



Dodecanese

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Marco Polo Cafe (p317)
- ➔ Taverna Mylos (p368)
- ➔ To Hellenikon (p326)
- ➔ Tholos (p337)
- ➔ Pote Tin Kyriaki (p349)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Marco Polo Mansion (p315)
- ➔ Harry's Paradise (p365)
- ➔ Archontariki (p375)
- ➔ Hotel Fiona (p336)
- ➔ Nefeli Hotel (p377)

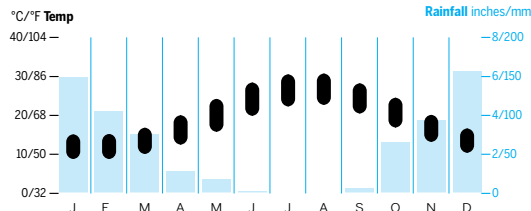
Why Go?

Ever pined for the old Greece, where timeless islands beckon modern-day adventurers just as they did Odysseus and Alexander? Enter the far-flung Dodecanese (Δωδεκάνησα; do-de-ka-ni-sa) archipelago, curving through the southeastern Aegean parallel to the ever-visible shoreline of Turkey. The footprints of everyone from Greeks and Romans to crusading medieval knights, Byzantine and Ottoman potentates to 20th-century Italian bureaucrats, are found here, and islands beyond better-known Rhodes and Kos beg to be explored.

Hikers and naturalists flock to Tilos, while climbers scale the limestone cliffs in Kalymnos. Aesthetes adore the neo-classical mansions of Symi, Halki and Kastellorizo, divers explore underwater caves and ancient wrecks, and kitesurfers blow in to Karpathos for its legendary winds. Archaeologists and history buffs let their imaginations loose on a bevy of ancient sites, while sybarites can worship Helios on myriad beaches, far from the package crowds.

When to Go

Rhodes



Apr & May Prices are low, few tourists are around and the sea is warming up.

Jul & Aug Peak season for accommodation and visitors – book ahead.

Sep & Oct Great time to come: low prices, warm seas and perfect hiking weather.



Dodecanese Highlights

- 1 Wandering beneath Byzantine arches and along the ancient cobbled alleyways of **Rhodes' Old Town** (p311).
- 2 Following the winding road up to the timeless mountain-top village of **Olymbos** (p329).
- 3 Testing your mettle diving for wrecks or climbing

- limestone cliffs on **Kalymnos** (p360).
- 4 Finding the beach of your dreams on **Lipsi** (p377).
- 5 Hiking or birdwatching on postcard-perfect **Tilos** (p338).
- 6 Entering the fabled volcano of **Nisyros** (p345),

- home to an imprisoned Titan.
- 7 Feeling your pulse quicken as your boat pulls into the gorgeous Italianate harbour of **Symi** (p334).
- 8 Making a pilgrimage to **Patmos** (p371), where St John experienced his 'Revelations'.