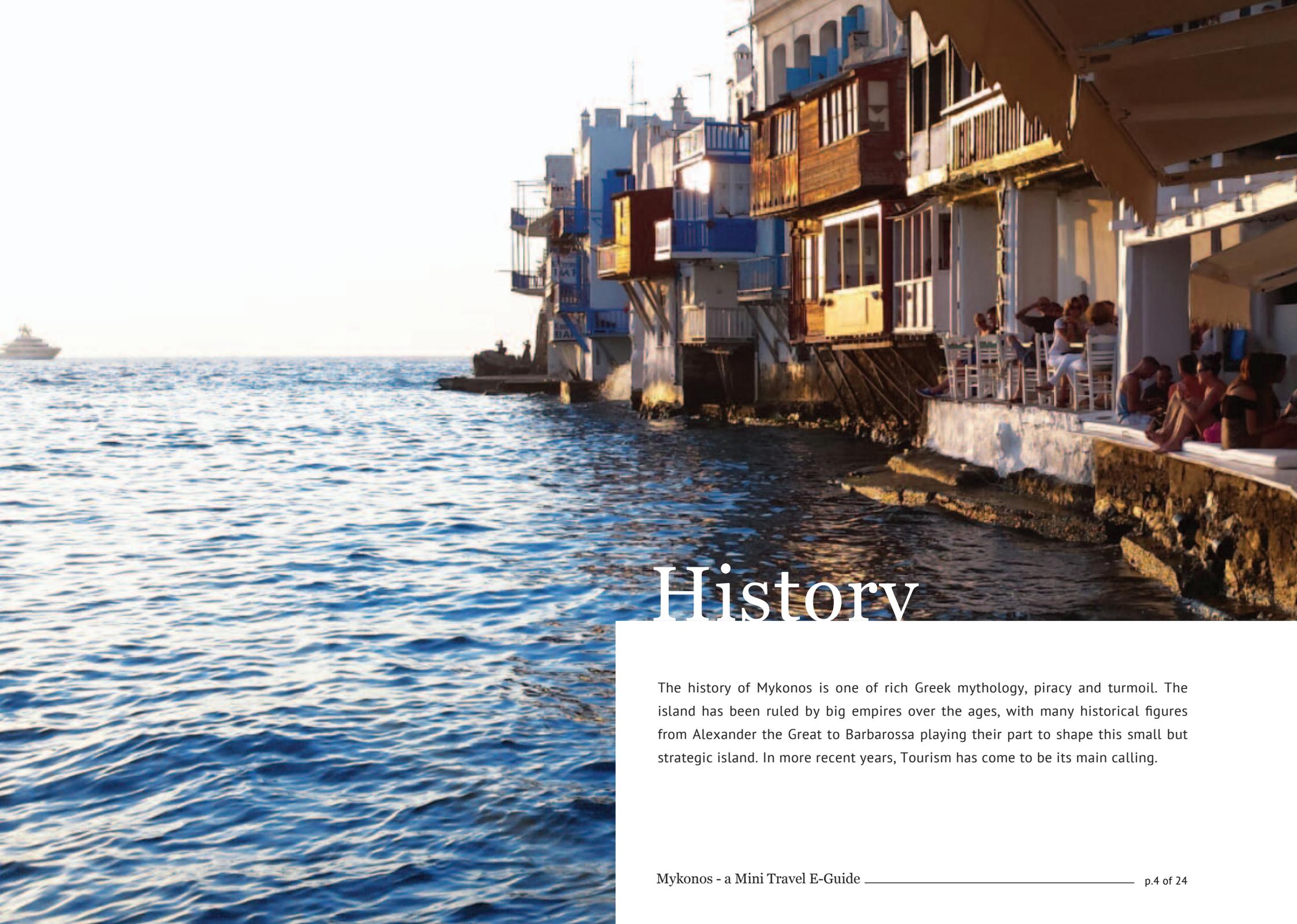
Best months to visit: from mid-May through mid-October is usually sunny and warm enough to enjoy the beaches

Visa: Citizens from EU member states do not require a visa. Furthermore countries such as USA, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Singapore, Brazil, Canada do NOT require a travel visa, provided their stay does not exceed 90 days

Communications: Country Code Greece +30. Area Code 22890. Internet access is widely available, and the majority of hotels provide a free Wi-Fi connection

Drives on the: Left

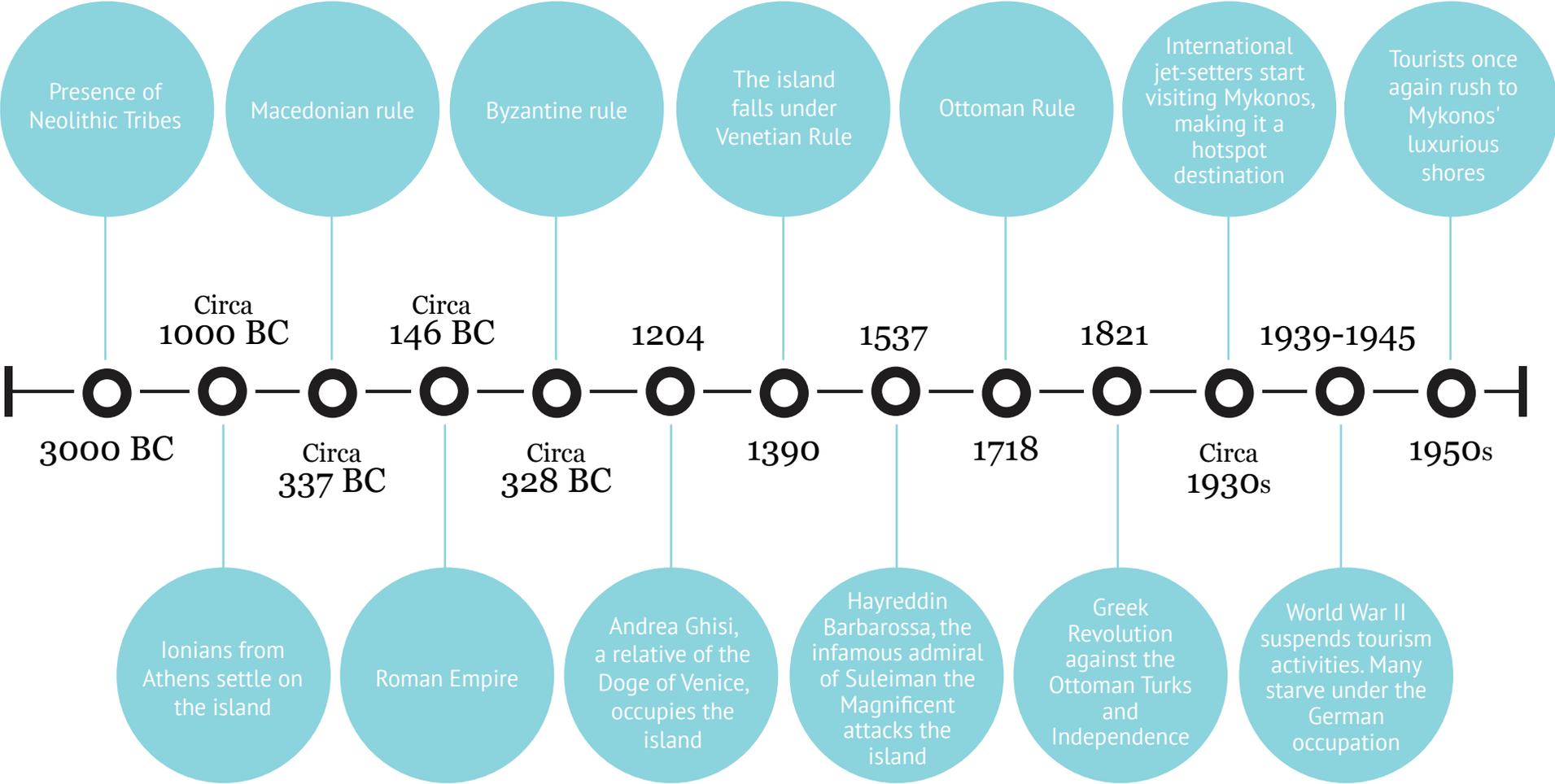
For other nationalities check the Visa requirements [here](#)

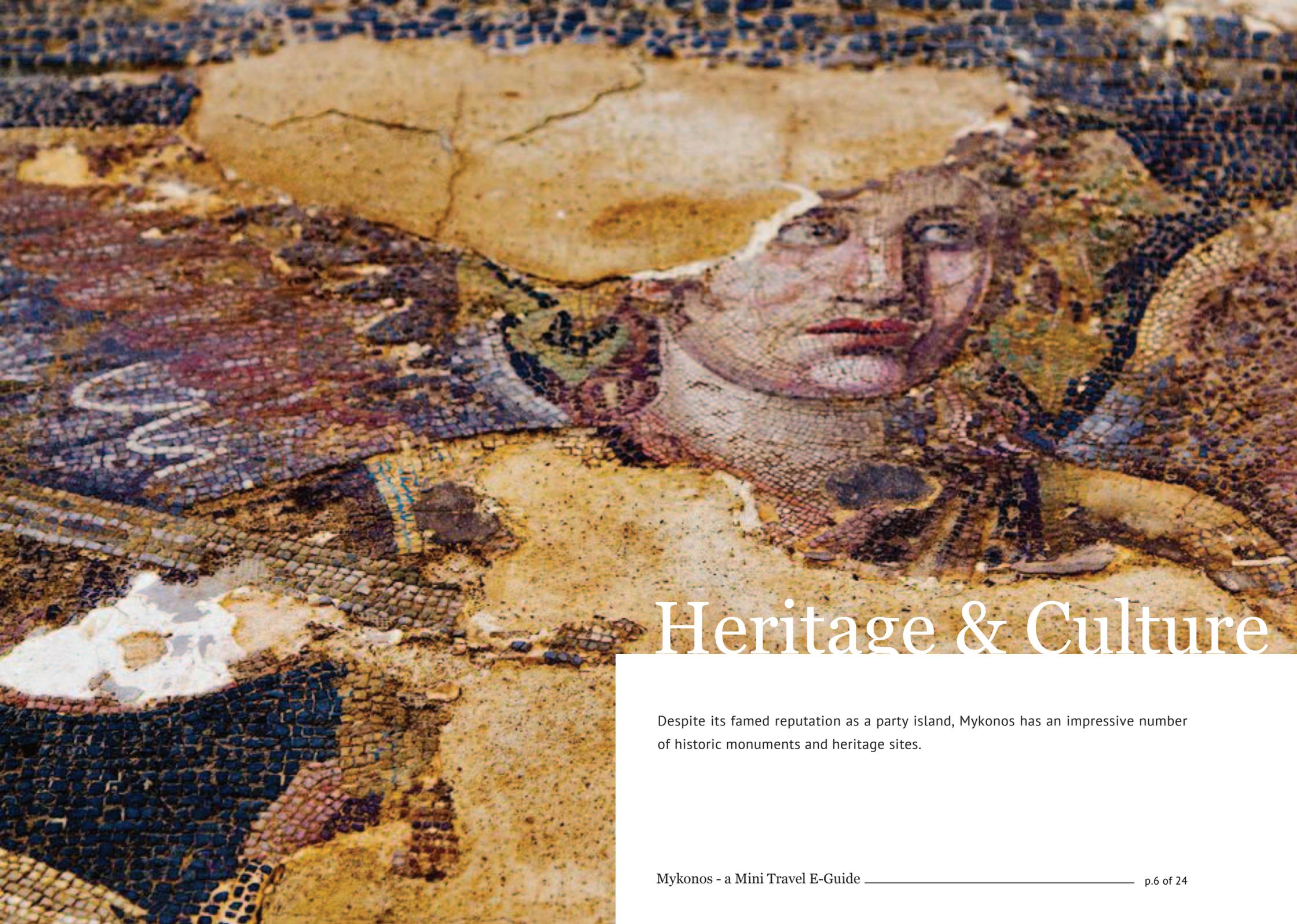


History

The history of Mykonos is one of rich Greek mythology, piracy and turmoil. The island has been ruled by big empires over the ages, with many historical figures from Alexander the Great to Barbarossa playing their part to shape this small but strategic island. In more recent years, Tourism has come to be its main calling.

Mykonos history timeline





Heritage & Culture

Despite its famed reputation as a party island, Mykonos has an impressive number of historic monuments and heritage sites.



1. Kato Mili Windmills

The Mykonos windmills are the quintessential trademark of the islands' landscape, and can be seen from every point of Mykonos Town, frequently called the Chora. The famous "Kato Mili" (Greek for lower mills), in Chora, are four windmills standing majestically in a row, on a hill overlooking the sea and facing the strong northern winds. Capped with wood and straw, the three-story conical windmills were built by the Venetians in the 16th century and were primarily used to mill wheat. Their use gradually declined over the ages, until they eventually ceased production in the middle of the 20th century.

Tip: The views from the windmills over Little Venice and the harbour are stunning, particularly at sunset.



2. Delos

One of Greece's most famous archaeological sites, the small island of Delos is commonly referred to as the birthplace of Apollo. Under the jurisdiction of Mykonos, the entire island of Delos has been declared a national museum and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Access to the island has been made readily available through excursions which leave daily from the main harbour of Mykonos Town, and some of the more popular beaches.

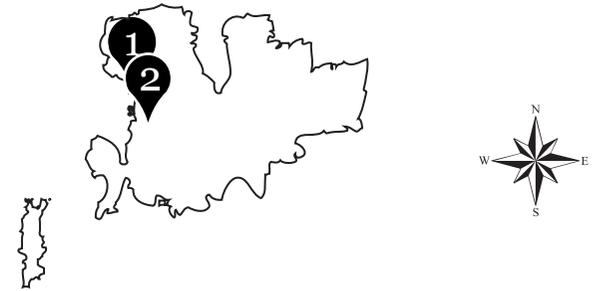
Did you Know? The 2001 Greek census reported a population of 14 inhabitants on the island of Delos.





1. Church of Panagia Paraportiani

The church of Panagia Paraportiani ("Our Lady of the Side Gate" in Greek), is situated in the neighbourhood of Kastro, in Chora, and is among the most photographed sites on the island. The church in itself actually consists of five small churches that were built either on top or next to each other. The church of Agios Efstathios is the centre of this complex, surrounded by the churches of Agios Anargyros, Agios Sozon and Agia Anastasia. On top of these four churches, lies the church of Virgin Mary, which looks like a dome. The oldest church is Agios Anargyros, built in the late 14th century. The other churches were built in the 16th and the 17th centuries.



1.



2. Little Venice

Little Venice or Mikri Venetia, offers one of the most romantic settings on the island. In this peculiar neighbourhood, rows of medieval two and three storey houses line the waterfront with their wooden balconies hanging over the sea. The houses, originally belonging to rich merchants or captains, have little basement doors which provided direct access to the sea and underground storage areas, leading many to believe that its owners might have been pirates. Many have now been converted into bars and cafes, shops and art galleries.

Tip: Sit back and relax while watching the sunset on the seashore, and sipping a cocktail at one of the many quirky bars in the area.

2.



Flavours

As with its culture and heritage, the island's food is both rich and plentiful. All over Mykonos you will find plenty of cafes and restaurants, as well as various gyros and souvlaki shops, catering to a range of tastes and budgets.

Defining Cuisine



Red mullet (barbouni)

Fish is one of the most important ingredients on the island's diet. One of the most common is red mullet. Try the classic Cyclades speciality pan-fried red mullet with tomatoes or with tomatoes and capers.



Kopanisti

A goat's milk cheese, the peppery kopanisti, has gained culinary fame in recent years. The milk ferments in clay jugs over several months until the appropriate bacteria propagate and give it its characteristic bite.



Amygdalota

Traditional sweets from the Cyclades, the amygdalota are marzipan-like confections usually made with blanched almonds. In Mykonos, the almonds are toasted and the sweets are shaped like little bells, crunchy on the outside and damp and soft in the middle.



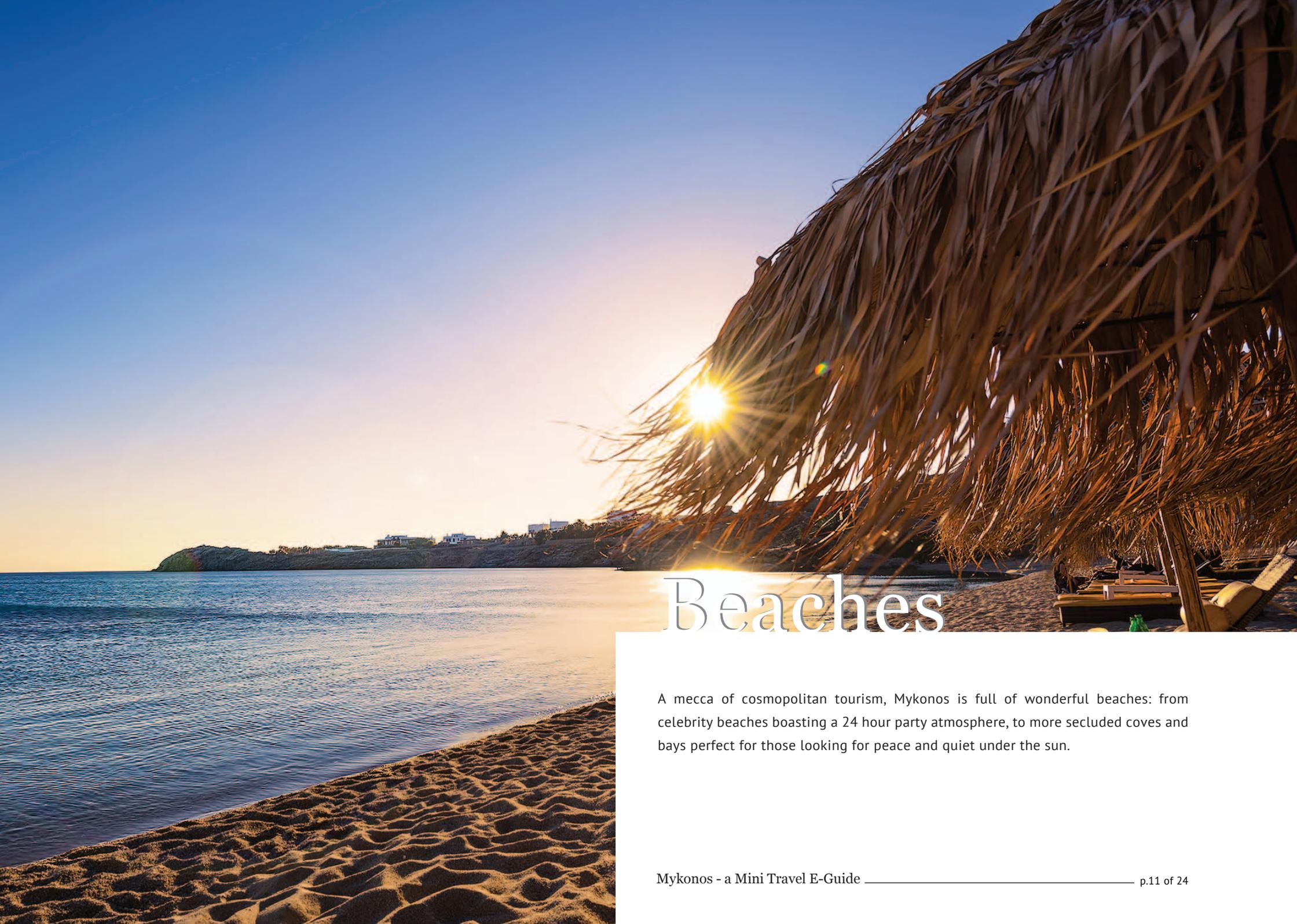
Skate

Another popular fish from Aegan waters, skate is a delicacy usually served fried and with a garnish of garlic-potato puree, skordalia.



Mostra

Barley rusk, or mostra, is a hard, dried biscuit or a twice-baked bread, usually served for breakfast, a light lunch or a healthy snack. Restaurants have revived their use, and one local specialty calls for making a bread salad by topping the rusks with chopped tomatoes, olive oil and a bit of peppery kopanisti.



Beaches

A mecca of cosmopolitan tourism, Mykonos is full of wonderful beaches: from celebrity beaches boasting a 24 hour party atmosphere, to more secluded coves and bays perfect for those looking for peace and quiet under the sun.



1. Agios Sostis Beach

Best For: Unspoiled nature

Fairly undeveloped, this wonderful little cove is situated on the northern side of the island. There are no umbrellas or sun beds for rent, but if you can live without these (or bring your own), then you have found the perfect spot. Accessible via a somewhat bumpy, pot-holed road, but enroute, the stunning view when looking down makes it so worth it.



2. Ftelia Beach

Best For: Windsurfing

Sometimes referred to as the Island of the Winds, Mykonos is well known for its water sports. This wild, north beach is one of the favourites among windsurfers. Even as a non-participant you can spend some time watching the spectacle of brave surfers flying across the sea.



3. Agios Stefanos

Best for: Families

A sandy family- friendly beach, just around the corner from the new port of Tourlos. The water is very clean and clear, making it the ultimate swimming environment. Sun-beds and umbrellas are available for rent, but there is also lots of space to lay your own towel. Other facilities include a beach volley court, lots of space to play paddle ball or let your children run free.



3.



4. Elia Beach

Best For: Gay tourism

A magnificent stretch of coastline, Elia is one of the longest beaches in Mykonos, but also one of the busiest. Particularly popular with the gay crowd, there are several places to eat, drink or relax out of the summer sun, and amenities such as umbrellas and sun beds for rent can be easily found. The left side of the beach is more of a mix of people, whereas the right side is mostly clothing-optional and preferred by LGBT tourists.

4.



Nightlife & Entertainment

Said to be the Capri of Greece, Mykonos is one of the most cosmopolitan island of the Cyclades and is well known for its party scene.



Top Spots

1. Paradise Beach

Paradise is one of the ten most well known beaches in the world. Originally made famous by the hippie generation in the late 60s and early 70s, nowadays, this is still the place to go if you are looking for a beach where "anything goes". Paradise is known for special events, such as Full Moon parties and Bubble parties, as well as a famous end of summer closing party in early September. Its popularity also comes down to its easy accessibility, with frequent bus services from Mykonos town and additional shuttle buses during special events.



More information for @54 Lounge & Discotheque [here](#)

2. @54 Lounge & Discotheque

One of the newest clubs in Mykonos, @54 is the hottest place in town to dance the night away. You can expect exclusive weekly parties full of the most glamorous jet setting crowd, deliciously mixed special cocktails, and a breathtaking terrace where you can enjoy sipping champagne while taking in the gorgeous Mykonos views. During the day you can head to Pump @54, a gym and personal training fitness centre offering daily, weekly and monthly memberships.

SPECIAL GIVEAWAY

@54 is offering a 2 for 1 cocktail from 2am - 3am daily until end of September 2014.



Festivals & Events

Mykonos is synonymous with wild parties and lively atmosphere. Due to its setting and warm Mediterranean climate, the island has the unique privilege to be able to organise a set of exciting events including open-air concerts, theatrical performances and various art exhibitions.



1.



2.



3.

Main Events

1. Xlsior Festival

The most exclusive International Summer Gay Festival, Xlsior takes place every year and thanks to a well-designed program, great artists of the gay scene, breathtaking open-air venues, and a friendly and enjoyable holiday environment, this festival has now become one of the most popular events in the island.

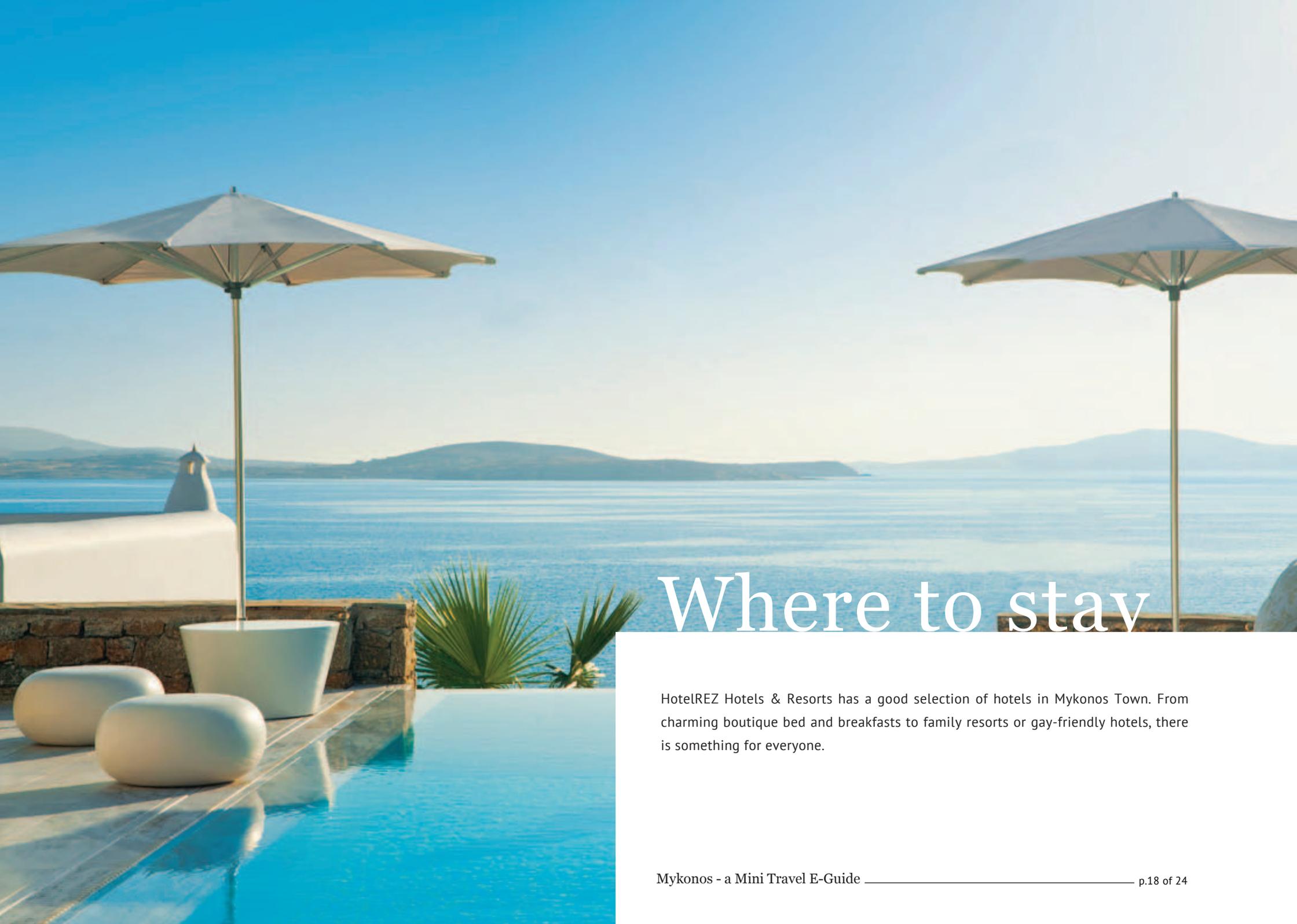
2. Harvest Festival

Every second Sunday of September, the Agricultural Museum holds the annual Harvest Festival. On this occasion farmers and winemakers from across the island gather for this great celebration of food, dance and singing, keeping alive a centuries' old tradition.

3. Religious Feasts and Festivals

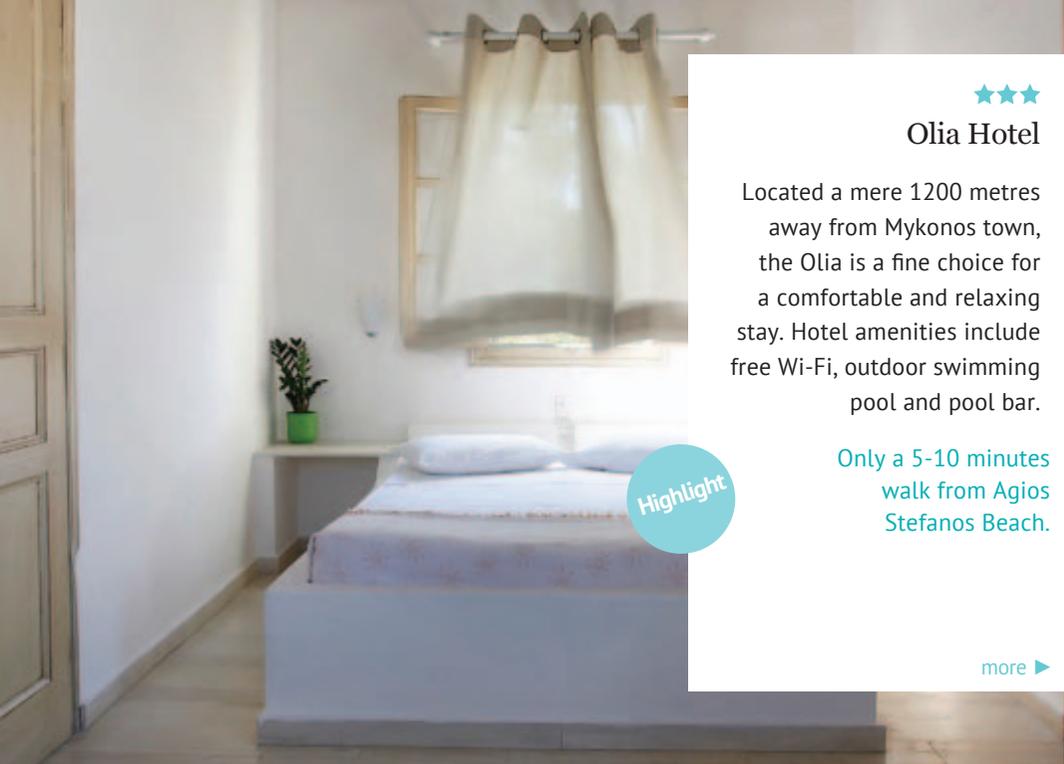
Summer is also the time when many of the island's villages celebrate and honour their patron saints in traditional religious feasts. These events are called "panigiria" and famous dates include June 30th, a feast dedicated to Agioi Apostoloi (the fishermen's festival); July 26th, a celebration of Agia Paraskevi; or August 15th, when the village of Ano Mera holds a great feast at the church of Panagia Tourliani.

More
information
on the Xlsior
festival website
[here](#)



Where to stay

HotelREZ Hotels & Resorts has a good selection of hotels in Mykonos Town. From charming boutique bed and breakfasts to family resorts or gay-friendly hotels, there is something for everyone.



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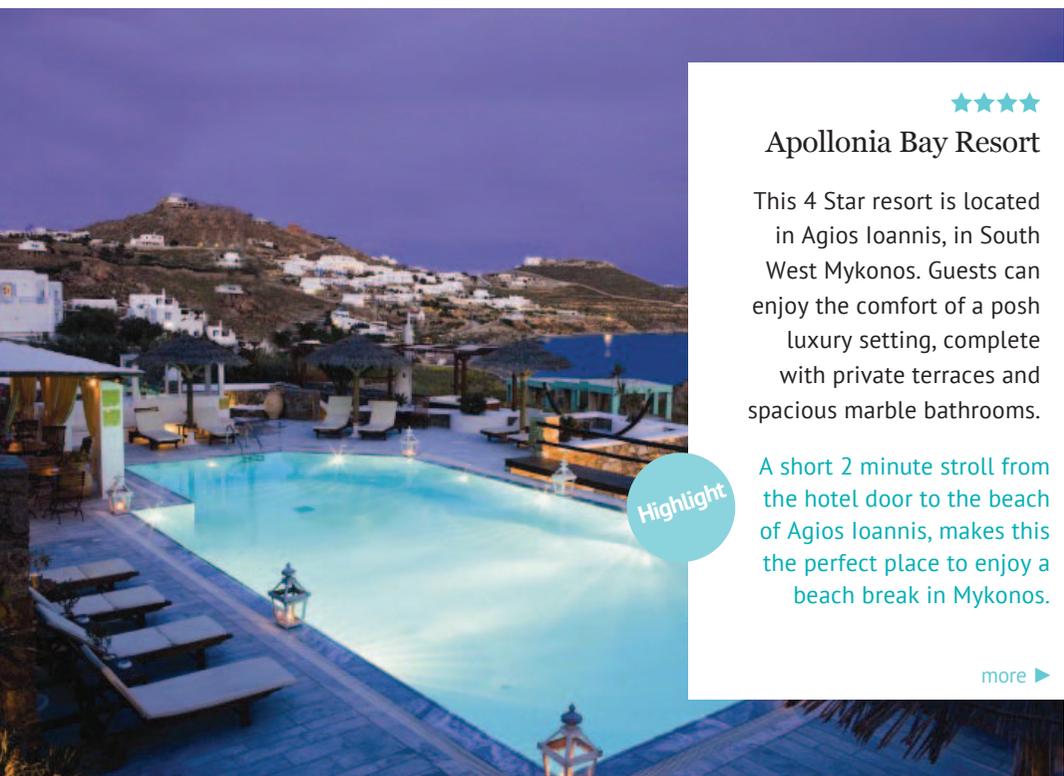
Olia Hotel

Located a mere 1200 metres away from Mykonos town, the Olia is a fine choice for a comfortable and relaxing stay. Hotel amenities include free Wi-Fi, outdoor swimming pool and pool bar.

Highlight

Only a 5-10 minutes walk from Agios Stefanos Beach.

[more ▶](#)



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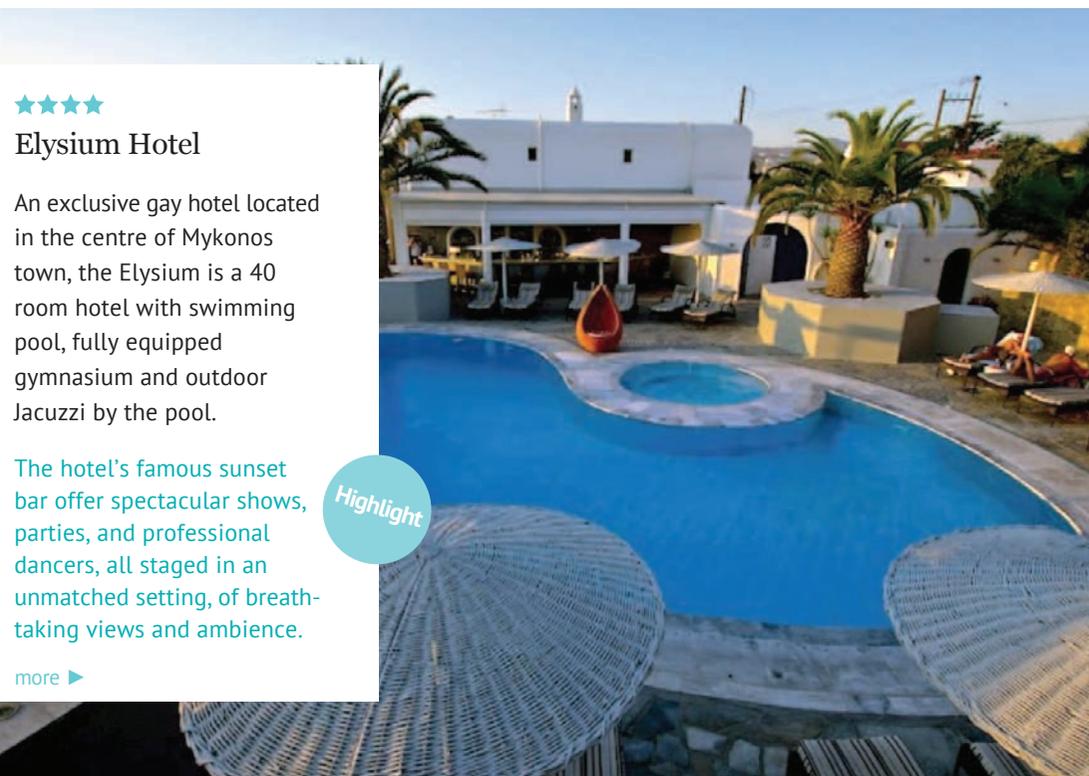
Apollonia Bay Resort

This 4 Star resort is located in Agios Ioannis, in South West Mykonos. Guests can enjoy the comfort of a posh luxury setting, complete with private terraces and spacious marble bathrooms.

Highlight

A short 2 minute stroll from the hotel door to the beach of Agios Ioannis, makes this the perfect place to enjoy a beach break in Mykonos.

[more ▶](#)



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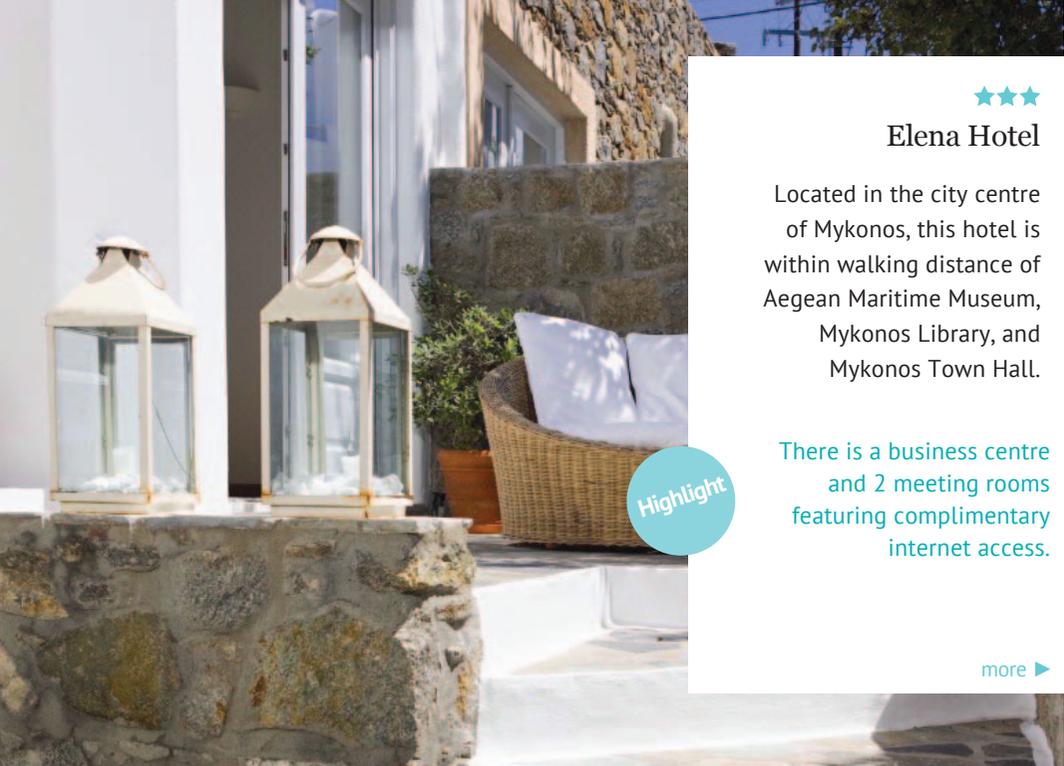
Elysium Hotel

An exclusive gay hotel located in the centre of Mykonos town, the Elysium is a 40 room hotel with swimming pool, fully equipped gymnasium and outdoor Jacuzzi by the pool.

Highlight

The hotel's famous sunset bar offer spectacular shows, parties, and professional dancers, all staged in an unmatched setting, of breathtaking views and ambience.

[more ▶](#)



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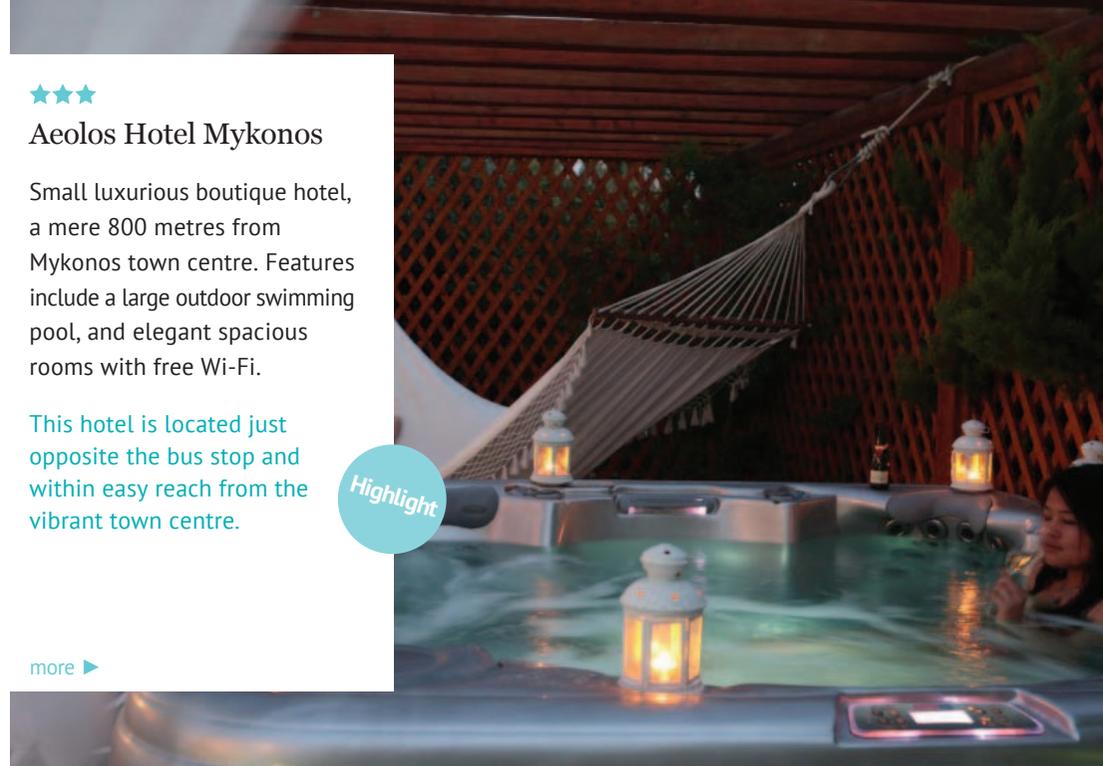
Elena Hotel

Located in the city centre of Mykonos, this hotel is within walking distance of Aegean Maritime Museum, Mykonos Library, and Mykonos Town Hall.

Highlight

There is a business centre and 2 meeting rooms featuring complimentary internet access.

[more ▶](#)



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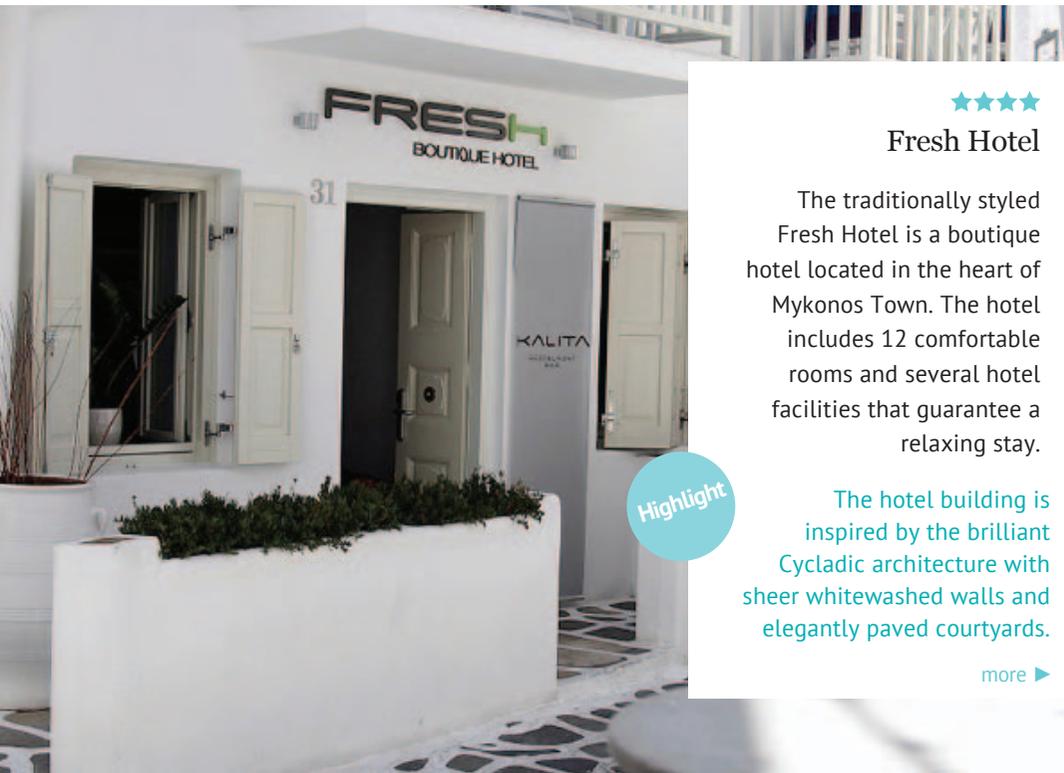
Aeolos Hotel Mykonos

Small luxurious boutique hotel, a mere 800 metres from Mykonos town centre. Features include a large outdoor swimming pool, and elegant spacious rooms with free Wi-Fi.

Highlight

This hotel is located just opposite the bus stop and within easy reach from the vibrant town centre.

[more ▶](#)



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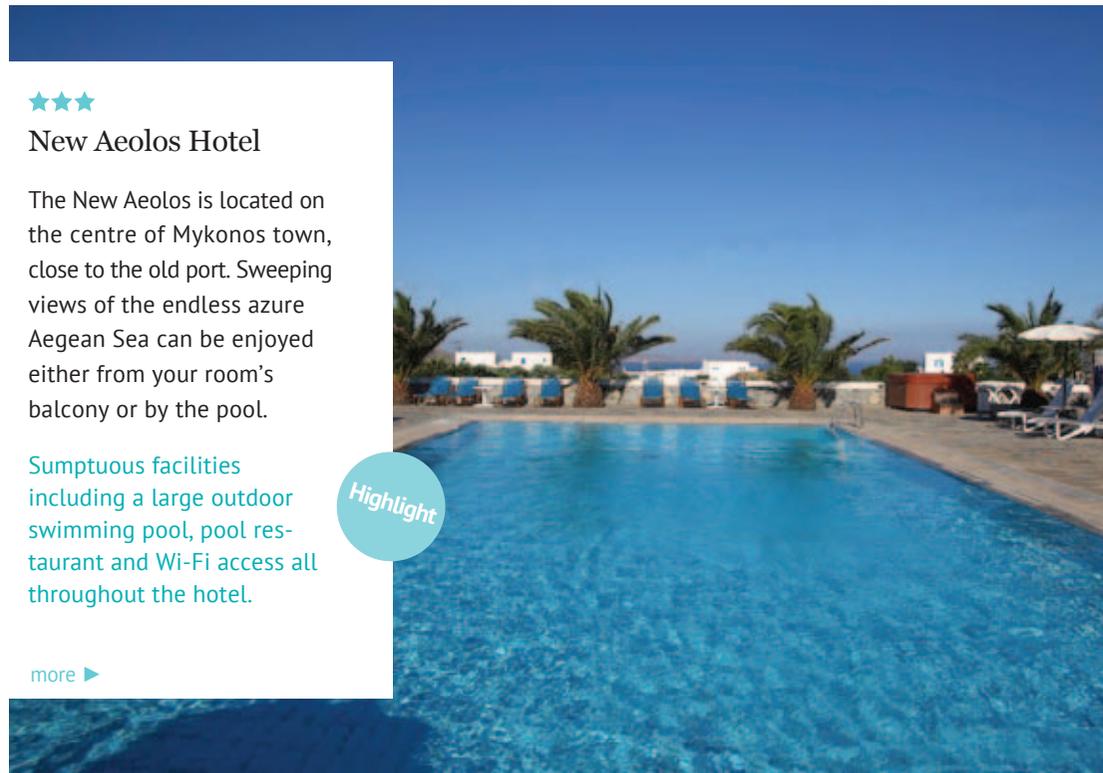
Fresh Hotel

The traditionally styled Fresh Hotel is a boutique hotel located in the heart of Mykonos Town. The hotel includes 12 comfortable rooms and several hotel facilities that guarantee a relaxing stay.

Highlight

The hotel building is inspired by the brilliant Cycladic architecture with sheer whitewashed walls and elegantly paved courtyards.

[more ▶](#)



★★★★

New Aeolos Hotel

The New Aeolos is located on the centre of Mykonos town, close to the old port. Sweeping views of the endless azure Aegean Sea can be enjoyed either from your room's balcony or by the pool.

Highlight

Sumptuous facilities including a large outdoor swimming pool, pool restaurant and Wi-Fi access all throughout the hotel.

[more ▶](#)



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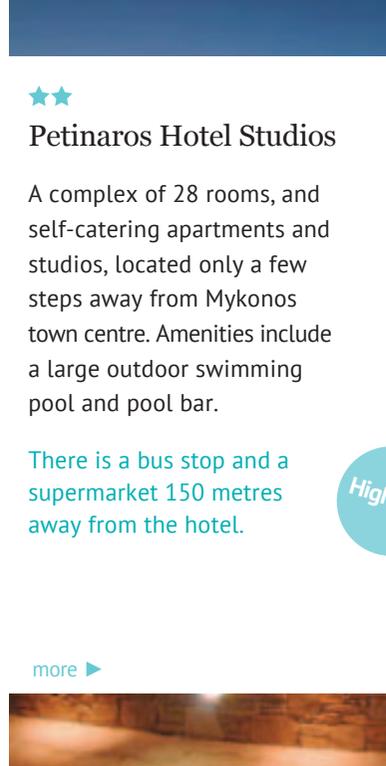
Marina Studios

These self-catered studios are housed in traditional Mykonian style on a peaceful location overlooking the Bay of Ornos, and feature sea or inland views.

A short 10 minute walk will take you from the centre of the village of Ornos, where the studios are located, to Ornos Beach.

Highlight

[more ▶](#)



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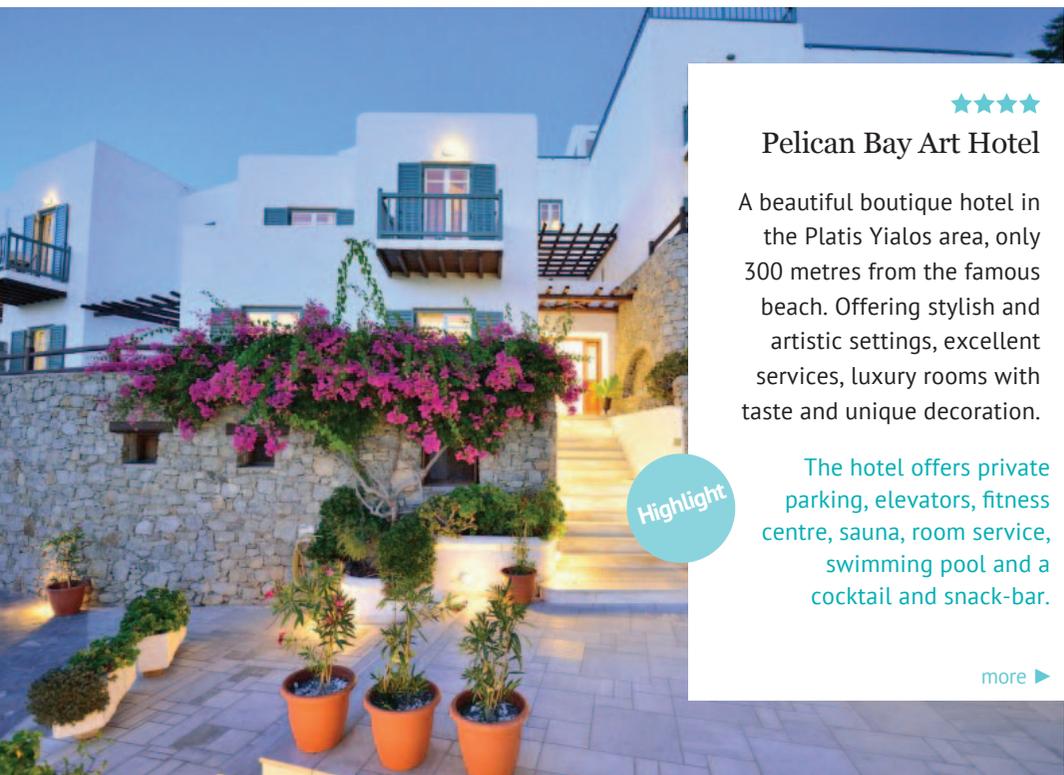
Petinaros Hotel Studios

A complex of 28 rooms, and self-catering apartments and studios, located only a few steps away from Mykonos town centre. Amenities include a large outdoor swimming pool and pool bar.

There is a bus stop and a supermarket 150 metres away from the hotel.

Highlight

[more ▶](#)



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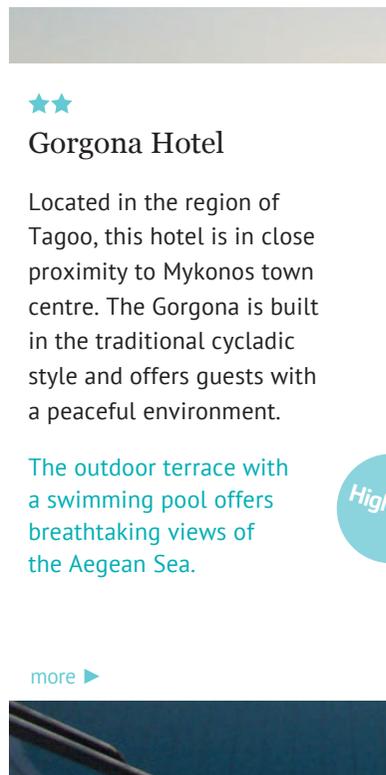
Pelican Bay Art Hotel

A beautiful boutique hotel in the Platis Yialos area, only 300 metres from the famous beach. Offering stylish and artistic settings, excellent services, luxury rooms with taste and unique decoration.

The hotel offers private parking, elevators, fitness centre, sauna, room service, swimming pool and a cocktail and snack-bar.

Highlight

[more ▶](#)



★★

Gorgona Hotel

Located in the region of Tagoo, this hotel is in close proximity to Mykonos town centre. The Gorgona is built in the traditional cycladic style and offers guests with a peaceful environment.

The outdoor terrace with a swimming pool offers breathtaking views of the Aegean Sea.

Highlight

[more ▶](#)





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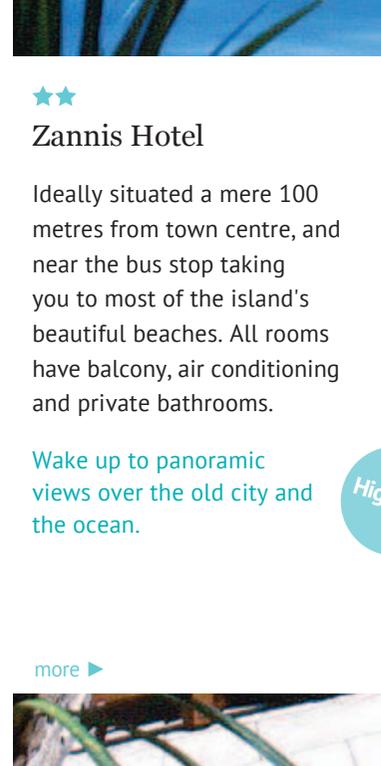
Hotel Vanilla

Hotel Vanilla is located in the village of Ornos, on the south west of the island, just 150 metres from the beach. Hotel facilities include 25 clean well designed rooms, swimming pool and free parking.

Highlight

Complimentary high-speed wireless internet access and continental breakfast served each morning.

[more ▶](#)



★★

Zannis Hotel

Ideally situated a mere 100 metres from town centre, and near the bus stop taking you to most of the island's beautiful beaches. All rooms have balcony, air conditioning and private bathrooms.

Highlight

Wake up to panoramic views over the old city and the ocean.

[more ▶](#)



★★★★★

Yiannaki Hotel

The Yiannaki Hotel is located a mere 200 metres from Ornos beach. All guest rooms have balconies, air conditioning, spacious marble bathrooms with hair dryer, fridge and TV with satellite channels.

Highlight

Features a seawater pool, pool bar and a relaxing terrace with sun beds and umbrellas, & complimentary pool towels.

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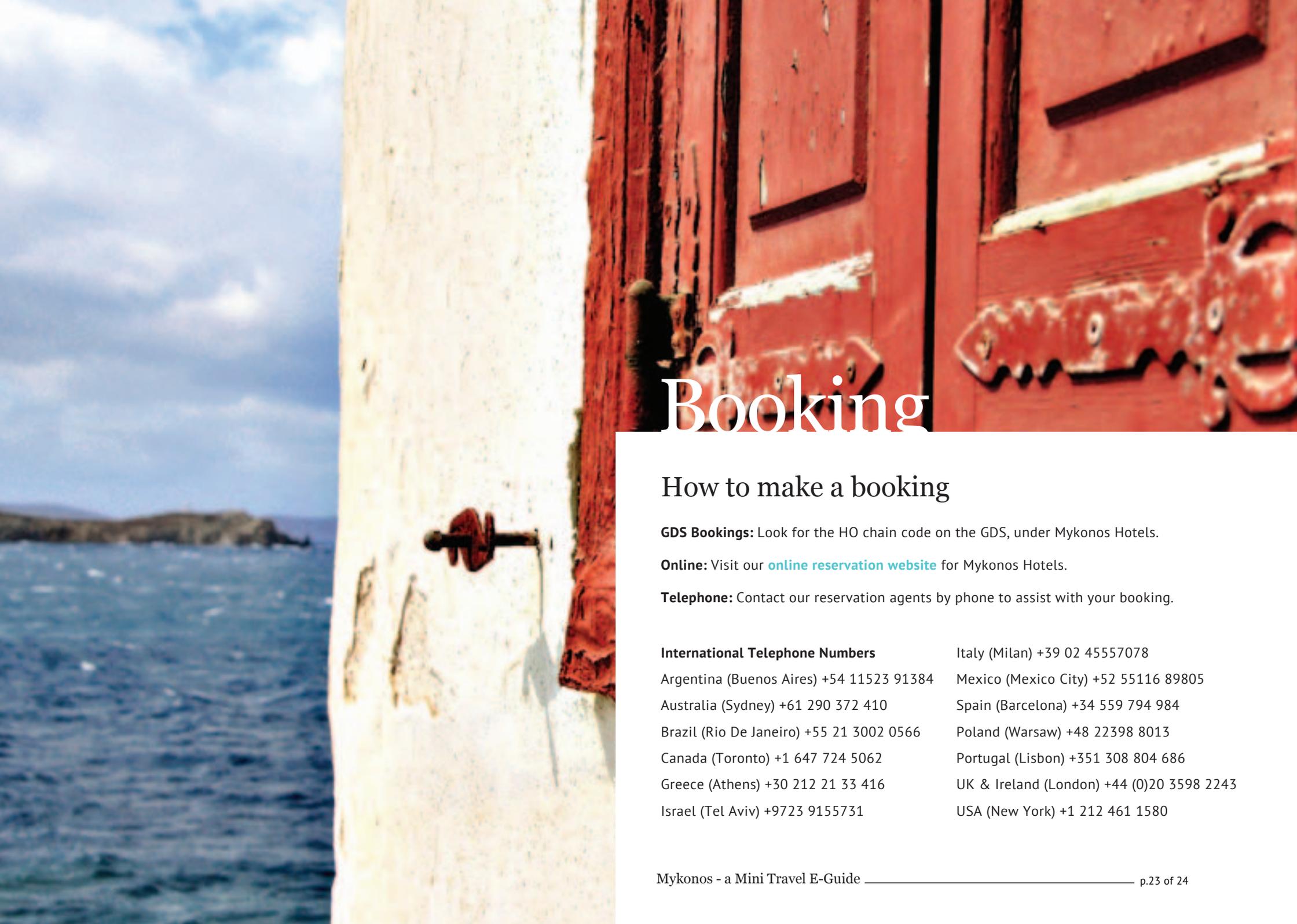
White Myth Hotel

A conveniently located Mykonos town pension in the traditional Cycladic architectural style. Easy access to the harbour, to the beach and to public transportation.

Highlight

Slap-bang in the middle of Mykonos town centre, this hotel is located in Fabrica square.

[more ▶](#)



Booking

How to make a booking

GDS Bookings: Look for the HO chain code on the GDS, under Mykonos Hotels.

Online: Visit our [online reservation website](#) for Mykonos Hotels.

Telephone: Contact our reservation agents by phone to assist with your booking.

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Israel (Tel Aviv) +9723 9155731

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Sources

- [Cuisine of Mykonos](#)
- [Mykonos Beach Guide](#)
- [Greek Islands Travel Guide](#)

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