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CULTURE

26 Best Greek Islands to Visit in 2025 (and Where to Stay on Each)

Including the lesser-known, tourist-free hidden gems.



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If "I love Greece" is your personality type, then we got you. Sprinkled in clusters across the Aegean and Ionian seas, there are over 200 inhabited Greek islands—each of them impossibly beautiful yet completely different. The home of impeccable sunsets, sandy beaches, ancient ruins, buzzing nightlife, turquoise waters, water sports and delicious cuisine, the Greek islands are as perfect of a romantic getaway as they are a girls' weekend away.

Of course, the big hitters like Santorini, Mykonos, Crete, Corfu, Rhodes and Zakynthos (Zante) remain the most popular of the bunch. But lesser-known isles like Syros and Folegandros might be more your speed if you're looking to escape the sunset-snapping crowds, and have a totally unique holiday in 2025.

How did we choose the best Greek islands?

Glamour's guides and hotel reviews are compiled by our well-travelled journalists who have an indepth knowledge of the destination. Our editors have spent time getting to know the area and have stayed in various types of accommodations, from the grande dame hotels to the lesser-known hidden gems and self-catering options.

Here, we've ranked the best Greek islands to visit, based on our personal experiences and preferences, but every single one is worth a visit, and each island offers something unique to fall in love with.





Paros

Best for: Stunning beaches

Easily reachable from Athens by plane or ferry, Paros is part of the Cyclades and it's proximity to Mykonos, Santorini and Naxos makes it perfect for island-hopping. The once lesser-known spot has been gaining in popularity in recent years, with celebrities like Salma Hayek spotted vacationing here. When you're not relaxing on one of Paros's amazing beaches—like Santa Maria, Marcello or Kolymbithres—make sure you take you a stroll around Naoussa town, undeniably its chicest spot, where some of the island's best restaurants and buzziest bars can be found. For a luxury stay, look no further than Parilio Hotel Paros on the north-east coast of the island. Parilio is a 33-suite resort surrounded by nature and the blue waters of the Aegean Sea. The hotel has its own holistic spa, with a range of relaxing treatments, and a restaurant serving a mix of Mediterranean and Greek cuisine, while the sleek bar specializes in its own variety of traditional Greek drinks and cocktails.

Where to stay in Paros at a glance:

- For the luxury stay: <u>Parilio Hotel Paros</u>
- For a beachfront stay (with out-of-this-world food): <u>Cosme Paros</u>
- For the brand-new opening: <u>Andronis Minois</u>
- For affordable apartments: <u>La Mer Seaside Apartments</u>



Santorini

Best for: Honeymoons

Santorini really needs no introduction—it is the well-heeled queen bee of the Greek islands, after all. There may be queues to take photos of the sun sinking behind the caldera, but it's still a remarkable view that will stick with you long after you've boarded the plane home. The best thing to do in Santorini is simply soak up the sun and the views across the white-washed buildings to the sea from your suite, most of which are found in Oia and Imerovigli, but you can also head on volcano tours, boat excursions and hiking trips. For a true haven away from the tourists, book at the <u>Andronis Concept</u>, where you can take in the sunset from your private terrace and infinity pool. We also love the freshly renovated <u>Andronis Luxury Suites</u> which set atop the cliffs. Even if you're not staying at the property, we recommend a stop at its stunning new taverna, <u>Miltos Greek Table</u>.

Where to stay in Santorini at a glance:

- o For incredible views (minus the crowds): Andronis Luxury Suites
- o For a romantic villa: The Nook Clay Villa
- o For honeymooners: Canaves Oia Suites
- o For families: Andronis Arcadia, Preferred Hotel Group
- o For a secluded retreat: Vedema, A Luxury Collection Resort