

Rhodes GREECE

Classic harbour
Mandraki Port
is one of the
wonders of the
ancient world



WANT TO SOAK up the sun or party the night away on an island steeped in history? Rhodes is just the place.

WHERE

The fourth-largest Greek island and the largest of the Dodecanese islands, Rhodes offers year-round gorgeous weather, beautifully wooded landscapes and stunning classical culture. This family-friendly destination is served by Diagoras airport and is also a major ferry hub, linking many other Greek islands, including Crete.

WHY

Home to Europe's largest and oldest inhabited Medieval city, the atmospheric walled Old Town of Rhodes holds Unesco World Heritage status. The island also has some of the best sandy beaches in the Mediterranean – most hold an EU Blue Flag award for clean, clear water. Don't miss Lindos, a charming village with cobbled streets, whitewashed houses and traditional shops. For party

animals, Faliraki's non-stop nightlife is a must.

WHEN

Named 'Island of Sun' by the ancient Greeks, subtropical Rhodes boasts more than 300 days of sunshine a year. In spring and autumn the climate is fresh and pleasant while winters are mild.

SEE

Acropolis of Rhodes is a big draw and a fine example of Hellenic-style architecture; the original sanctuaries, temples and public buildings, including the Temple of Athena Nike, the Ancient Stadium and the Odeon, are worth exploring. The Valley of Butterflies welcomes thousands of tourists between May and September. This unique spot

attracts a colourful display of butterflies, while the cool, shady pathways offer respite from the summer heat.

DO

The family-friendly Medieval Rose Festival runs from May to July. The event celebrates the island's Medieval history with games, dance and competitions. The bars in the Avenue of the Knights in the Old Town of Rhodes are a great spot to people-watch.

SLEEP

Sentido Port Royal Villas and Spa £££

Situated on the Blue Flag Afandou beach, this is Rhodes' newest five-star hotel. Set amid olive trees and lush foliage, there's a large outdoor pool, lagoon and spa, plus two restaurants.

Suites benefit from their own private pool.

(sentidohotels.com)

Hotel Dionysos ££

In the beachside resort of Ixia, this lovely hotel is set in beautiful gardens. There's a lagoon-style swimming pool with free sunbeds and parasols, plus à la carte and traditional restaurants.

(dionysos-hotel.gr)

Hotel Andreas £

This hotel can be found in the Old Town of Rhodes, in a centuries-old Ottoman villa within the city walls. With a charming terrace and panoramic views, it's chilled.

(hotelandreas.com)

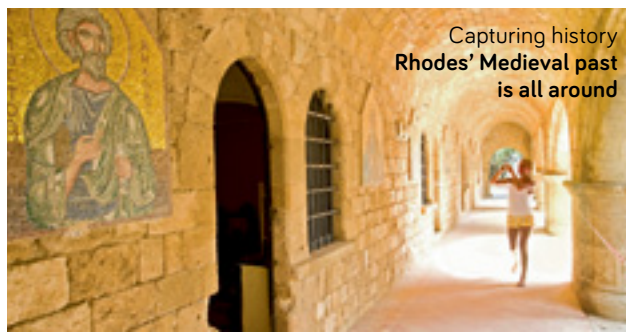
EAT

One of the oldest restaurants in Lindos, **Mavrikos**, in the main square, serves traditional Greek food and meze. In a charming old building within the castle walls of Rhodes Old Town, **Romeo Restaurant** (romeorestaurant.com) serves local specialities including *kleftiko* and stuffed *souvlaki*. **Mimakos** (mimakos.com) in Faliraki can be hard to find but is worth the effort – its hilltop location provides splendid panoramic views. There's a typical Greek menu with local wines, and live traditional music.

FURTHER AFIELD

Book a day trip to the nearby island of Symi, known as the jewel of the Dodecanese.

Monarch flies to Rhodes from London Gatwick and Manchester. Latest fares can be found at monarch.co.uk



Capturing history
Rhodes' Medieval past
is all around