KOUNDOUROS, KEA

PIEDRA

Looking out over the blue waters of the Aegean, Piedra revolves around a cylindrical, cone-topped hub reminiscent of the historic windmills that dot the islands of the Cyclades. Beautifully finished interiors offer a light, airy atmosphere in which to unwind and relax, and generously extensive shady terraces invite guests to live outdoors in total comfort, whiling away lazy days to the metronomic soundtrack of the sea.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Service

Daily maid service and mid-week linen change

Features

Infinite sunset sea views
Inviting outdoor living area
Contemporary design
16.5m-long infinity pool
Great location with different beach options close by

Nearby

Sandy beaches
Koundouros Bay
Ioulis Town
Karthaia archaeological site

Email us: info@thethinkingtraveller.com
Or call us: +44 (0)20 7377 8518 or toll free in the US or Canada 1-800-490-1107
Piedra is exclusively available through The Thinking Traveller, you won't find it anywhere else.

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ABOUT THE VILLA

6 GUESTS 3 BEDROOMS 3 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Piedra is set over two floors.

The main entrance leads into the well-equipped bespoke kitchen, a spacious, light-filled space whose polished concrete flooring morphs organically into the worktops, the cupboard surrounds and the central island breakfast bar. This sculptural technique of uniting floors and built-in fittings and furniture in one single flow of material is one of two main design features of Piedra. The other is the juxtaposition of the curvaceous with the angular, as exemplified in the next space.

The kitchen flows through a wide opening into the heart of the home, a spacious, airy dining area with white-washed wood-beamed ceilings and circular walls punched with light-giving windows. To one side is an oblong dining table with well-cushioned built-in seating and chairs, while to the other are stairs leading to the first floor.

Up a step from the dining area is the super-panoramic living area that features more built-in seating rising from the smooth concrete floors, white-washed brick walls and wood-beamed ceilings, and a wall of bifold doors that bring in the sea views and allow access to the terraces and the pool area.

Back in the circular dining area, a flight of stairs curves up to the first floor, which is entirely given over to the main bedroom. This is a remarkable space, with a fabulously lofty conical ceiling in grey-painted wood, a centrally positioned bed looking out to sea, in-room double-sinks and walk-in shower, an en-suite WC, and a door opening out onto the sea-view roof terrace.

The remaining accommodation at Piedra is accessed externally from the sea-facing terrace and comprises:

• a sea-view double bedroom with extra day bed and en-suite shower room that incorporates the curvaceous arc of the dining room's wall
• a second sea-view double bedroom with a little kitchen counter and an en-

suite shower room

Outside: Piedra is surrounded on two sides by a sweep of beautifully designed terraces. As with the interiors, soft concrete flooring rises from the ground to create an abundance of in-built seating topped with cushions. In contrast to the smooth texture of the concrete, the villa's external walls are clad in locally-quarried stone in hues of honey, grey and bronze. To complete the picture, raised borders planted with aromatic plants and the occasional olive tree delimit the various areas of terracing.

The main terrace runs along the entire sea-facing façade of Piedra. To one side of the indoor living room is a large covered sitting area and a dreamy al fresco dining area served by a barbecue. This is the perfect spot for gathering everyone together, particularly for lazy lunches and long convivial dinners.

A few steps towards the sea is the gorgeous 16.5m-long infinity pool, which features a shallow beach-effect section for watery lounging. To one end of the pool is another seating area, and the front terrace is completed by a shady space outside the two ground floor bedrooms. Here there are also steps leading up to the wonderfully panoramic roof terrace, which wraps around the grey cone of the first floor bedroom.

Below the pool is another section of concrete terrace, and beyond that a long stretch of decking, the ideal place, closest to the sea, for watching the breathtaking sunsets.

Behind the main shaded sitting and dining area, the terrace extends to a sheltered area outside the kitchen. This too has a place to sit and steps leading up to the roof terrace.

CONSIDERATIONS

Piedra 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.

Due to the nature of the property including terraces low walls and several drops around the grounds, children must be supervised at all times.

Some areas of this property may be overlooked.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Amenities

Accommodates (max)	6
Bedrooms	3
Double beds	3
Bathrooms	3
... of which en suite	3
Garden gate beach/sea access [2]	✓

The last 10 minutes of the road to access the property are unpaved.

As this villa is located on an island, we recommend extra caution when booking your flights to avoid problems or delays with ferries and hydrofoils. It may be advisable to arrive a day earlier and depart a day later. Please contact us for any information or advice.

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.

Infinity pool [3]	16.5x4m
Sea views	✓
Daily maid service	✓
Barbecue	✓
Private parking	✓
Optional cook [1]	–
Satellite Wi-Fi Internet	✓
Air conditioning [4]	✓
Satellite TV	✓
Sonos wireless music system	✓
Hairdryer	✓
Iron	✓
Washing machine	✓
Tumble dryer	✓
Safe	✓

[1] the cook can provide dinners on request and depending on availability

[2] a path in front of the house will take you to a small cove

[3] salt water pool

[4] in the bedrooms (though there is a portable unit in the living room)

✓ = yes/present

– = optional/on request

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

KOUNDOUROS, KEA

PIEDRA

THINK ABOUT

Find out more about **getting to Kea**

KOUNDOUROS, KEA

PIEDRA

EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Piedra rises on a little promontory just a couple of kilometres from the bay of Koundouros in southeast Kea. Just a few minutes' stroll away is a secluded pebble-stone beach.

Kea is the closest Cycladic island to Athens so relatively easy to reach. This proximity also makes it popular with residents of Greece's capital, many of whom have chosen the island for their holiday homes. They are also drawn by the many fabulous beaches and the charming scenery, much of which, especially around the coast, is planted with vines and fruit trees. In the rolling hills of the centre, meanwhile, one will find ancient mule tracks, monasteries, fascinating rock formations and windmills.

Most visitors arrive at the port of Korissia, which is a picturesque little town with small shops, cafés and tavernas dotted along its narrow streets. A little further north is the yachting marina of Voukouri, while in the island's interior is the historical capital, Ioulis, a fascinating place to explore, with pretty streets, an archaeological museum, houses tumbling down a hillside and a good selection of shops, bars and tavernas.

There is an embarrassment of choice when it comes to beaches, and, apart from the beaches around Koundouros Bay, guests staying at Piedra can quickly reach several, including those of Pisses, Kampi and Liparo. The beaches on the south and southeast coast are most easily accessible by boat, and we warmly recommend you hire one for a day or two, if not for your whole stay.

For those interested in history, a visit to the archaeological site of Karthaia, which dates back to the 8th century BCE, is a must. There, perched above the sea in a striking setting, are the remains of a theatre, a Doric temple dedicated to Pythian Apollo and the various other ruins.

PRICES, AVAILABILITY AND BOOKING →

Distances

Athens airport: a 40mins drive to Lavrio + a 1hr ferry crossing to Korissia on Kea + 40mins drive to the villa
Nearest beaches: a small secluded pebble-stone cove just below the house; Koundouros - 2.2km-1.4miles-6mins; Pisses - 3.8km-2.3miles-8mins; Kampi - 5.5km-3.4miles-13mins
Nearest tavernas: Koundouros and Pisses (see above)
Nearest mini-markets: in Koundouros
Ioulis (amenities): 15km-9.3miles-25mins
Korissia (amenities and port): 20km-12.5miles-40mins
Karthaia archaeological site: 15km-9.5miles-30mins

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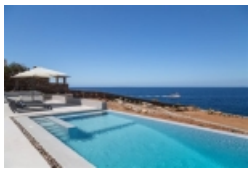
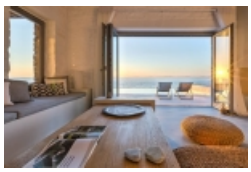
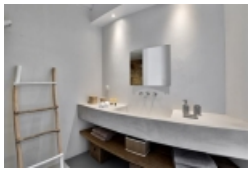
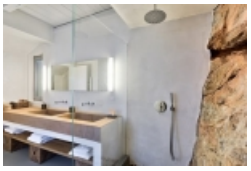
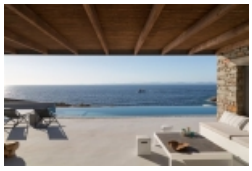
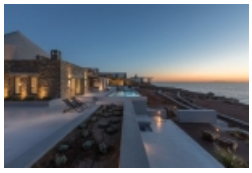
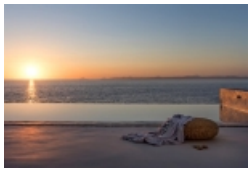
PIEDRA

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