



## Place Guide

## Santorini Greece

The island of Santorini Greece is famous for its picture perfect sunsets, breathtaking view of the volcano and neighboring islands and is the birthplace of the legend of the mystical city of Atlantis. Located in the middle of the Greek Islands of the southern Aegean Sea, Santorini Greece is a small, circular archipelago of volcanic islands. One of the most famous tourist destinations in Greece along with Mykonos and Crete, the capital city of the island, Fira, clings to the top of the cliff and looks almost like sugar icing on a brownie from afar.

The island happens to be the site for one of the largest volcanic eruptions in history, known as the Minoan or Thera eruption. The eruption that took place almost 3,600 years ago has left a large caldera surrounded by volcanic ash, which today chiefly remains filled with water. The name of the island of Santorini Greece is a reference to Saint Irene and was bestowed upon it in the thirteenth century by the Latin Empire.

Like the rest of the Cyclades, the island has hot sunny summers and dry winters. The island experiences very little rainfall around the month of September and generally the weather is so clear that even the mountains of the island of Crete, which are 70 nautical miles away, are visible. However, the entire tourist season from April to September remains pleasantly sunny.

Santorini Greece boasts of a variety of tourist attractions. The North of the Island is home to the scenic village Oia which is famous for its quite life and immaculately white houses with blue windows and domes. The "Doomsday Volcano" is a must see with its craters and hot springs as well as the Minoan city of Akrotiri near the Red Beach (the most beautiful beach in Santorini) is one of the most important archaeological sites is Greece. The submerged volcano offers the perfect opportunity to explore the rich sea life while scuba diving. While the archaic town of Thera is brimming with unexplored culture, the island of Thirisia is home to unspoilt nature. A stay at Santorini Greece also offers the opportunity to explore the surrounding islands with ferry tours being a regular.

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