

THE THINKING TRAVELLER

MEGAS GIALOS, SYROS

FANYA

The creation of a renowned Greek architect, Fanya is a scrupulously designed villa that rises with disarming discretion from its seafront surroundings, a stone and earthy-hued extension of the terrain topped with low-lying grasses and fragrant shrubs. This sense of natural harmony is further enhanced by the 16m-long infinity pool and the sea, the former seemingly an homage to the irresistible sparkling blues of the latter.



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Service

Daily maid service and mid-week linen change

Features

Retreat - like atmosphere
Inspired contemporary design
Nested along the shore
Private sea access and sun lounging deck
Extraordinary infinity pool
Stunning xeriscape garden of native plants and herbs

Nearby

Shingle and sandy beaches
Megas Gialos and Poseidonia
Hermoupolis
Mykonos and Tinos

FANYA

ABOUT THE VILLA

10 GUESTS 5 BEDROOMS 5 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Fanya is all on one level.

From a sheltered walled courtyard, the main entrance leads into a spacious and warmly welcoming open-concept communal area, featuring a bespoke dining table (whose design is echoed throughout the house in all the wooden furniture and fittings, and an extra-large, sandy-coloured L-shaped sofa. A perpendicular pair of wall-to-wall sliding glass pocket doors fully open up the space to the gardens and the terraces, creating a harmonious unity between indoor and outdoor areas, and bringing in light, sea breezes and views of the gardens, the pool and the Aegean. With its smooth creamy flooring and its gentle palette, this space is imbued with a soft aureate glow at sunrise and in the late afternoon.

To the right of the sofa is a sleek, fully-equipped contemporary kitchen with central breakfast bar island, and, accessed via a separate hallway, a guest bathroom with shower, and a multi-use space that could be a playroom for kids or a TV snug.

A short glazed corridor leads from near the dining table to the sleeping quarters. Taking their cue from the living area, all the bedrooms feature wall-to-wall sliding pocket glass doors, allowing them to connect organically with the surrounding terraces and gardens. In total there are five bedrooms:

- the main bedroom, a generously proportioned double with an en-suite shower room and captivating sea and garden views
- a good-sized double-twin with an en-suite shower room and wonderful views of the pool and the sea
- a double with en-suite shower room and access to the walled courtyard outside the main entrance
- a serene double with an en-suite shower room looking into and accessing a secluded courtyard garden
- the fifth bedroom, a spacious double with a feature stone wall, an en-suite shower room, and sea and garden views, is accessed externally

Outside: the gardens and terraces wrapping around Fanya perfectly lend themselves to an idyllic and carefree outdoor lifestyle.

Most al fresco action takes place on the sea-facing side of the property, which, like the roofs, is planted with aromatic shrubs and ornamental grasses. To one side, a clutch of olive and other trees delimits gardens from the rocky coastal terrain. Fanning out around the garden, and connecting the living area with the glorious L-shaped sea-view infinity pool, is an expanse of terrace equipped with sunloungers.

Next to the pool, is a long, beautifully furnished and shaded living and dining area, served by an impressive outdoor kitchen with barbecue.

From here, a wooden boardwalk extends down to a fabulous belvedere that is seemingly suspended above the irresistible blue sea. The views from here are arguably at their finest, and for many guests this will be *the* spot in which to relax, sunbathe and gaze out to sea. That said, there is a worthy rival just below: a stone path at the far end of the pool leads to some steps and down to a little pebbly cove. Here, between the rocks is a wooden bathing platform, a few sunloungers and easy access to the transparent waters of the Aegean.

Back up by the house, we return to the shady walled courtyard where we began our tour. Accessed from the living and dining area and one of the bedrooms, it is a great foil to the sun-drenched terraces overlooking the sea. Emerald green banana tree fronds and towering ornamental grass sway gently in the breeze, and a large L-shaped sofa provides comfort.

Finally, on the other side of the house, accessed from the fourth bedroom and from the gardens, is another walled courtyard, again with built-in cushioned sofas. Sheltered by a shade-giving, fragrant Mediterranean pine, it has a gentle, sleepy atmosphere, so when it's time for an afternoon snooze, this might well be the spot.

CONSIDERATIONS

When the ferry connections timetable is not yet published for your travel dates, we recommend choosing a flight arriving in Athens or Mykonos by midday or, alternatively, adding a night in Athens or Mykonos the day before and/or after your time in Syros.

Due to the nature of the property including terraces low walls and several

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Amenities		
Accommodates (max)		10
Bedrooms		5
Double beds		4

drops around the grounds, children must be supervised at all times.

Fanya features a fantastic infinity pool, offering swimmers stunning views while in the pool. There is a drop off the infinity side so we recommend children are supervised at all times. Please refer to our **general safety page** if you would like more information about infinity pools.

Please note that there is no real shallow end in the pool, whose minimum depth is over 1.3m.

Please note that due to the risk of wildfires, the use of fire pits and barbecues is restricted when the weather is windy or temperatures are high. This is particularly common in July and August. More information will be provided in your House Guide and via your local specialist.

Flexible (double or twin)	1
Bathrooms	5
... of which en suite	5
Garden gate beach/sea access	✓
Infinity pool ²	16x5m
Sea views	✓
Walking distance to restaurant(s) ³	✓
Outdoor kitchen	✓
Daily maid service	✓
Barbecue	✓
Private parking	✓
Optional cook ¹	—
ADSL Wi-Fi Internet	✓
Air conditioning	✓
Heating	✓
Underfloor heating	✓
Stereo	✓
Smart TV	✓
Hairdryer	✓
Iron	✓
Washing machine	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Safe	✓
¹ the cook can provide lunches and dinners on request, and depending on availability	
² the swimming pool is in two sections: a 16mx5m swimming area and a 6mx5m shallow section with hydromassage jets	
³ there's a taverna 1.2km away (please note that the road to get there is without pavements)	
✓ = yes/present	
— = optional/on request	

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Find out more about **getting to Syros**

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Fanya sits on the south coast of Syros between the little seafront villages and beaches of Megalos Gialos (1.5km to the west) and Varis (just over 2.5km to the east). Both have a couple of tavernas and a minimarket.

Beautiful Cycladic Syros was once an important commercial hub, a stepping stone between Asia Minor and the western Mediterranean. Its capital, the busy port of Hermoupolis, was founded in the 1820s during the Greek War of Independence and named after Hermes, the Greek god of commerce.

Hermoupolis prospered as its stature as a vibrant entrepot for trade and shipping grew. Merchants and entrepreneurs transformed the town into a highly desirable place to live and do business. Well-off traders and the upper classes built graceful homes and impressive neo-classical civic buildings, many of which survive today, such as the town hall on the main square and the Apollo Municipal Theatre, a mini replica of La Scala di Milano. Crowding around the harbour, houses rise up two hills, each one topped with an impressive church - one catholic, Agios Giorgios, and one Greek Orthodox, the Resurrection of Christ. It's a very pleasant, historic town with an important industrial heritage, plenty of things to see and do, and a good selection of cafés, bars, restaurants and shops.

Today, Syros is considered the capital of the Cyclades and it's a popular destination for families and those looking for a laid-back vibe without mass tourism. There are numerous lovely beaches scattered around the coast, particularly in the south close to Fanya. Apart from Megas Gialos and Varis (mentioned at the beginning), these include Komito, Posidonia and Agathopes in the southwest, Galissa on the west coast, and Azolimnos and Fokiotripes in the southeast. All are within a 15-minute drive.

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Distances

Syros Airport: 8.5km-5.3miles-12mins

Athens Airport: 40-50mins to Piraeus

Port, 2-4h (approx) ferry crossing to Hermoupolis Port + 15mins drive to the villa

Hermoupolis: 10.5km-6.5miles-15mins

Nearest beaches (apart from the pebbly beach accessed directly from the garden): Megalos Gialos - 1.5km-1mile-3mins; Varis - 2.6km-1.6miles-4mins; Agathopes - 5.3km-3.3miles-10mins; Galissa 10km-6.2miles-15mins; Azolimnos - 6.5km-4miles-12mins

Nearest tavernas and minimarkets: in Megalos Gialos and Varis (3-5mins drive)



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GALLERY



