

7th Workshop on Dynamic Macroeconomics

Mykonos, Greece, 1-3 October 2009

Local Information

Accommodation

Accommodation has been reserved at the Rocabella Mykonos Hotel.



Rocabella Art Hotel Mykonos
Agios Stefanos,
84600, Mykonos,
Cyclades Islands, Greece
Tel:(+30) 22890 28930
Fax:(+30) 22890 79720
<http://www.rocabella-hotel-mykonos.com/>

The Rocabella art Hotel and Spa is situated near Agios Stefanos, a small town, offering a fully - serviced beach with crystal clear waters, restaurants, lifeguards, sun beds and umbrellas, located in the north

The transfer to and from the airport/port as well as the transportation to the restaurants and the trips to the town will be done with the hotel shuttle buses (free of charge)



The conference venue is the Rocabella Mykonos Hotel Conference Room. An overhead projector and laptop will be available.

Meals



- American Buffet breakfast will be served on Rocabella Hotel.
- Light lunches will be offered during the workshop at the hotel.

Dinners

Thursday 1 October 2009:

Restaurant - Fish tavern, "H Epistropi", St.Stefanos

On the beautiful and graphic beach of St. Stefanou, with the fantastic view in the Chora of Mykonos and Delos.

http://www.epistofirerestaurant.com/index_uk.html

(5' walking distance from Rocabella Hotel)



Friday 2 October 2009:

Greek Cuisine Restaurant, President's Place, Ano Mera

Inland, about 9 km from Mykonos town, stands Ano Mera, the most populated village (other than Mykonos town) on the island.

<http://www.steki-proedrou.com/english/index.php>

(15' by mini bus from Rocabella Hotel)

Saturday 3 October 2009:

Azzurro Mediterranean cuisine: Blu Restaurant, Old Port

Right next to Blue - Blue café, with VIP veranda as highlight (with view in the Chora of Mykonos, Delos and Old Port).

(10' by mini bus from Rocabella Hotel)



Travel information

There are direct flights to Mykonos from the International Airport “Eleftherios Venizelos” in Athens, the “Macedonia” airport in Thessalonica, as well as from other European airports to the island of Mykonos, all through the year. The duration of the flight from Eleftherios Venizelos airport is 45 minutes. The airport of Mykonos is located 4 km far from the town. Departures vary between 3 and 16 daily, depending on the season.



✦ Currently the scheduled flights are as follows:

<u>AIRLINE</u>	<u>FROM:</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>DEPARTURE TIME:</u>	<u>ARRIVAL TIME:</u>
Olympic Airways	Athens	Mikonos	06:10	06:50
Aegean Air	Athens	Mikonos	12:00	12:35
Aegean Air	Athens	Mikonos	18:00	18:35
Olympic Airways	Athens	Mikonos	18:45	19:25

<u>AIRLINE</u>	<u>FROM:</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>DEPARTURE TIME:</u>	<u>ARRIVAL TIME:</u>
Aegean Air	Mikonos	Athens	06:55	07:30
Olympic Airways	Mikonos	Athens	07:15	07:55
Aegean Air	Mikonos	Athens	13:10	13:45
Aegean Air	Mikonos	Athens	19:10	19:45
Olympic Airways	Mikonos	Athens	19:50	20:30

Mykonos is connected all year around with ferries daily from **Piraeus** and **Rafina** (Hellenic Seaways and Blue Star Ferries).

During the summer there are more vessels and high speed catamarans from Piraeus, Rafina and also from many other islands of the Cyclades and the Dodecanese. From Mykonos there are daily connections with Syros, Tinos and Andros and during the summer with Paros, Naxos and Patmos, Leros, Kalymnos, Kos and Rhodes.

✦ Currently the scheduled ferries and speed catamarans are as follows:

FROM:	TO:	SHIPPING COMPANY:	VESSEL:	DEPARTURE- ARRIVAL:
PIRAEUS	MYKONOS	BLUE STAR	BLUE STAR ITHAKI	07:35 - 12:50
RAFINA	MYKONOS	AGOUDIMOS LINES	PENELOPE A	07:35 - 12:10
RAFINA	MYKONOS	SEA JETS	SEAJET2	07:40 - 09:50
RAFINA	MYKONOS	BLUE STAR	SUPERFERRY II	08:05 - 12:30
RAFINA	MYKONOS	SEA JETS	SEAJET2	16:00 - 18:10
RAFINA	MYKONOS	ALPHA FERRIES	AQUA JEWEL	17:00 - 21:40
RAFINA	MYKONOS	CYCLADES FAST FERRIES	THEOLOGOS P	17:30 - 22:00

FROM:	TO:	SHIPPING COMPANY:	VESSEL:	DEPARTURE- ARRIVAL:
MYKONOS	RAFINA	CYCLADES FAST FERRIES	THEOLOGOS P	12:00 - 16:40
MYKONOS	RAFINA	SEA JETS	SEAJET2	12:10 - 14:20
MYKONOS	RAFINA	AGOUDIMOS LINES	PENELOPE A	13:15 - 18:00
MYKONOS	RAFINA	BLUE STAR	SUPERFERRY II	13:45 - 18:35
MYKONOS	PIRAEUS	BLUE STAR	BLUE STAR ITHAKI	14:45 - 19:45
MYKONOS	RAFINA	ALPHA FERRIES	AQUA JEWEL	15:00 - 20:00

Please note that two more high speeds (Highspeed 2 and Highspeed 4) also travel to and from Mykonos but the timetable for September and October is not yet available from the shipping company Hellenic Ferries, www.hellenicseaways.gr

► **Important Phone Numbers:**

- Mykonos Police: +30 22890 22235
- Mykonos Tourist Police: +30 22890 22482
- Mykonos Port: +30 22890 22218

- Piraeus Port: +30 210 414-7800

- Rafina Port: +30 22940 22487 and +30 22940 22300

- Mykonos Town Health Center: +30 22890 23396

- Olympic Airways Athens: +30 210 966-6666 and 801-11-4444, <http://www.olympicairlines.com/>
- Olympic Airways Mykonos: +30 22890 22490

- Aegean Airlines Athens: +30 210 626-100 and 801-11-20000, <http://www.aegeanair.com/default.aspx>
- Aegean Airlines Thessaloniki: +30 2310 280-050
- Aegean Airlines Mykonos: +30 22890 28720

- Athens Airways Athens: +30 210 6696600, <http://www.athensairways.com/cgi-bin/airkiosk/I7/181002i?ZF=2&LANG=EN>
- Athens Airways Mykonos: +30-22890 79091 and +30-22890 79094, jmk@athensairways.com

- Hellenic Seaways Maritime S.A (Piraeus): +30 2104199000, www.hellenicseaways.gr
- Hellenic Seaways - Rafina – MAMALIS TRAVEL: +30 22940 26239, +30 22940 22292, www.hellenicseaways.gr
- Hellenic Seaways - Mykonos – DELIA TRAVEL: +30 22890 24400, travel@delia.gr
- Hellenic Seaways - Mykonos – ISLAND MYKONOS TRAVEL: +30 22890 25314, ferry@islandmykonos.com

- Blue Star Ferries -ATTICA PREMIUM (Piraeus): +30 210 8919800, <http://www.bluestarferries.gr>
- Blue Star Ferries - Rafina: +30 22940 22900
- Blue Star Ferries - Mykonos: +30 22890 28240

General Info



Mykonos Island (often called the Jewel of the Aegean Sea) is a Greek island in the middle of the vast Aegean Sea. A quick search in Google for Mykonos indicates that some people spell it as Myconos, Mikonos, Miconos or even Mycanos.

It is one of the most cosmopolitan among the Cyclades group of islands. Many people say you have not seen Greece till you have seen Mykonos.

The Greek island of **Mykonos** is situated in the centre of the Aegean Sea 150 kilometres east of Athens and is part of the group of islands known as the Cyclades.

Although it is the most famous of this group it is actually the smallest covering an area of just 90 square kilometres. Its rocky terrain rises from the sea to form gentle hills and small valleys with the two highest points being small mountains of 369 and 392 meters in elevation.

The island's geologic makeup is that of granite which in some areas has been carved into interesting forms through the erosive action of wind, sea and sun. Despite its small area, part of Mykonos' fame comes from the fact that it has over twenty accessible sandy beaches earning the name "Capri of Greece". The main town or "**Chora**" is situated on the west coast of the island with the smaller village of Ano Mera located close to the island's centre.

Mykonos Town - Town of Mykonos (Chora)



Mykonos Chora is definitely one of the nicest and most charming towns of the Greek islands, with endless small streets, shops, windmills, churches, terraces and whitewashed houses. A place to wonder around for days and every time find something unexpected. Because of the street layout (intended to confuse pirates) it's also the perfect place to lose your way. It has two harbours where you can just sit and have a drink or something to eat, while enjoying the views and the people that walk by, and another harbour where the ferries depart.

Some ferries however dock at Tourlos, which is a half an hour walk away from Mykonos town itself. Behind the harbour front you will find endless (and very clean!) shopping streets with souvenirs and jewellery, the hotels and guesthouses, and more restaurants. Most ticket offices for the ferries are on the main boulevard. Mykonos also has its own international Mykonos JMK Airport.

▪ A LITTLE MORE ABOUT MYKONOS TOWN

Mykonos Chora is quite large for a Cycladic town. All the houses are painted white and have brightly coloured shutters in front of the windows, mostly blue, green and red. The village goes steeply up the hill with roads and also with stairs on some places. The narrow streets close to the harbour buzz with activity. They are filled with attractive small shops, Bougainville trees in purple bloom, small cafes and churches, and they usually end up at a square with a terraced restaurant and a church, or at the harbour front with its colourful fishing boats, the row of windmills and a pelican or two. Dressed up people mingle with the ones that don't care so much and if there is not too much wind (because the "meltemi" can blow from day to day) they all end up in the harbour where the majority of the big restaurants are. Some of the nice, good and cheaper restaurants can be found in the small streets behind the harbour front though.



Little Venice is one of the most charming districts of Mykonos Town and one of the prettiest places in the Cyclades. Its picturesque, two and three storey houses with colorful balconies, windows and doors, built right on the sea, form a unique picture. Little Venice is the perfect spot from which to view the sunset.



Ano Mera is, after Mykonos town, the most important of the older villages of the island. Standing 8 km. (5 miles) to the east of the town, Ano Mera has the interesting monastery of Our Lady Tourliani, ornamented with woodcarvings. The church has a collection of valuable ecclesiastical vessels, vestments and embroideries. The courtyard contains an interesting bell-tower and a marble

▪ PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The island was quiet and peaceful until it was discovered by shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis, who brought Jackie Kennedy to the island. Since then, owning a house on the island has been considered a status symbol by wealthy Athenians. In recent years a prominent gay scene has established itself here. Mykonos is also the place that Shirley Valentine came to and "found herself". It is also home for Petros the pelican. He was one of a flock which flew to Mykonos from the mainland in the 1950's.

Mykonos Town has three bus stations, the largest one at Fabrica Square, where you find the busses for Platys Gialos, Psarou, Ornos, Agios Ioannis, Paranga and the Paradise - and Super paradise beaches. Close to this bus station you will also find the post office. More towards the ferry harbour is the bus stop for Kalafatis and Elia, and on the water front is the bus stop for Tourlos and Agios Stefanos The ferry harbour of Mykonos Chora is a busy place. The ferries dock and the whole area comes to life. There are always a lot of people waiting to get on board. You can be amazed to see how many people can disembark and be replaced by new people once a ferry has sailed in. Mykonos has good connections to other islands and to the harbours Rafina and Piraeus.

Unlike most island ports, the main town is built not on a hillside but spread out over a flat plain. The harbour area is split between the fishing quay, with its small boats beached on the sand, and the main port where the ferries pull in and tarmac and concrete make up the view. Most traffic is banned from the waterfront and new building is confined to the outskirts so the only way to explore is on foot, getting lost in the maze of streets.

Demographics

One of the factors that has contributed to Mykonos' international popularity is its people (the total permanent population, is about 9,320 residents in accordance with the census of 2001 (E.S.Y)).

The open attitude and hospitality of the Mykonians are qualities that have been with them for centuries. Because of the island's rocky terrain and limited rainfall the locals turned mainly to the sea for survival. Fishing and commercial trade brought frequent contact with foreigners resulting in openness to visitors not as often found on other self-supporting agricultural islands.

During the 50's modern-day tourism started to develop and as the island's popularity grew, so did its population. Today it is estimated that Mykonos is the home of 11,000 people, of these 4,000 are foreign residents. During the summer months and the height of the tourist season the island supports over 50,000 visitors, locals and part-time workers.

Over 80% of the island's work force is understandably involved in the service. With Greece being a nation both religious and strong in family values, the people of Mykonos, although more liberal-minded, are no exception.

Greek Orthodox is the main religion along with a small representation of Catholics. The lifestyle of the islanders is for the most laid-back and easygoing, always quick to recognize a good time.



Along with its share of monasteries, convents and cathedrals the island is very well known for its abundance of small family churches. Originally built as a tribute to aid in the safe return of the island's sailors, the celebrated number of these chapels is told to be 365, one for each day of the year. In reality and lately more of a sign of affluence these churches which curiously are all built to face west, number closer to 500 in total.

*Above: The **Panagia Paraportiani** (Our Lady of the Postern Gate) is the most famous of the many churches on the Greek island of Mykonos.*

History



According classical mythology, the Giants killed by Hercules in a fierce battle, are buried on the island under imposing blocks of mykonian granite.

The name Mykonos , somewhat pejoratively, means a mass of stones´ or a rocky place a later tradition attributes the name of the island to a hero by the name of Mykonos, the son of the king of Delos, Anios, who was the son of Appolon and nymphe Rhoio- a descendent of Dionysus.

The Kares and Phoenicians may have been the first inhabitants of Mykonos, but Ionians from Athens were established colonists and in control of the island by around 1000 B.C, having expelled the previous occupants.

Historical sources confirm the following in ancient times there were two towns on the island in 490 B.C, the Persian generals Datis and Artaphernes made a brief stopover in Mykonos; It was a poor island with limited agricultural resources. In ancient, pantheistic times, Dionysos, Demetra, Zeus, Appolon, Poseidon and Heracles were the principle gods worshiped here.

Later in history the island belonged to the Romans and subsequently to the Byzantines, who have fortified the island against the Arab raids of the 7th century, kept control of it until the 12th century.

After the fall of Constantinople, at the end of the 4th Crusade (1204), the island was occupied, as their seigneur (stronghold) by Andrea and Jeremia Ghisi - relatives of Dandolo, the Doge of Venice. In 1292 it was looted and pillage by the Catalans, and, subsequently, in 1390, given over to the Venetians, in 1390, by the last of the Ghizi overlord. In 1537, while still under Venetian domination, the island suffered a catastrophic attack by Barbarossa, the admiral of Souleiman the Magnificent.

Later, under Kapudan Pasha, the head of the Ottoman fleet the island is practically self-governed, according to the system of the period, by a functionary called a "voivode" and a council (body of "syndics") who always tried to maintain an equal distance from both Turks and Venetians (the last of whom withdrew definitively from the region, in 1718, after the fall of the castle of Tinos to the Ottomans).

The popular of the Mykonos (which during modern times has fluctuated, generally from 2000 to 5000 people) was increased by colonies of immigrants (from nearby island and as well as from Crete) during time of starvation and epidemics which often followed the periods of conflict, until the late 18th century.

The Mykonos, who throughout the same period were known as excellent sailors, were successful in trade and shipping and, also, piracy was not unheard. Many islanders were active in the "Orlof Insurrection" (led by the Orloff brothers, 1770-74), which resulted favorably, for them as well as for Catherine the Great in, due to the very profitable treaties concerning trade between the Ottomans and the Russian Empire.

Soon after the out break the Greek Revolution 1821, the Mykonians, roused and led by the lady Mando Mavrogenous (an- aristocrat educated with the most fervent ideas of the Enlightenment- who become a popular nation heroine) successfully impeded a landing of a squadron of the Ottoman fleet in 1822.

They participated actively in the war , with four armed ships (two of the totally outfitted and supplied at Lady Mandos expenses before the war over she had spend almost all of her , considerable, family fortune).

After the establishment of the modern Greek State, the activity of the local upper- and lower- middle class revived the island economy through the consolidate of trade relations with south Russia, Moldavia and Walachia.

Mykonian merchants were established in Constantinople, Smyrna, Alexandria, Syros, Livorno and Marseilles. The predominance of steam technology over the traditional commerce of the sailing ships, at the end of the 19th century, the subsequent opening of the Corinth Canal (1904) and the upheavals of World War I resulted in a depression of the local economy many Myconians left to find work abroad (mainly in US) and in the going centers of mainland Greece (Piraeus, Athens).

The development of tourism in the following decades has provided a means of the islands' economy development. The prolonged excavations of the French School of Archeology, begun in Delos in 1873, focused attention on the region at least that the happy few who, attracted by the charm of classical Greece, had the means and the opportunity to travel.

In the early 30s already, many famous artists, politicians and wealthy people, mainly from Europe, began spending vacation on the island, attracted by its unique atmosphere. Mykonos has adapted well to the post-war situation and the gradual growth of the tourism industry in south Europe the island has turned into a cosmopolitan locale and is one of the most successful growth - models, of its type and scale in Europe.

Museums

► Archaeological Museum:



The Archaeological Museum of Mykonos was built in 1902, in order to house the finds from the "Purification Pit" of 426/5 B.C., which was discovered in 1898 on the islet of Rheneia, by D. Stavropoulos.

It was designed by Alexandros Lykakis and paid for by the Ministry of Education and the Archaeological Society of Athens, while the land was donated by the Municipality of Mykonos. The original Neoclassical building assumed its present, "insular" form in 1934, and the large,

eastern room, was added in 1972.

The exhibition of the museum includes a large number of vases, ranging from the prehistoric to the late Hellenistic period (25th-1st century B.C.), grave statues, stelae and funerary urns from Rheneia, and very few finds from Mykonos. The museum contains the following collections :

- Funerary statues and grave stelae dating from the 2nd/1st century B.C.
- Pottery dating from the 25th to the 1st century B.C.
- Clay figurines dated to the 2nd/1st century B.C.
- Jewellery and small objects of the 2nd/1st century B.C.

The most important items of the exhibition are:

- Large relief pithos decorated with scenes from the Capture of Troy. It had been used as a burial pithos and was discovered in the summer of 1961, during the digging of a well, in the centre of the town of Mykonos. The descent of the Greeks from the Wooden Horse is depicted on the neck, and the body is covered with panels showing warriors attacking women and children. Height 1,40 m. Dated to the 7th century B.C.
- Large Archaic amphora with linear decoration. A sphinx is depicted on the neck and the head of a horse on the body.
- Grave stele of Glykon who was lost in the sea. The deceased young man is represented seated on the rocks, sad and thoughtful, gazing towards the prow of his ship. On the upper part of the stele a ribbon is bound. Beneath the representation there is the inscription "Glykon, son of Protogenis, virtuous, fare thee well". Dated to the 2nd/1st century B.C.
- Grave stele of Tertia Horaria. The dead woman is represented seated, extending her hand in a farewell gesture to her husband who stands in front of her. A young slave holds the jewellery box of her dead lady. The stele was placed above a marble sarcophagus bearing the inscription "Tertia Horaria", at the Hellenistic cemetery on Rheneia. Dated to the 2nd/1st century B.C.
- Cult statue of Heracles from Rheneia. Hellenistic copy of a 5th-century Attic original. It was found in 1899 in the Sanctuary of Heracles, within a small temple. The hero is represented nude, holding in his left hand the club and the lion-skin. Made of parian marble, superbly polished on the nude body. Dated to the 2nd/1st century B.C.
- Cycladic "frying-pan". Clay vase shaped as a frying-pan, covered with incised decoration, including a stylized representation of female genital on the lower part. It was found on Mykonos, within a grave of the Early Cycladic period.
- Archaic hydria decorated with stylized floral patterns and horses. A large number of similar vases were found in the "Purification pit". They are products of an unknown Cycladic workshop (probably Melian or Parian), the only one among the Cycladic workshops that employed the human figure - mainly young women's heads - as a decorative theme. Dated to the 6th century B.C.
- Attic red-figure hydria. It is decorated with the figure of flying Nike (Victory) holding a box, and a deer running towards the left. Clay figurine of a young woman clad in long chiton and himation. Traces of the original bright colouring are preserved on the surface. It was found at the Hellenistic necropolis on Rheneia and dates from the 2nd/1st century B.C.
- Funerary statue. The dead man is represented standing, dressed in chiton and long himation, and possibly holding something with both hands. The head was worked separately and placed in the cavity between the shoulders. It was found at the Hellenistic cemetery on Rheneia and dates from the 2nd/1st century B.C.



▶ Folk Museum:

The beneficial to the public institution "Mykonian Folklore Collection" was founded by Professor Vasilios Kyriazopoulos on May 1958. The museum is situated at Castro, in a 18th century building. In there, are exposed museum articles sorted by subject.

- Keys and locks collections, handwoven tapestries, painted plates, old weights and measures, traditional Cycladic sculptures and lighting devices ranging from the ancient oil to the kerosene lamp.
- Obsidian tools and weapons representing the interior of a 19th century middle class drawing room.
- A 19th century bedroom.
- A 19th century kitchen.
- Around the "Mermelechas well"- a known pirate there are large and small traditional Aegean ship models, cannons and pictures of old Mykonian sailing and steamships.

The Museum is open from April till October from 17:30-20:30 every day and from 18:30-2:30 on Sundays. Telephone contact on (0289-22591/22748) No admission charge.

▶ Agricultural Museum:

The Agricultural Museum is situated at Ano Mili (Up Windmills) in the town of Mykonos. It is a branch of the Folklore Museum and hosts installations for the processing agricultural products on the island before industrialization.

The large "Bonis" -after the captain- windmill, which dates since 16th century is a listed building, a traditional threshing-floor and a village style oven, the wine-press, a water wheel, a stone water tank, dovecote, pigsty, the miller's house and two little twin churches.

There is also a collection of old agricultural tools and machinery.

The museum is open from June till 30th September, between 16:00-20:00 daily. Telephone : (+30) 22890 22591-22748. No admission charge.

▶ Aegean Naval Museum:

The Aegean Maritime Museum is a non-profit institution. It was founded in 1983 and in 1985 it opened its doors to the public, on the island of Mykonos. The goal of the museum is the preservation, promotion and study of the Greek maritime history and tradition, and in particular the evolution and activities of the merchant ship, chiefly in the historic region of the Aegean Sea. The founder and chairman of the Museum's board of Trustees, the Myconian George M. Drakopoulos has been honoured for the foundation of the Museum with the Athens Academy Award and with the World Ship Trust's Award for Individual Achievement.

The Aegean Maritime Museum is housed in a traditional Mykonian building of the 19th century located at the centre of the Town of Mykonos, in the area known as Tria Pigadia. The building was the home of the legendary Master of the merchant ship "Enosis", Nikolaos Sourmelis, who assisted the Cretans during their war of independence from the Ottoman Empire.

The museum's exhibits include models of ships from the pre-Minoan period down to the beginning of the twentieth century, historical shipping documents, rare engravings and maps, ancient artifacts, navigational instruments, equipment and tools, as well as a collection of rare coins with nautical subjects from the fifth century BC to the fifth century AD. The museum's library consists of more than 5,000 volumes of rare books and more recent editions, and archives of manuscripts and photographs, and is constantly updated to include additional archival material and new scholarship in relevant subjects.

In the museum's garden lie reproductions of ancient marble gravestones from the islands of Mykonos and Delos, dealing with shipwrecks and sailors who were lost at sea.

The Aegean Maritime Museum was the first museum in Greece that rescued and restored living historical exhibits to operate as they were originally designed and built: The "Armenistis" lighthouse (built in 1890), the "perama" type sailing ship "Evangelistria" (built in 1940) and the cable-laying ship "Thalis o Milesios" (built in 1909). The "Armenistis" lighthouse operates again in the Museum's garden, in Mykonos, while "Evangelistria" and "Thalis o Milesios" are berthed at the Hellenic Navy's Museum wharf at the Paleo Phaliro marina.

The Aegean Maritime Museum participates in international conferences and exhibitions, as well as in the festivities of the Hellenic Navy for the "Maritime Week". It has also developed a significant publishing activity in the area of the Greek maritime history.

Delos

Delos is the Sacred Island of the Ancient Greek, which according to mythology, was revealed among the waves of the Aegean to Leto, who was being chased by the jealous Hera; it was the refuge where she gave birth to Apollo and Artemis.

On Delos are found the admirably well-preserved ruins of one of the largest, most significant, and best-organized ancient Greek settlements. The island was first settled, probably by the Kares, about the 3rd millennium B.C. In the beginning of the 8th cent. B.C. it developed into a center of worship and was the capital city of an amphictyony of Aegean island.

At the end of the 6th cent B.C., the tendency of the Athenians was to take over the island. In 540

B.C. Peisistratos ordered the first purification of the sanctuary. As a result of the second purification (426 B.C.) the entire contents of all the islands graves were removed to neighboring Rhenea. Afterwards in order to prevent desecration of the sanctuary, both births and deaths were forbidden on the island of Apollo.





The Athenians consecrated the first “Delia” dedicated to Leto, Artemis, and Apollo. In 315 B.C., when Macedonians arrived on the island, Delos achieved its independence and developed commercially. During the Roman period, the island thrived, until, until 88 B.C.; the population included Egyptians, Syrians and Italians. Then, after two dreadful attacks during the Mithridatic War, Delos went into decline and was finally abandoned in the 6th cent A.D.

In the 1873 the French Archaeological School of Athens started excavations and restoration enabling the wealth of the islands history to be revealed to everyone who is interested. The Archaeological Museum of Delos house one of Greece’s most significant collections, including rare exhibits of ancient sculpture ceramic vessels, epigraphs and wonderful mosaics etc. The sites of Delos and Rhenia are under the protection of the Ministry of Culture; thus, both the mooring of private boats there and staying overnight without official permission are strictly forbidden.

A Guided tour of Delos Archaeological Site is scheduled on Saturday 3 October 2009 (morning).

► Archaeological Site



On the left from the harbor is the Agora of the Competialists (circa 150 BC), members of Roman guilds, mostly freedmen and slaves from Sicily who worked for Italian traders. They worshiped the Lares Competales, the Roman "crossroads" gods; in Greek they were known as Hermiston, after the god Hermes, protector of merchants and the crossroads. The Sacred Way, east of the Agora, was the route of the procession to the sanctuary of Apollo during the holy Delian festival. The Propylaea, at the end of the Sacred Way, were once a monumental white marble gateway

with three portals framed by four Doric columns.

Beyond the Propylaea is the Sanctuary of Apollo; though little remains today, when the Propylaea were built in the mid-2nd century BC, the sanctuary was crowded with altars, statues, and temples - three of them to Apollo. Inside the sanctuary and to the right is the House of the Naxians, a 7th- to 6th-century BC structure with a central colonnade. Dedications to Apollo were stored in this shrine. Outside the north wall a massive rectangular pedestal once supported a colossal statue of Apollo (one of the hands is in Delos's Archaeological Museum, and a piece of a foot is in the British Museum).



Near the pedestal a bronze palm tree was erected in 417 BC by the Athenians to commemorate the palm tree under which Leto gave birth. According to Plutarch, the palm tree toppled in a storm and brought the statue of Apollo down with it.



Southeast of the Sanctuary of Apollo are the ruins of the Sanctuary of the Bulls, an extremely long and narrow structure built, it is thought, to display a trireme, an ancient boat with three banks of oars, dedicated to Apollo by a Hellenistic leader thankful for a naval victory. Maritime symbols were found in the decorative relief of the main halls, and the head and shoulders of a pair of bulls were part of the design of an interior entrance.



A short distance north of the Sanctuary of the Bulls is an oval indentation in the earth where the Sacred Lake once sparkled. It is surrounded by a stone wall that reveals the original periphery. According to islanders, the lake was fed by the River Inopos from its source high on Mt. Kynthos until 1925, when the water stopped flowing and the lake dried up. Along the shores are two ancient palaestras, buildings for physical exercise and debate.

Mykonos Weather

Winters are relatively mild, while summers on Mykonos Island, Greece are dry and hot, as rainfall is very uncommon. From spring to mid-fall the sun is constantly shining and the sky over the island is blue and clear, making Mykonos weather ideal for a unique holiday.

From January to March, temperatures in Mykonos Greece range from 5°C to 15°C. The months of April and May are between 15°C and 23°C. During June, July, August and September, temperatures range from low 20s to low 30s. In October, November and December, Mykonos weather is cooler and temperatures range from approximately 7°C to the high teens.

The winds that blow on Mykonos Island Greece are the spring 'Sirocco' wind. In July and August, the northern 'Meltemi' wind takes over. In the winter months, it is usually strong winds from the south that gust in the Mykonos region.

Beaches

The many sandy beaches of Mykonos are reputed as some of the best in the Cyclades. There is a beach for every taste, from popular family beaches to the more "cosmopolitan" and nudist.

The more popular family beaches include:



Platis Yialos: One of the most popular beaches in the Mediterranean, with a regular bus service to town about 4 km (2½miles) away. This beach is excellently organized and provides a variety of facilities for sea sports such as water-skiing, diving, pedal boat and more. There is also a daily small boat transport from the Platis Yialos pier to all other south coast beaches of Paranga, Agrari, Elia, Paradise and Super Paradise.



Ornos: On the south-west side of Mykonos and about 3 km from town. The sandy beach slopes gently into the sea so it is perfect for families with small children. There are schools for water-skiing & surfing.

Psarou: Another of the more well know beaches of Mykonos, about 5 km (3miles) from town. The wonderful location, clean sea and sandy beach is a combination that attracts many tourists. The beach is excellently organized offering a variety of sea-sports which includes scuba-diving.

Agios Stefanos beach is 5' walk from Conference Hotel Rocabella.: The windless sandy beach of Ag. Stefanos is 2km north of Mykonos Town. It has a variety of good services.



Kalafatis Beach - Agia Anna Beach: Two more beaches with a sandy shore and clear water. Between them, a peninsula with fishing port. Beautiful landscape, transportation, surfing and diving school, plus bus transport.

Some of the more cosmopolitan beaches of Mykonos include:



Super Paradise: A magnificent beach with crystal clear blue water in a small, deep bay: half the beach is family-oriented, the other half is fully gay with nude bathing permitted, nudists often prefer the rocky paths & coves. Most famous gay beach in this part of the Mediterranean. Regular caiques / boat service from Platis Yialos Beach.

Paradise: A beautiful beach with a mostly younger crowd. Big, well organized camp sites and bus service. Many water sports. As the sun goes down the lively bars get into full swing with electronica, techno music, and parties.

Paranga: A 15-min. walk from central Platis Yialos Beach; small, beautiful beach organized one end and includes a small mainly gay section Good quality taverns nearby.

Elia: A not so crowded, large beach with a mix of sun worshippers: hetero, gay and some nudity at one end. The organized part has 3 restaurants and tavernas. Elia is the last stop of the small boats leaving from central Platis Yialos Beach, there is also a bus service from Mykonos Town, which is 10 km away.