



Cyclades

Includes ➔

Andros	322
Tinos	325
Mykonos	335
Paros	343
Naxos	352
Amorgos	367
Ios	372
Santorini (Thira)	377
Sikinos	391
Delos	396
Milos	398
Sifnos	402
Kythnos	409

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Levantis (p347)
- ➔ 1500bc (p384)
- ➔ The Nest (p375)
- ➔ Thalassaki (p328)
- ➔ Archondoula (p401)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Petros Place & Yialos Beach Hotel (p374)
- ➔ Aroma Suites (p381)
- ➔ Salt (p401)
- ➔ Petali Village Hotel (p405)
- ➔ Carbonaki Hotel (p339)

Why Go?

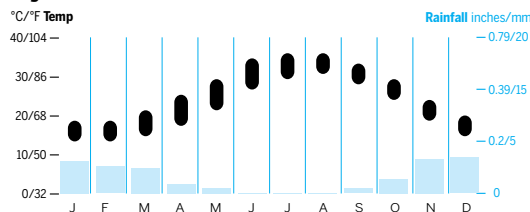
Ringed with cinnamon sand and ink blue sea, the Cyclades (*kil-klah-dez*; Κυκλάδες) are natural magnets. Throw in stunning, sugar-cube villages, a good dose of sophistication and a stylish culture that seems to have bounced its way down from Athens, and you do have the best of both worlds.

These dramatic islands, with ochre hills and plunging coastlines, have drawn artists throughout the ages. Sculptors have chiselled away at the marble of Paros and Naxos since ancient times, while Santorini and Amorgos are home to modern galleries. Cuisine and wine making also reach artistic highs here and archaeological sights abound; the infamous spectacle of Delos and the more recently excavated Ancient Akrotiri are accompanied by smaller yet impressive ruins and museums scattered throughout the islands.

Each island has a personality of its own: from hedonistic Mykonos and Ios to flashy Santorini and the relaxed charm of Paros and Naxos. A little further afield at Amorgos or Sifnos you'll feel a slow inhale of happy tranquility.

When to Go

Mykonos Town



Apr & May Catch early-season sun without overheating and early boats without overcrowding.

Jun-Aug Sun, sea and sand, balmy nights and lively company.

Sep & Oct Quieter beaches, open spaces, the sweet scent of herbs and great walks on island hills.



Cyclades Highlights

- 1 Get immersed in the spell-binding sites of **Delos** (p396) and **Ancient Akrotiri** (p388)
- 2 Savour the scrumptious cuisine on **Santorini** (p377), **Paros** (p343) and **Ios** (p372)
- 3 Slip away to serenity on the remote-feel islands of **Kythnos** (p409) or **Sikinos** (p391)

- 4 Soak up the glamour and party away on **Mykonos** (p335)
- 5 Explore quaint, artistic villages and recline on the white sand of **Naxos** (p352)
- 6 Amble along ancient footpaths through the deep valleys of **Andros** (p322)
- 7 Marvel in the dazzling

- monastery above the crashing waves on **Amorgos** (p367)
- 8 Make a pilgrimage to **Tinos** (p325) with its famous icon and marble ornamented villages
- 9 Join in the holiday atmosphere on idyllic **Sifnos** (p402)
- 10 Be mesmerised by the dramatic, volcanic coastline of **Milos** (p398)