



MYCONIAN  
AMBASSADOR



RELAIS & CHATEAUX.



KALOS IRTHATE



## — A warm welcome to the Ambassador

Dear Guest,

Our hotel is part of the Myconian Collection, a privately-owned and family-run portfolio of luxury hospitality founded by George and Eleftheria Daktylides in 1979 and managed today by their four sons. The Ambassador draws on one family's ancestral ties to the island, and its long-standing legacy of hospitality, to bring you an unforgettable, authentically Myconian experience.

From the attentive therapists at our Thalasso Spa to our discreet housekeepers, friendly waiters, resourceful concierge and the ever-present director, all members of our staff, known for its courtesy and personal touch, are accomplices in your great escape.

The in-room directory outlines our services and facilities, as well as the charms of our island and environs. Please do not hesitate to call Front Desk on 100 for further information.

The Ambassador team and I remain at your disposal at all times.

Yours Sincerely,

Vangelis Daktylides

Managing Director



# CONTENTS





08 — 17

## OUR STORY

The passion behind the Collection

18 — 23

## EXTENSIONS

Direct dial for advice and assistance

24 — 27

## YOUR ROOM

All features and services at a glance

28 — 41

## HOTEL FACILITIES

Our spaces, services and surrounds

42 — 47

## THE ISLAND

From ancient myths to modern legends

48 — 53

## YACHTING

Cruise the coast and nearby islands

54 — 57

## YOGA & PILATES

Ways to enhance your wellbeing

58 — 63

## CULTURE

Museums and historical landmarks



## OUR STORY





# A FAMILY PASSION

The inspiring story of how the native Myconian family of George Daktylides built a hospitality empire which includes ten of the leading luxury hotels on the island.





There is something about a family business and its unique synthesis of heritage, loyalty and emotion, which captures the essence of luxury and accounts for the strength of some of the world's greatest portfolios. It also lies at the heart of the Myconian Collection's success. "Our parents built the Myconian Collection from the ground up and my brothers and I are as proud of our roots as we are of how much we've grown," says Vangelis, referring to the hospitality empire that includes ten of the leading hotels on Mykonos, three of which are among the five Relais & Chateaux in all of Greece.

## Humble Origins

The Mykonos of George Daktylides' youth was very different from that of today. The island ran a barter economy well into the 1950s. 'Our mother will tell you that, along with everyone else who lived off the land, they traded their cheese, sausages, cured fish and produce with the townsfolk against imports such as sugar, flour, coffee and spaghetti, not to mention cigarettes, sold singly from a big box'.

Besides visitors to a few private villas, the island was a well-guarded secret before the yachts of the fabled Sixties' high society began to drop anchor on their way to the magnificent ancient ruins of Delos. Onassis and Jackie O were followed by Princess Soraya, Grace Kelly, Brando and Liz Taylor, to mention but a few, and Christian Dior famously crowned the town's tailor Josef Salachas '*le roi du pantalon*' (French for 'the king of trousers'), inspiring Givenchy to collaborate on a couture collection. The secret was out, and close on its heels came the boho chic of the Seventies.

1967/

George Daktylides in front of the Mercedes 322 truck that carried barite and sand to and from the mines.



“As kids, we sold tickets on our dad’s buses, which was a little boy’s dream”

## How Dreams Became Reality

George returned from military service with large dreams, including that of winning the hand of the young Eleftheria from Delos. To support them, he drove a bus that transported men and materials from town to the barite mines. But he soon convinced his brothers to invest in a vehicle, and before long, with a fleet of 25 buses, they ran the island's only public transport network. 'As kids we sold tickets on our dad's buses, which was a little boy's dream,' says Vangelis.



## OUR STORY

Concurrently, George started trading in cement, bricks and sand that he was hauling to the mines and construction sites, and for ten years mixed concrete and brought in coils of rebar used for structural reinforcement.

'I can still remember the ringing sound made by my grandfathers, both striking to uncoil the steel in the yard just below our house. Everything was done by hand', recalls Vangelis.

Tourist accommodation on the island had grown modestly with the state-funded construction and informal room and board offers, but demand from visitors drawn to experience the warm hearts, rich culture and the exceptional hospitality of the locals continued to grow. It was not uncommon for cash-strapped backpackers in the Eighties to be invited to open up their sleeping bags on private terraces under the stars.

With his burgeoning contacts in trading and construction, George decided that it was time to build the first hotel on Mykonos outside of town. Vangelis recounts: 'He came home one day on a Caterpillar that he had picked up second-hand and which remained his favourite set of wheels, long after he could have any car he wanted.' The well-worn but solid 920 four-cylinder diesel loader went on to dig the foundations of his first four hotels.



1970/

Newlyweds George and Eleftheria on their way to Sunday service.

"I remember the ringing sound my grandfathers made, both striking to uncoil the steel just below our house. Everything was done by hand"



1977/

George on the original CAT "Convertible", digging the myconian Collection's first foundations for Korali.

George became the island's third hotelier when the 25-room Kohili in 1979. Set high above Alefkandra harbour and looking directly onto the seven famous 16th-century windmills on the edge of Chora, it commanded sweeping views of the Aegean by day, and the glittering spectacle of the town by night. As the first private hotel on Mykonos outside Chora, it was an instant hit. Korali was built a year later, doubling the room count.

1960/  
Eleftheria, aged 13  
at the foot of a delian lion with her parents



“I can still smell the cake  
my mother baked daily  
for the hotel guests  
in our home kitchen”

## Sacrifice and Hard Work

Success was built on the back of hard work. Eleftheria made breakfast for all the guests and did the housekeeping and laundry, in addition to providing meals for the forty construction workers busy erecting the new hotel. She was also raising four sons, and somehow still found the time to take them for a daily swim. During their summer break, they were expected to help out at the hotel, serving breakfast trays, setting and clearing tables and learning the trade. ‘I can still smell the cake she baked for the hotel in our kitchen’, Vangelis recalls. ‘She gets emotional when we talk about those times... my parents sacrificed everything to create opportunities for us. Dad worked from morning to night and invested all the profits back into the business, and my mother had one good pair of Sunday shoes which she would only slip on before walking into church.’



1981/  
Panos and Vangelis with their father  
at Korali's reception desk



## OUR STORY

Personal touch and attention to detail that to this day defines the Myconian Collection, resulted in a loyal clientele and a reputation that spread by word of mouth. Six years later, Kyma and Kalypso joined Kohili and Korali to form what became known as 'K-Hotels'. 'Our father's original plan was to give each of his four sons a hotel when he retired,' says Vangelis, 'but he loved driving that Cat so much that he went on to build six more, starting with the first five-star hotel on the island.'

In anticipation of growing demand for luxury destinations, George bought land in 1986 on the south coast. The best plot had sweeping views across the bay of Platis Gialos but was dominated by large granite boulders. These were integrated into terraces to ensure sea views from every room. This hotel, the first luxury establishment of its kind on the island, was none other than the Ambassador.

1982/  
Clockwise,  
Bottom Left: Panos, Markos, Vangelis  
and Marios, also in order of their age.



“There was never a question in our minds whether this is what we wanted to do”

## A Family Dynasty

'By that stage, my parents had realised that we needed an education in international management', says Vangelis.

He and his brothers all attended the world-renowned hotel school in Lausanne, the premier establishment of its kind: 'There was never a question in our minds whether this is what we wanted to do.'

Once all four brothers were back on the island, they agreed with their father that it was time for a new challenge: the conquest of Elia bay. If the seaside beaches around the peninsula are the golden crown of Mykonos, few are said to gleam as brightly as the broad swathe of fine sand on the South side of the island. So, in securing the most scenic cliffs and sloping fields that joined them with the ocean, they acquired the perfect setting for the new stars in the Myconian Collection's luxury constellation: the 5-Star Royal in 2000 and the Imperial in 2002, followed by the Villa Collection and Utopia in 2013, Avaton in 2014 and Panoptis in 2019.

2018/  
Vangelis with his wife and children

“We learned from  
our parents...”



1983/  
Markos on operator duty at Korali



## Renovation and Innovation

In 2015, the Ambassador was renovated. Vangelis commissioned acclaimed architect Galal Mahmoud to undertake the transformation of this popular Relais & Chateaux. ‘We learned from our parents who’d always striven to improve themselves and the business. They taught us about the need to grow and innovate.’ In 2016, it was the turn of K-hotels to transform into Kyma, Korali and Naia.

Even today, six years after stepping down as CEO, George Daktylides keeps himself busy. His idea of relaxing is to get involved in the new projects, as well as to ensure that all nine grandchildren have a steady supply of ‘real’ food. He does his rounds to each of their homes once a week in a Toyota Hilux with trays of farm eggs on the passenger seat, home-grown lamb and goat’s meat in the back, as well as cheese and cake made by Eleftheria.

‘As you see, I have my retirement cut out for me’, says Vangelis. ‘And it’s a good thing that we are four brothers, because our parents have very big shoes to fill.’

‘Someone once asked me what advice did our parents give us along the way. My answer was short: they led by example. In French, I believe the term for it is ‘l’education silencieuse’. We are each other’s most honest critics and loyal allies. When we balance the pragmatic demands of a competitive business with deeply rooted emotions, we’re not just planning for the financial year, but also for the next generation.’



## OUR STORY

# An Enduring Love Affair

Throughout this time, the Collection never lost sight of family and a sense of organic growth. Interwoven with their managerial philosophy and operation approach, it pervades the relationships between the Daktylides family, the island and the staff – and flows into guests' experience of warm and personalized service, as well as the privileged relationships that discreetly open doors to the island's best services.

Guests enjoy a unique taste of the island through the hotel's exceptional relationship with suppliers. 'In our father's days, our fresh fish came from Nico, whose sons now supply us. The best of fresh local produce is grown exclusively for our gourmet restaurants. Many are informal suppliers, like our father's old friend Panagiotis who catches octopus in the waters around Delos solely for his family and our chef. And naturally, the lamb and pork are our father's own.'

The family remains firmly rooted in Mykonos. Their children attend schools on the island. Their dedication to give back to the island finds expression in environmental conservation initiatives, local sourcing and consistent support of the Cycladic communities: waste is recycled, worn linen is donated to old age homes, monasteries and prisons in the Cyclades, seawater is desalinated, and in 2018, George Daktylides dug the foundations to a primary school which will be a gift to the island.

'There's a real sense that we are all connected. As locals,' says Vangelis, 'we respect a mutual dependence with the people and the land of Mykonos, and with the rest of the world through our guests.' Many guests return year after year, not just for service excellence, but also in anticipation of the element of surprise. 'We need to keep moving. Great hospitality is like sustaining the romance in a serious relationship - it's hard work, but also the best reward', concludes Vangelis.

Therein lies the secret: true luxury cannot be conveyed by exclusivity, precision and aesthetics alone. To experience the real thing, you need to encounter family connectedness and a shared ethos.

**"As locals we feel  
a mutual dependence  
with the people and  
the land of Mykonos"**





## EXTENSIONS



Detailed information about our services and who to call for assistance or advice - from front desk favours to room service, restaurant or spa bookings, to internal and dialing out.







## EXTENSIONS

24  
hours

100  
—&—  
112

To ensure speed and efficiency, many of our services are coordinated by our multilingual front desk staff, who pride themselves on being able to assist you in many ways. You are welcome to call from your room, drop by the front desk or arrange for a private consultation.



## / Our front desk is there for all that you might want or need

- › Adaptors
- › Airline assistance and port/airport transfers
- › Audiovisual equipment
- › Beach Towels
- › Babysitting
- › Bell attendant to assist with luggage or shopping
- › Call forwarding
- › Car rental
- › Cashier's Desk (currency exchange available 24 hours in the lobby - we regret that we are not able to cash any personal cheques)
- › Catering for meetings, private dining or picnics
- › Courier, postal mail, packaging and shipping
- › Excursions by private yacht charter from our launch on Platis Gialos beach, to take you around Mykonos or to neighbouring islands
- › Facsimile transmission, scans, copies etc.
- › First Aid supplies
- › Flower delivery
- › Limousine services
- › Lost & Found: all items reported as lost or found are recorded and kept by our reception staff
- › Lost keys
- › Maintenance
- › Medical appointments or emergencies with various doctors or health emergency consultation paging services
- › Parking
- › Religious services
- › Restaurant bookings
- › Yoga and Pilates bookings
- › Sporting facilities and activities
- › Taxis & Transport
- › Wake up call
- › Shopping: our exclusive boutique is located near reception; our reception staff will equally be pleased to advise you on the many boutiques featuring traditional local craft, international fashion and famous Greek jewellery in Mykonos town
- › Water sports bookings with independent providers on Platis Gialos Beach.





## EXTENSIONS

118

please dial

### / Room Service

09:00am - 00:00am

On one of those rare evenings when you feel like 'staying home' to catch up on sleep, work or take in some TV entertainment, just call 118. We offer a digital delicious in-room menu with something exceptional for everyone's taste, guaranteed to arrive as hot or as chilled as the chef would have it.

For picnics or packed lunches, please advise our catering on 118 by 9pm the previous evening.

For in-room breakfast, please contact the room service the night before or same morning. Euros 9 surcharge per tray.

Please consult the menu in your room.



112 please dial

## / Calls

24 hours

### Room-to-room

simply dial the room number

### External calls

Our front desk operator will gladly assist you with placing an external call.

However, if you would like to do so yourself, please note the following:

Outside line for local call: 0 + local number

Outside line International: 0 + 00 + country code + number



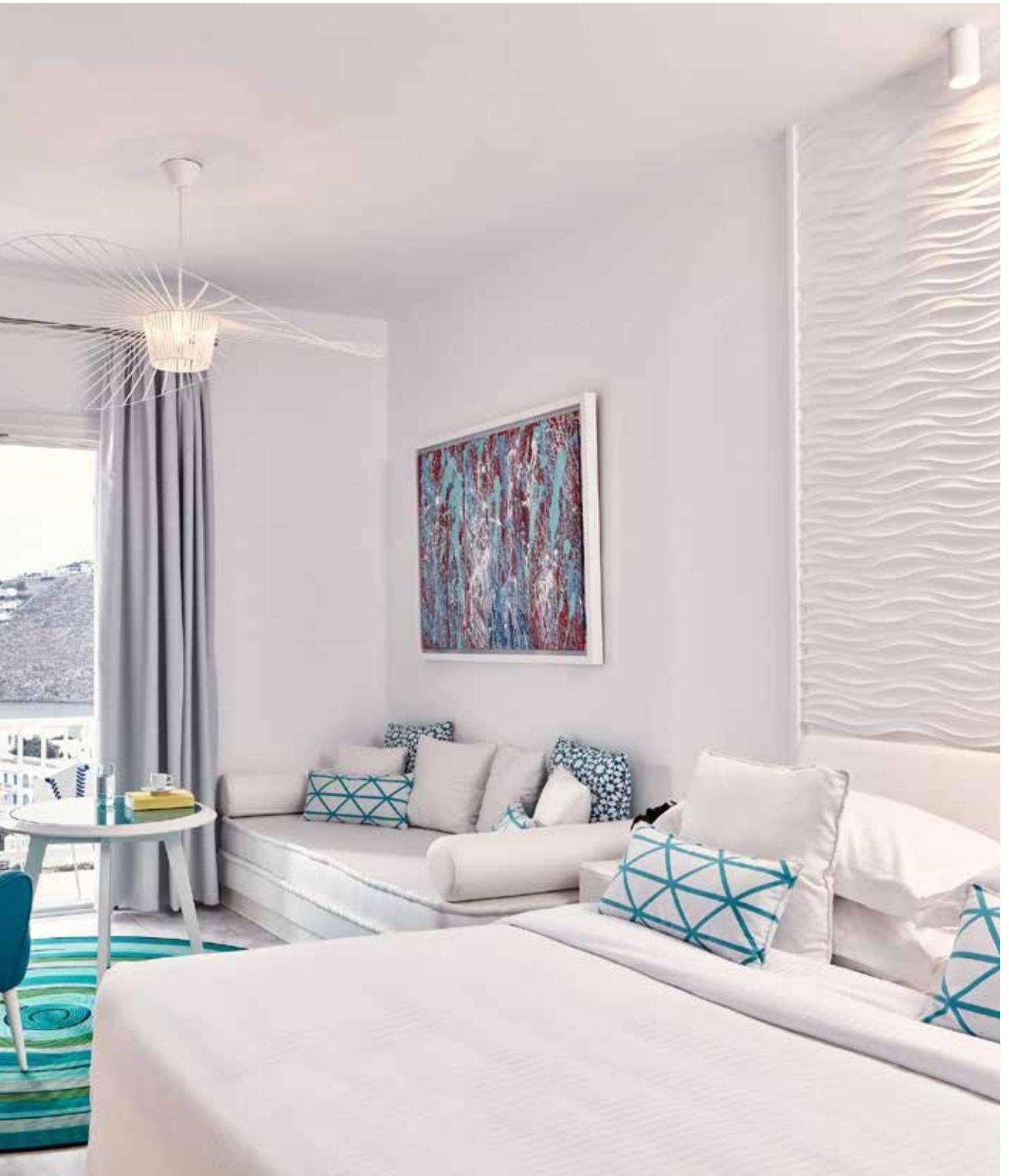


## YOUR ROOM



The 'where and how' of your home-from-home on Mykonos -including mod coms, emergency regulations, check-in/check-out rules and payment options.







## YOUR ROOM

### / Basics

#### Air-conditioning & heating —

On your control panel, you will find that both your room temperature and fan speed can be controlled at the touch of a button.

#### Call or message forwarding —

Please advise our operator at the Front Desk where you can be located if you leave your room but are expecting important calls or messages, so that we may forward them to you.

#### Laundry/Dry cleaning/Ironing —

Please prepare the laundry bag available in your room and call Housekeeping on 100 for collection.

#### Minibar —

The contents are restocked daily for your convenience. Should you wish to enjoy additional in-room beverages, please contact Room Service. You will find a space in the bar to accommodate any of your cosmetic and medical products that require refrigeration.

#### Non-smoking rooms —

All our rooms are non smoking. Smoking rooms are only allocated when indicated as a preference during the booking process. Subject to availability, we will attempt to accommodate you on check-in.

#### Room Service —

Open 09:00am - 00:00am, please consult your digital in-room menu and call 118 for further assistance.

#### Safe Deposit box —

Please consult instructions on your safe. Should you require additional or alternative safety deposit facilities, please contact Reception on 100.

#### Sleep in —

Please place your 'Do not Disturb' sign on the door knob. You may also ask Reception to screen or block your calls.

#### Television —

Your TV offers satellite and local channels.

#### Toiletries —

In addition to the popular classic Molton Brown, we invite you to discover the Korres range of products, the leading Greek skincare brand which can be found all over the world at exclusive department stores from LA to Tokyo.

#### Voltage 220 —

Adaptors can be obtained from front desk with a deposit.

#### Wi-Fi —

Hi-speed internet is complimentary and available all over the Ambassador.



## / Important

For safety reasons, please refrain from using candles or burning incense in your room.

—

In case of emergency, please call front desk on 100.

—

Fire: in the unlikely event of a fire, please contact Front Desk on 100, indicate the location of the fire and do not panic. The hotel has a centralized fire control centre.

—

The hotel cannot be responsible for any valuable items that have not been stored in the safety deposit box.

—

Your safety is our main concern and Hotel Security is provided 24 hours a day. Should you require special security services at any time, please contact the Assistant Manager on 100.

—

For your safety and protection, please close your windows when leaving the room, and identify any visitors before admitting them. Always carry your key card with you.

—

Pets: we regret that the Ambassador does not allow pets in rooms or public areas.



## / Check-Out

Our customary check-out is at 11:00am. In the event of late flights or delays, please contact our Assistant Manager on 100.

—

We reserve the right to charge guests an additional half-day room rate for extended occupancy until 6:00pm, after which a full night's charge may be incurred.

## / Payment

Accounts may be settled in cash, or with the following credit cards: American Express, Diners Club, Visa and Mastercard.





## HOTEL FACILITIES



Everything about the Ambassador: from breakfast and bars to fine dining and room service, the pool and spa pleasures in between, the fitness options and beautiful beaches, as well as how to get around.







## HOTEL FACILITIES

### / Latitudes

#### Breakfast terrace

Service between 07:30 — 10:30

Flooded with morning light and sea views,  
the perfect place to start your day

The lavish spread laid out by our chef includes cooked-to-order eggs and a full American champagne breakfast, with freshly baked breads, buttery croissants and cereals (catering to those with the most hedonistic tastes as well as those with gluten-free requirements), fresh pressed juices, fruit, nuts, charcuterie and salmon. This is complemented by our traditional buffet of local delicacies such as stuffed vine leaves ('dolmades'), Greek yoghurt with island honey, fresh tomatoes and olives as well as the more indulgent halva, kataifi and baklava. It's all so good that guests who only drifted in at dawn wake up just in time to catch the last delicious Italian cappuccino at 10:30am.

Should you wish to enjoy breakfast in the privacy of your room, please contact Room Service on 118. A surcharge of 6 euros per tray will be added to your bill.



## / George's Bar

Fine spirits & light snacks

flowing from 11:00 — 03:00 / served between 12:00 — 20:00

The place to be around the clock, with scenic views  
and sensational service

With its panoramic view of the entertainment terrace, George's is an ideal meeting spot and a perfect vantage point from which to watch the day's rhythms unfold. Our barman is an old hand at preparing your poison of choice, and you can rely on him to provide the perfect accompanying snacks. Light lunches are served (from 12:00pm - 8:00pm) in the bar lounge or at your shaded lounge overlooking the ocean. At sunset, guests returning from the beach mingle around the bar over a glass of wine or an aperitif before retiring to dress for dinner at Efisia or for an evening out on the town. Smooth cocktails are served well into the small hours of the morning. Naturally!

A selection of the finest whiskies, cocktails and wines is available to complement the menus of all our restaurants.





118

dinner reservation

## / Efsia

### Relais & Chateaux fine dining

dinner from 20:00 — 23:30 (reservations advised)

**Cuisine is at the heart of the Relais & Chateaux tradition, and we take great pride in our chefs who work their magic behind closed doors.**

Our resident Executive Chef Elias Maslaris is a young rising star from Thessaloniki, whose love of Mediterranean flavours was inspired by his childhood spent on a farm in a small village of Northern Greece. His parents owned livestock and a vegetable garden and their table was laden with home-grown seasonal ingredients.

He knew early on that he wanted to become a chef because he saw it as a challenging profession that would allow for constant personal improvement and innovation, “a very direct way of being in a world that is full of passion for produce and for people, and that has no routine” he adds.

Elias began what he considers a life-long apprenticeship at eighteen, first at the Byzantine Museum and then Macedonian Palace after attending chef school in Thessaloniki. But the defining spark came from joining the Myconian Collection whose creative team of Superchefs set the bar at the highest level, with the haute cuisine philosophy of their three Relais & Chateaux coursing through all nine hotels. “Although there is a hierarchy, a good kitchen operates as one, with great knowledge transfer”. And Elias learnt from the best: chefs with exceptional trajectories through leading culinary schools, to Michelin mainstays.

Elias is passionate about infusing classics with regional flavours, and reveres the process of using seasonal organic produce to create world-class cuisine. He would define his style as devoted to preserving the purity of his ingredients, creating subtle and at times surprising combinations. His current recommendations at Efsia is the Mykonos lamb medallion with herb crust and summer vegetables.

He believes in training the taste buds of young gourmets with savoury Greek food, and the favourite treat of his five-year-old daughter Vassiliki is a plate of stuffed vine leaves.





“My gastronomic journey began in my childhood kitchen of a small farm in Northern Greece, watching my father make sausages and my mother cook with our own seasonal produce. After many years as a chef, I have realized that all the techniques I encountered in all the kitchens I have worked in, were in our homes. So, I continue to grow from those roots, with my memories and my love for what I do. The meaning of life is to discover your talent. The purpose of life is to give it to others. I believe Picasso said that, and I agree”



## HOTEL FACILITIES

130

please dial spa

### /Thalasso Spa

Open daily from 09:00 – 21:00

#### An oasis of relaxation and rejuvenation

Our new Thalasso Spa situated one level below the reception lounge awaits your discovery.

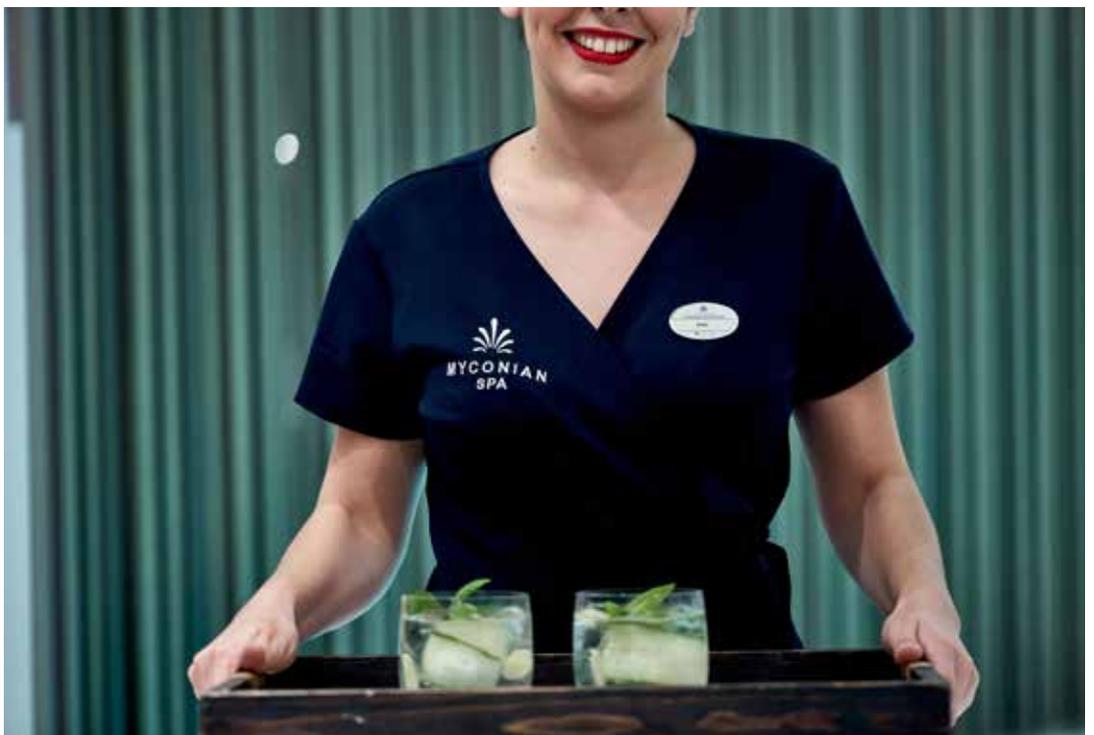
Enjoy our steam room and sauna, as well as three pools maintained at different therapeutic salinity contents and temperatures, complemented by essential oils and hydro-massage.

Our specialised range of spa treatments are offered in single or double therapy rooms, supported by the exclusive Elemis and St Barth ranges that are the forefront of anti-ageing and beauty spa care.



Please consult the spa menu in your room and contact us for further information on the full range of services or to schedule appointments. Advance bookings advised. Guests staying in one of our Suites or Villas can request a massage in the privacy of their room.

- › Beauty salon with manicure, pedicure, waxing among other treatments.
- › Body treatments and massages supported by the exclusive product ranges Elemis and St. Barth.
- › Private Pilates, Yoga and Wellness classes
- › Personal Training





## HOTEL FACILITIES

### / Stay

open from 07:30 — 20:00

#### The famous Ambassador pool deck

The magnificent timber deck surrounding the pool is a world unto itself. There's nothing more relaxing than a day spent adrift in reverie or reading on our broad daybeds, cared for by our attentive crew bringing fresh towels, complimentary iced smoothies and anything irresistible that might catch your fancy from the bar's menu. Or you could do nothing at all. Why not simply watch the shadows of the palms and the parasols lean into the afternoon until, at sunset, stillness descends on the ocean, bringing with it an incomparable sense of tranquillity and wellbeing. Many guests do just that, which is why we simply named it STAY.



## / Fitness Centre

open from 9:00 — 21:00 / Please contact our Front Desk on 100 in order to schedule an appointment.

### Train and tone to views of the Aegean

In addition to the facilities of our gym centre, you may enjoy a range of sporting activities on Platis Gialos which are listed in our Pool & Beach section. You may also enquire with Guest Services at Reception about personal training, private yoga and Pilates classes on a secluded beach, accessed by private boat.

Please note that the gym is unsupervised.





## HOTEL FACILITIES

### / Boutique

Open daily from 10:00 — 22:00

#### For last-minute wants and needs

For those with last-minute wardrobe requirements, or perhaps simply to indulge in something new and beautiful, our boutique offers a collection of leading Greek designers and local talent. Discover us at the far end of the lobby.

Our reception will of course be equally pleased to direct you to some of the best boutiques in Mykonos Town, a delightful and thoroughly entertaining shopping experience through narrow cobblestone streets lined with beautiful people and lovely things.





## / Getting Around

### You are at the very centre of it all

The vibrant Chora with its whitewashed maze of boutiques and bars is only minutes away by car or public bus; the mysterious ruins of ancient Delos or Rhenia's hidden coves are a scenic half hour by sea from our private launch; and we can even give you a bird's view of the Cyclades.

#### Public Transport —

A public bus service departs from the end of the boardwalk on Platis Gialos to Fabrica Square in Chora (Mykonos Town) every half hour between 8am and 4pm in season (July and August), year-round during 'rush hour', and otherwise on the hour. Ferries to the famous ruins of Delos and the neighbouring islands depart from the town harbour.

#### Taxis —

For taxi services please contact the Front Desk on 100.

#### Car Rental —

Our Front desk will be pleased to assist you with car rentals.

#### Luxury Fleet —

Ride in comfort and style with our friendly and experienced chauffeur. Our fleet of Mercedes S-Class limousines, Range Rovers, Mercedes mini limo-buses and 40-seat limo-coaches can meet your most exacting transportation requirements.

#### In the Skies —

As leaders in Corporate and VIP Hospitality, we also offer helicopter and private jet services to keep you in step with today's fast-paced world. From executives to VIP travellers, our chartered flights are a flexible and elegant way to travel and to see the islands from the skies.



## / The Beaches

### Some of the island's finest sandy strips

At the Ambassador, the tranquillity of being away from the island's party pulse is just as easily given up with a short stroll across to Psarou, with its beau monde and superyachts at anchor, or to Paranga's authentic little tavernas frequented by the locals.

#### Platis Gialos —

The beach just below the Ambassador, no more than a 3-minute walk away, is beloved for its fine sand and crystal water, as well as the mini boutiques and quaint restaurants that line the boardwalk. Water sports organisers on Platis Gialos offer jet-ski rental, instruction in wakeboarding, surfing, skating or water skiing, tube-sofa and banana-boat rides, canoeing and snorkelling. Glass-bottom boat rides and private yacht charters can be booked to depart from our jetty. Please speak to our guest services for additional information. Fresh beach towels are made available daily through reception.

#### Agia Anna, Psarou and Paranga —

The famous beaches of cosmopolitan Psarou, picturesque Paranga and Agia Anna are a short stroll away on either side. You may choose to explore the neighbouring desert island of Rhenia or the hidden coves of Mykonos by private launch.





## / Explore

### The many faces of magical Mykonos

The idyllic calm of Platis Gialos bay belies its proximity to Chora - also known as Mykonos Town - a mere five kilometres (three miles) from the Ambassador. The town holds fascinating historical and architectural interest and has a relaxed charm, with its boutiques that parade local craft alongside international fashion, its clubs, bars and tavernas that spill out onto the picturesque maze of cobbled passages between lime-washed houses, and the little Byzantine churches that emit the glow of votive candles and the sweet scent of incense.

Ferries to the famous ruins of Delos, one of the most important mythological and archaeological sites in the Mediterranean, depart from the town harbour. Alternatively, you may choose to explore Delos, the neighbouring desert island of Rhenia or the hidden coves of Mykonos by private launch.

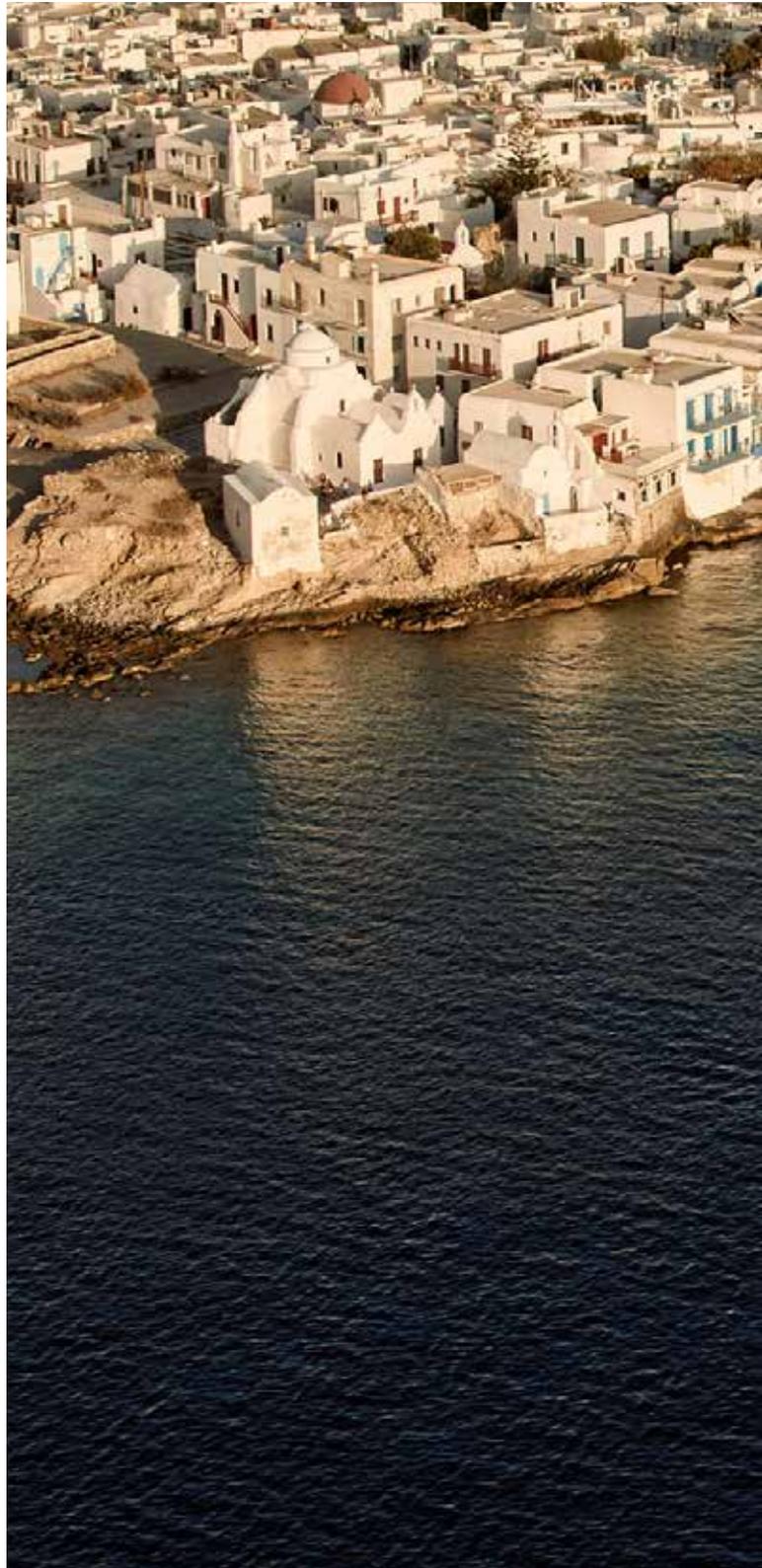


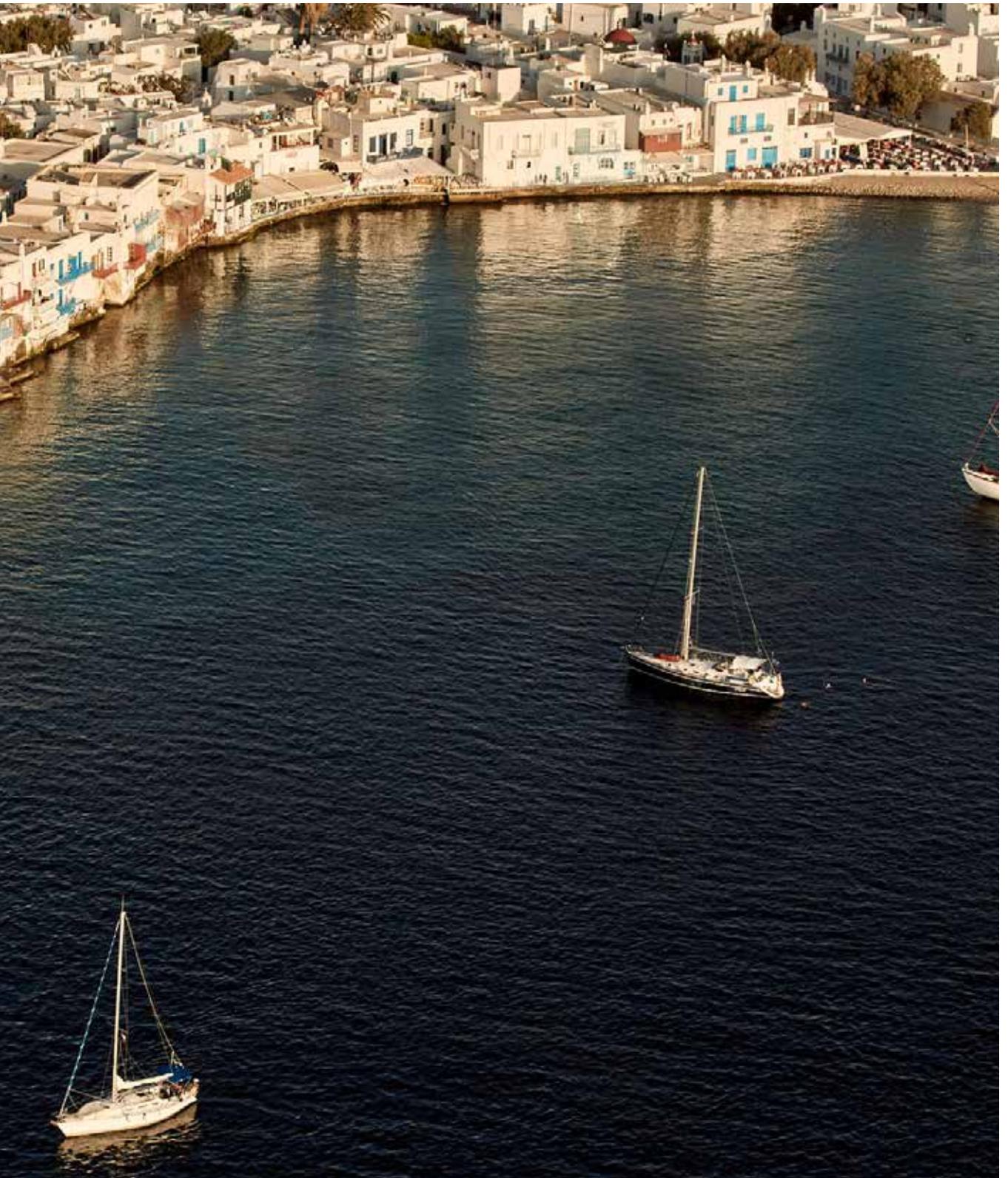


## THE ISLAND



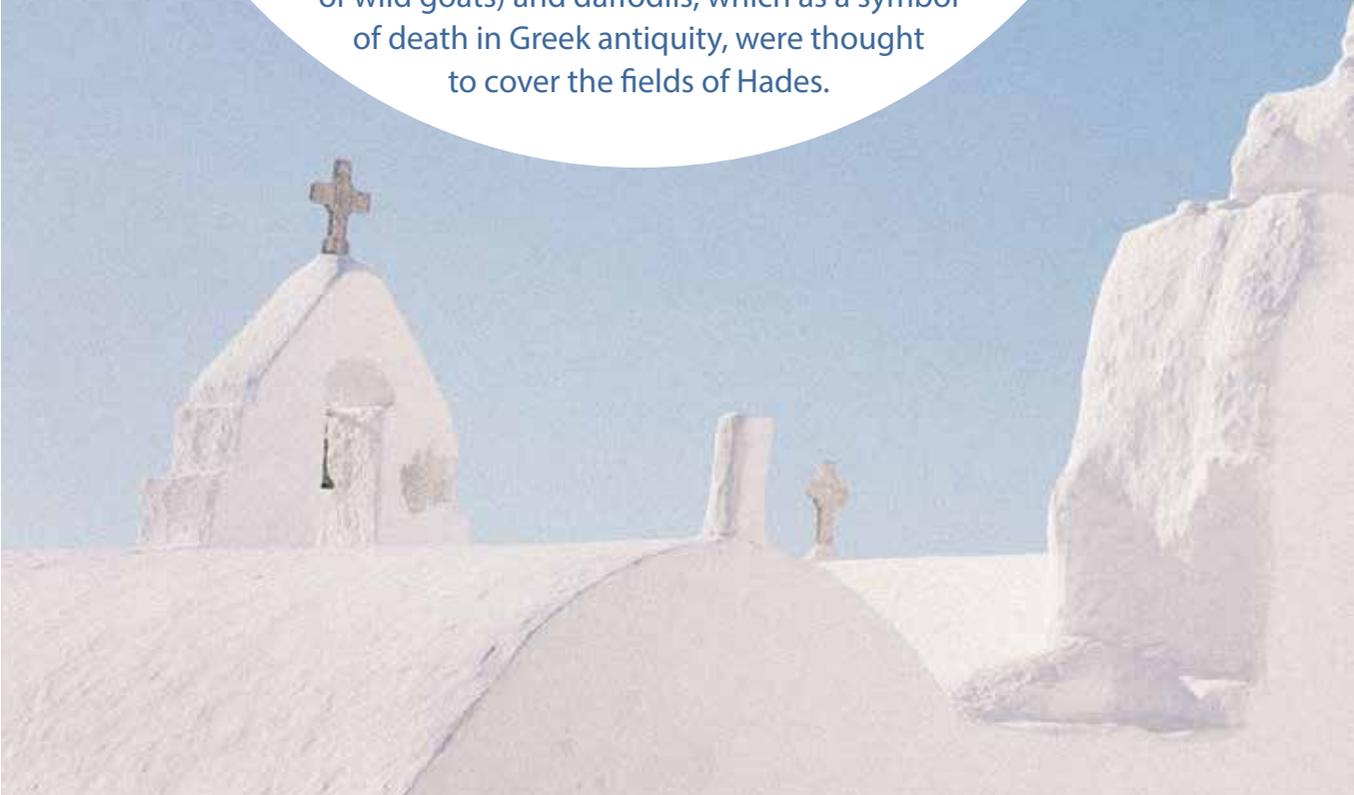
A brief overview of the land and its cultural heritage, from ancient myths to modern legends.







Mykonos spans an area of just under 86 square kilometres (ca. 33 square miles) and is also known as the 'island of the winds' as it is visited both by the Sirocco - the warm Saharan wind - and the cooling Meltemi that passes through from the north in July and August. It counts, year-round, about six thousand inhabitants. Much like our neighbour Delos, which gets its name from the ancient Greek meaning 'brought to light', here the sun shines up to three hundred days a year, temperatures average 28°C (82°F) in season and drop to a moderate 15°C (59°F) in the winter. February and March rains feed the sparse vegetation and bring flowers to bloom with names that bear traces of the region's ancient history. In addition to the bougainvillea, our adopted alien found in exuberant bursts in the streets of Chora, and the exotic cactus which is Greek in etymology alone, endemic plants include the evocative 'Christ's thorn', the 'Roman orchid', 'cliff roses' used in incense and harvested with cloths dragged through the fields (in the old days, plucked off the hides of wild goats) and daffodils, which as a symbol of death in Greek antiquity, were thought to cover the fields of Hades.







## THE ISLAND

### / We invite you to discover the beauty of our island for yourself. Here are a few interesting facts

The island lies in the centre of the Aegean, situated 96 nautical miles from the mainland port of Piraeus, and has been an important destination or stop-over since antiquity. The 'Mykonos Vase' that bears the earliest dated representation of the famous Trojan Horse (Archaic period ca. 670 BC) was found here. In Greek mythology, it is the very site where Zeus did battle with the Titans, and its island mass is said to have been formed by the corpses of the giants killed by Hercules after he lured them from the protection of Mount Olympus. In fact, the giant boulders strewn across the island are said to be the petrified testicles of those slain giants.

The neighbouring island of Delos is one of the most significant mythological and archaeological sites in the Mediterranean. Delos had a position as a holy sanctuary for a millennium before Olympian Greek mythology made it the birthplace of the twin gods Apollo and Artemis. Evidence of habitation on the island that dates back to 3000 BC and Delos rose to prominence during the Mycenaean period (1580-1200 BC), its reputation as a sacred island attracting large numbers of devotees. Trade flourished, transforming Delos into a robust commercial port for almost a thousand years after 800 BC. From 478 B.C. it hosted the treasury of the Delian League before it was removed to the Acropolis in Athens. A small museum amongst the ruins of the ancient city (which once housed over 25'000 people) contains many important artifacts unearthed during the ongoing excavations of the site.

Mykonos has been home or reluctant host to the Cares, Phoenicians, Egyptians, Minoans, Ionians, Romans, the Byzantine Empire, the Venetians and the Ottoman Empire. Its people adapted to their influences over the ages, becoming seafarers, fishermen, successful traders, pirates, and eventually islanders with a famously generous and hospitable spirit.



### / Its legendary reputation as a preeminent holiday destination may be traced back to the thirties

Although famous artists, politicians and wealthy Europeans vacationed in private villas, a hiatus after WWII preserved the island as a well-guarded secret until the yachts of Sixties' high society dropped anchor here. Its idyllic image of island simplicity drew the likes of Christian Dior, Onassis and Jackie O, followed by Princess Soraya, Grace Kelly, Brando and Liz Taylor, to name a few. Dior even famously crowned the town's tailor Josef Salachas 'le roi du pantalon' ('the king of trousers'), inspiring Givenchy to collaborate with Josef on a couture collection. The secret was out, and on its heels, the Boho chic of the Seventies followed. In the exuberance of the Nineties, many more luxury hotels opened on Mykonos, drawing new guests, notably from North America, then central Europe, and of course the party crowd, turning it into one of the most seductive playgrounds in the world.



## / Among the first to foresee the potential for luxury hospitality was the founder of the myconian collection, George Daktylides

'He built the first private hotel on the island, opening up new horizons outside of town and was equally first to be awarded five-star status in 1992 for the Ambassador. As his sons, we now lead the Myconian Collection and remain happily based here with our children in the local school. Our family business has grown from a pioneering one to become the benchmark of island hospitality, with roots that go back beyond living memory and a commitment to Mykonos that extends just as far into the future. Our respect for the land and its people is reflected in our actions, giving back through environmental conservation initiatives, local sourcing, waste recycling and consistent support to the Cycladic island communities.'

## / Our Island Of Contrasts

People love the glamorous Mykonos summers, but its winters are just as beautiful. It's when the beaches take on a stormy mantle and the small fishing boats reclaim the bays from the departed yachts. It's when the old men in the towns drag their tables and chairs into the port to do battle at backgammon, otherwise known as 'tavli'. It's when the churches are decorated for their saint's days and the fish market is given back to the locals and the early morning deliveries of bread from the old bakery become social visits. Although the Ambassador is closed during this period, if you should decide to experience the island in its hibernation, you would find that the old traditions of hospitality endure regardless.

Our respect for Mykonos is reflected in our actions, giving back through environmental conservation, local sourcing, waste recycling and support to the Cycladic island communities.



## / Chora — The Town Of Mykonos

The town famously rises up from the shore like an amphitheatre, with its lime-washed houses, churches and the windmills of Alefkandra next to "little Venice". At nightfall, its luminous white mantle glows like a jewel against the dark Aegean. The labyrinthine streets, constructed centuries ago to confuse attacking pirates, invite modern-day visitors to lose themselves along with other revellers in a cobbled maze lined with boutiques, bars, and tavernas and pulsating with life into the night. Distinctive of Hora are the many picturesque little churches - remains of an age in which devotion and local custom combined to raise minor masterpieces. The most famous and photographed church in the Cyclades is Panagia Paraportiani, considered the model of indigenous architecture.



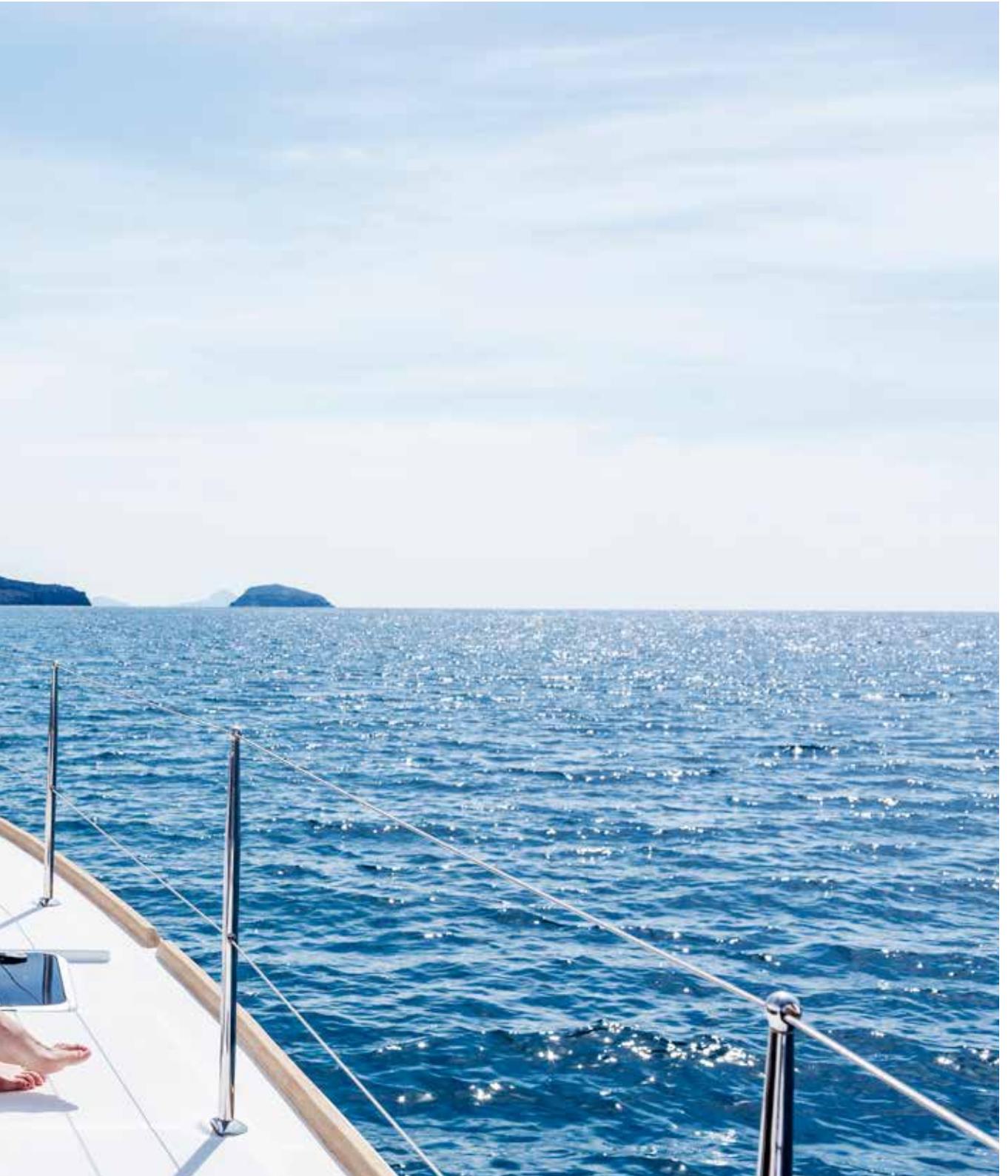


## YACHTING



A unique way to experience the islands. Discover the Mykonos coastline and surrounds by sea, for a day or more, from our private launch.







## YACHTING

### / Chart your own Course

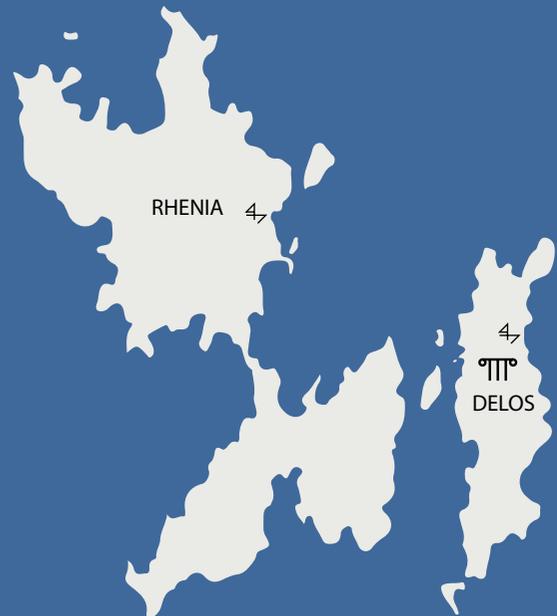
With our launch on Platis Gialos as starting point, enjoy the incomparable experience of island-hopping the Cycladic archipelago, cared for by an experienced crew who will take you to the most magical spots and prepare on-board barbecues with freshly caught fish (or menu of your choice if you advise on preferences) while you swim or sunbathe in secluded coves.

You could choose to spend a full moon night on board, dropping anchor off a secluded beach and enjoy a sunrise yoga session before setting off with a breakfast picnic on a fascinating discovery of ancient ruins that you may have all to yourself before the rest of the world awakens. We will do our utmost to make anything that is even remotely possible a reality.

Our guests have the option of several yacht charters. For connoisseurs and depending on booking availability, these range from: Cruiser Yacht 560 Express Hardtop to Dellapasqua DC13 Elite and Primatist G41 Hardtops; Azimut 43, 46, 55 and 56 Flybridge; Princess 42 Flybridge; Colvic 36 SunCruiser Flybridge.

The following itineraries serve as guidelines, and can be customised to individual needs, either as half or full-day cruises, or as island-hopping journeys of several days, with the Ambassador as your base in the Cyclades.

### - AEGEAN SEA -





 Myconian Collection Hotels

- |                   |                     |                      |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Elia Beach</b> | <b>Mykonos Town</b> | <b>Platis Gialos</b> |
| · Avaton          | · Korali            | · Ambassador         |
| · Imperial        | · Kyma              |                      |
| · Royal           | · Naia              |                      |
| · Utopia          |                     |                      |
| · Villa           |                     |                      |
| Collection        |                     |                      |
| · Panoptis        |                     |                      |

-  City
-  Airport
-  Port
-  Village
-  Club
-  Beach





## 1 Discover Mykonos

### South Coast & Dragonisi

This is the most popular itinerary requested by our guests. Enjoy a leisurely sail past the famous beaches of Mykonos from the unique perspective of the open sea: Psarou, Ornos, Glyfadi beach, Paranga, Paradise, Super Paradise, Agrari, Elia, Kalo Livadi, Agia Anna, Kalafatis, Lia and Fragia. Discover the less accessible beauties of nature on Dragonisi, where you can snorkel, swim or sunbathe and enjoy an on-board barbecue. And try your hand at a range of exciting water-sports on the way home.



## 2 Ancient Legends

### Mykonos — Delos — Rhenia

RHENIA DELOS

MYKONOS

With Delos virtually all to yourself, take in the mystical beauty and tranquillity of a world heritage site steeped in history. Visit the ruins and the archaeological museum with a guide if desired. Stop for a swim and barbecue off the desert island of Rhenia.

## 3 Group Tour

### 5 Hours

Board the discovery boat with a glass bottom area on the main deck that is a window to the underwater beauty of Mykonos. It departs daily from Platis Gialos on an exploration of the island, charting an idyllic sightseeing route past the famous string of Mykonian beaches - Paranga, Paradise, Super Paradise, Agrari, Elia, Kalo Livadi, Kalafatis, Fragkia, Agia Anna and Lia - until it finally drops anchor in a beautiful cove of the desert island of Dragonisi, exclusively for our passengers. On its return journey, a leisurely mooring off Agrari beach allows us to prepare our popular on-board barbecue while you swim, sunbathe, snorkel or - for the more daring sportspeople - try out one of the many options offered to our guests at preferential rates by 'Wateraction Mykonos'.

## 4 Island destinations

### Antiparos —

A charming small island of great natural beauty and with many places of historical interest.

### Delos —

A cultural highlight as one of the great archaeological treasures of the Mediterranean. The spectacular ruins of its ancient civilization and a small museum can be explored in about an hour and a half. Guided tours are available.

### Dragonisi —

This desert island is only accessible by private yacht - the perfect place to spend a few hours swimming and snorkeling and enjoying the sun on its uniquely beautiful beach before we serve you a superb on-board barbeque. On return, stop off at Agrari for a last refreshing dip in the Aegean or a choice of water sports.

### Ios —

A favoured destination for young people and groups of friends looking for a party holiday experience in a beautiful and romantic destination.

### Koufonisia —

Pairs the delights of sandy beaches with the underwater beauty of the Aegean.

### Naxos —

Among the most famous summer destinations and one of the largest Cycladic islands, famed for its exotic beaches and natural scenery.

### Paros —

An island of considerable history and tradition that combines a modern infrastructure with traditional architecture and authentic spirit.

### Rhenia

The uninhabited sister island of Delos beloved for its wild beauty and pristine waters.

### Santorini —

This gem of the Aegean is among the ten most famous islands in the world, with its terraced villages built on the steep cliffs of an (active!) volcano with a submerged crater, making for some of the most dramatic views and sunsets you will ever see.

### Tinos —

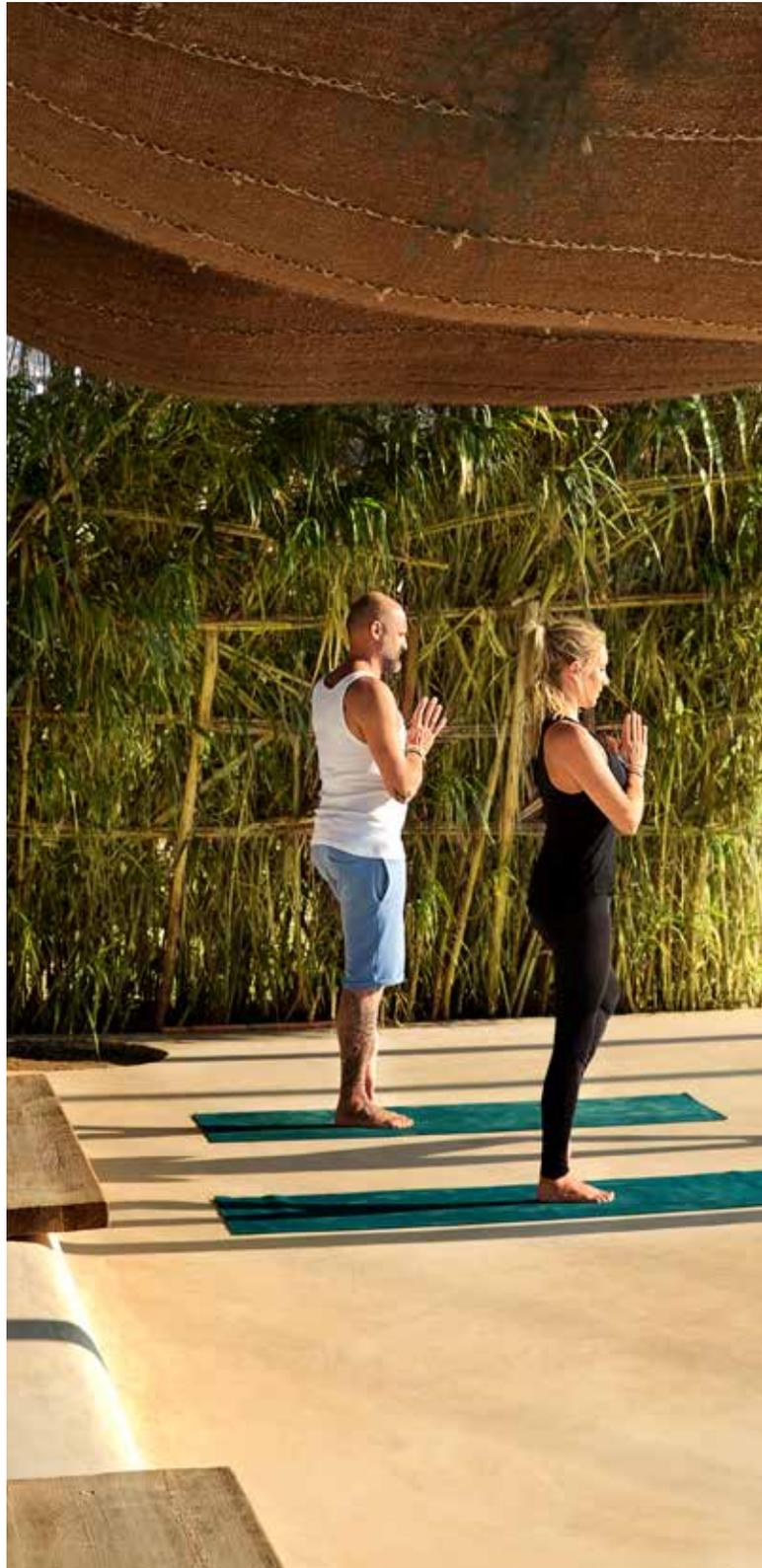
Enchanting, and as yet relatively unknown, the centre of Orthodox worship in Greece where you can visit the Holy Church of Panagia Evangelistria, one of the most important orthodox shrines and pilgrimage sites in Greece. Discover traditional architecture, picturesque villages, beautiful beaches and a virtually unspoilt authentic way of life.



## YOGA & PILATES



Ways to take your wellbeing to new heights while the Myconian sun and sea work wonders.







## YOGA & PILATES

As soon as you set foot on the pool deck or the fine sand of Platys Gialos, the Myconian sun and the Aegean Sea will begin to work their magic. Take your sense of wellbeing to new heights with our range of yoga and Pilates sessions that help you to release toxins and tensions.

### / Pilates

Our Pilates Studio equipped with reformers and attended by expert instructors are at your disposal to tailor programmes to beginner or advanced levels. In just 55-minutes, your body will feel more 'centred' and re-aligned thanks to this method which improves flexibility and endurance, with a special focus on posture, breathing, core strength, coordination and balance.





## / Yoga

If you are already a seasoned practitioner, you will know all about the restorative power of yoga to place the body and mind in perfect equilibrium. But you may find that the idyllic conditions on Mykonos enhance these benefits.

## / Group Sessions

We offer classes either indoors or outdoors, with an emphasis on special settings such as secret sunrise yoga or yoga by full moon. To encourage beginners, we also offer introductory classes for groups or private clients. Water yoga is most effective for injuries and delicate joints. One week of regular practice is all you need to transform your life.

## / Private Sessions

Private yoga guidance is available on demand, with special options such as sunset sessions paired with meditation.



## CULTURE



Not just the belle of the Mediterranean ball! Mykonos has a rich history that will amaze you.







## / Delos Archaeological Site

Legend has it that Leto, chased by the jealous goddess Hera, wandered from place to place looking for some corner of the earth in which to give birth to her children, fruit of her union with Zeus. Every city and island denied her refuge and only a bare rock in the middle of the sea dared to disobey. There, Leto gave birth to the twins Apollo and Artemis. The island that glowed like burnished gold and became known as Delos, which means 'brought to light'. In 1973 the French Archaeological School of Athens began the excavations that continue to this day, uncovering large sections of the once affluent city with its sanctuaries, harbours, market places and residential quarters. Its houses with courts and atria adorned with mosaics and mural decorations are impressive for even the most well-travelled visitor, who, when exploring the remains of streets and squares of this unique ancient city, has a sense that its residents left just a short while ago, abandoning possessions, hopes and dreams to sudden and unexpected ruin.

## / Ano Mera Archaeological Site

The second most important centre on Mykonos is at its heart. The most interesting feature of the region is Palaiokastro (meaning old castle). The remains of the castle belong to the Byzantine era and are part of an ancient fort. The surrounding hillsides contain graves from the Geometric period. On the hillside, the lovely Palaiokastro convent run by nuns and dependent on the 18th century Monastery of Tourliani, is a typical example of Aegean monastic architecture – the marble and the water spigot as well as the interior with its Byzantine icons are noteworthy.



## / Mykonos Archaeological Museum

The Archaeological Museum built in the early 20th century sits on the knoll overlooking the harbour. It was intended to house the findings from the excavations conducted on Rhenia in the late 19th century, including the famous “vothros of Purification of Delos” – an enormous pit in which the funerary objects and bones exhumed by the Athenians in 426/5 BC and removed from Delos, in accordance with the oracle, were deposited.



## / Mykonos Folklore Museum

Professor B. Kyriazopoulos founded the Mykonos Folklore Museum, which is located in the stone-built house of Captain Malouchos inside the Kastro area, a few metres from the Paraportiani church. There are six main exhibition halls, which house collections of objects from Venice and every corner of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea. The island’s marine involvement is impressively presented in the large basement room with ships, boats and fishing equipment. Other collections include Byzantine icons, folkloric ceramics, historical commemorative plates, as well as decorative prints and engravings, model boats, hand-woven fabrics, locks, keys, weights, measures and historical artefacts. There are also important archives of manuscripts and printed material, photographs, maps, a significant library and, in the basement, remnants of the water-well of the last pirate Mermelecha.



## / The Agricultural Museum

Boni Windmill and Lena's House are divisions of the Mykonos Folklore Museum. The first is located on the top of a hill. The windmill dates from the 16th century, with its outbuildings and installations such as a village style oven, a wine press, a water-well, a stone water tank, a dovecote, a pigsty and a miller's house. Lena's House at the Tria Pigadia was donated by G. and I. Drakopoulos, and is a typical home of the 19th century bourgeoisie, consisting of two bedrooms, a spacious dining room and two courtyards with a dovecot. Of particular interest are the rich furnishings, splendid prints, tapestries, woodcarvings, old mirrors and chattels.

## / Mykonos Maritime Museum

At Tria Pigadia where the island's devout relationship with the sea, from antiquity to the present day, is presented in an exemplary manner.

## / The Town Hall

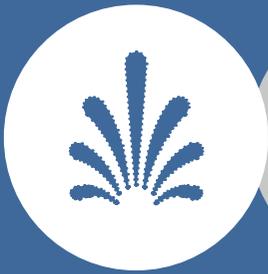
The Town Hall was built as the residence of the Russian Count Ivan Voinovich during the Russo-Turkish war of 1770-1774. This imposing building is the only one with a wooden roof and ceramic trim and its interiors boast period pieces, beautiful décor lights and a portrait gallery of all the Mykonos mayors. The Town Hall was built as the residence of the Russian Count Ivan Voinovich during the Russo-Turkish war of 1770-1774. This imposing building is the only one with a wooden roof and ceramic trim and its interiors boast period pieces, beautiful décor lights and a portrait gallery of all the Mykonos mayors.

## / Libraries

There are six libraries on Mykonos. The main one is the Public Library, which houses approximately 10'000 volumes (the majority of which were donated by Alex. Meletopoulos), a large collection of photographs, various documents of the 18th and 19th century and historical engravings.

“...There is the heat of love, the pulsing rush of longing, the lover’s whisper, irresistible — magic to make the sanest man go mad.”

Homer, The Iliad



Platis Gialos  
Mykonos 84600  
P.O. Box 64  
Greece

T (+30) 22890 24166  
F (+30) 22890 24233  
E [ambassador@myconiancollection.gr](mailto:ambassador@myconiancollection.gr)

[myconianambassador.gr](http://myconianambassador.gr)



