

THE THINKING TRAVELLER

FARAGAS, PAROS

IRO

Rising pearly white above the translucent blue waters and sandy bay of Faragas, Iro is a villa of two faces: with one it gazes into a delightfully secluded array of internal terraces wrapping around a pair of zero edge pools; with the other it surveys the irresistible sea, which is just a short stroll away. Spacious, luminous and wonderfully proportioned inside, Iro offers guests an abundance of pleasures, both aesthetic and hedonistic.



THINK EXQUISITE

PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING

→

Service

Daily maid service and mid-week linen change

Features

Prime location, minutes away from Faragas beach

Elegant pool area with twin zero edge pools

Contemporary architecture and cool design

Magical evening atmosphere

In-villa cook service for two meals a day

Fitness area

Entertainment room with billiard and home cinema

Nearby

Sandy beaches

Alikí

Paríkiá

Marpíssa

IRO

ABOUT THE VILLA

10 GUESTS 5 BEDROOMS 4 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Iro is arranged over a main house on three levels and a pair of sleeping wings, one of which is linked to the main house via the lower ground floor.

The front door of the main house takes one into a landing, with a guest bathroom, and two flights of stairs, one leading up to the first floor, and one descending to the ground floor.

Taking the latter option first, we quickly arrive at a luminous open-concept space with a dining table and a large, state of the art Italian kitchen, both of which look out to sea. The design and décor here gives us our first glimpse of the overall aesthetic of the property: white-washed wood-beamed ceilings, white-tiled flooring and white walls are classically Greek; multiple blue-grey framed French doors picture the views and allow access to the surrounding terraces; sleek designer furnishings and contemporary lighting give a clean minimalist feel that's balanced by the occasional piece of chunky wooden furniture.

A couple of steps lead up from the dining area to the luminous living room, which features a large modular U-shaped sofa at the centre, a decorative fireplace to one side, views out to sea, and access to the pool area and other terraces.

Back on the entrance landing, we head up the stairs to the first floor, which is entirely devoted to the main bedroom, a double with curvaceous in-room tub, an en-suite shower room, sea views and, up a couple of steps, doors opening out onto a wonderfully panoramic private roof terrace.

From the kitchen-diner, another flight of stairs leads down to the lower ground floor, an enormous space dedicated to recreation, fun and games. First is a large cinema room with a projector and screen, and three extra large cushioned day-bed sofas. Next to these is a blue-baized snooker table.

An opening leads through to the games room, which has a Buffalo Hurricane air hockey table and a table tennis table.

A flight of stairs near the table tennis table leads back up to the ground floor level and the first sleeping wing. A short corridor, with a door opening out onto the internal terraces, brings us to two double bedrooms sharing a shower room. Both these rooms have sea views and access to a shady terrace looking out over the coast.

Accommodation at Iro is completed by the second sleeping wing on the far side of the pool. Accessed via the terraces, it comprises two double bedrooms, each with its own en-suite shower room and a shared terrace looking down into the pool area. Below the bedrooms is a well-equipped gym.

Outside: Iro has been designed to offer an abundance of options for al fresco living, lounging and dining. Almost all the rooms flow out onto shady and sun-drenched terraces, so no matter where you are, you're never more than a couple of steps from being outside.

The hub of the outdoor areas is a large expanse of multi-level internal terracing. Accessed from the living room is a cool shady sitting area, a line of sunloungers and the smaller pool. From here, a few steps lead up to the larger pool, whose infinity end looks over the former (both are zero edge pools). There's more space to bask in the sun here, before a few more steps lead up to the terrace outside the second sleeping wing, one of which is furnished with a large, four-poster daybed.

The terraces and the steps linking them are bordered by dry-stone walls which in turn enclose beautifully planted beds. Aromatic shrubs, flowering bushes and all manner of Mediterranean flora create a colourful, perfumed cocoon that's a feast for the senses.

The multi-aspect living room flows out not only onto the internal terraces, but also onto a shaded sea-facing one, comfortably furnished for lounging and gazing out at the views. The two bedrooms of the first sleeping wing have a similarly panoramic covered area, as does the kitchen-diner, which accesses an extremely convivial al fresco dining area.

Finally, a couple of steps from the main bedroom on the first floor take one up to the roof terrace, from where the majestic views are arguably at their best.

CONSIDERATIONS

Iro 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.

The final section of the access road to Iro is a little rough, so we recommend guests hire a 4x4 or one with high ground clearance.

Please note that the beach bar on the bay near Iro is popular during the day, especially in June, July and August. Music may be heard from the sea-facing al fresco areas.

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.

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Amenities		
Accommodates (max)	10	
Bedrooms	5	
Double beds	5	
Bathrooms	4	
... of which en suite	3	
Fully serviced ¹		✓
Pool	7.5x5m	
Pool #2	7.5x3m	
Walkable to beach/sea		✓
Sea views		✓
Gym ³		✓
Home cinema		✓
Boat mooring ⁴		✓
Daily maid service		✓
Water sports equipment ⁵		✓
Table tennis		✓
Pool table		✓
Bicycles ⁶		✓
Private parking		✓
Air conditioning ²		✓
Air hockey table		✓
Satellite Wi-Fi Internet		✓
Smart TV		✓
Hairdryer		✓
Iron		✓
Safe		✓
¹ including a cook, who will prepare breakfast and either lunch or dinner daily. Please note that the cost of ingredients is not included and should be paid for locally.		
² in the bedrooms		
³ with a treadmill, cross trainer, rowing machine and weights		
⁴ at the marina in Alik, about 3km away		
⁵ there is one paddleboard		
⁶ there is one bicycle available		

✓ = yes/present

— = optional/on request

PRICES, AVAILABILITY
AND BOOKING



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FARAGAS, PAROS

THINK EXQUISITE

IRO

THINK ABOUT

EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Iro sits on the south coast of Paros, just a short stroll from the gorgeous sandy beach of Faragas. The nearest village, Alikí, is just three kilometres away, and offers most day-to-day amenities, including mini-markets and tavernas.

For many people, Paros is the most authentic of the Cyclades. One of the larger islands, it has something for everyone, young or old, party-goers or culture-seekers, bourgeois or bohemian. Amongst its many attractions are buzzing little towns, myriad beaches, world-famous windsurfing conditions, gourmet restaurants, sleepy traditional villages with waterfront fish tavernas, religious, cultural and historical sites, and a vibrant nightlife scene.

Thanks to the relatively limited distances involved - the island measures less than 25km from north to south - it is easy to explore in full in a week or two, no matter where you're staying. Its mountainous hinterland, with peaks rising up to around 700m, is dotted with the occasional monastery and crisscrossed by old mule tracks. Down on the coast, meanwhile, there is an array of beautiful sandy beaches and idyllic coves, and a day or two spent on a boat exploring these is heartily recommended.

In terms of towns and villages, sleepy Marpissa, buzzing Parikia (the capital and main port), and dreamy Lefkes are just a, 20-, a 25-, and a 30-minute drive from Iro. The first is a white-washed beauty that appears unchanged for centuries. It's a pleasure to amble round its narrow streets, while a walk up to the monastery of St Anthony on the hill above offers spectacular views of the island. The second is a vibrant little town gathered around a semi-enclosed bay that woos visitors with its sandy beaches, its many bars and tavernas, its archaeological museum, and its impressive Byzantine Church. The third is great for walkers, thanks to a beautiful 4km-long Byzantine trail that leads over a hill to Prodromos village on the other side. Also nearby is the harbour village of Piso Livadi (popular for its fish restaurants) and, on the south coast, Alikí, which has a yachting marina and port for day cruises to Antiparos and other neighbouring islands.

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→

Distances

Paros Airport: 8km-5miles-12mins

Athens Airport: 40-50mins to Piraeus Port, 3-5h (approx) ferry crossing to Paros Port + 20mins from Paros Port to villa

Nearest beaches: Faragas - a 6-mins walk; Tripiti and Glifa - 4.2km-2.8miles-8mins; Lolantonis 8km-5miles-14mins

Nearest shops, tavernas and amenities: Alikí - 2.5km-0.6miles-6mins

Parikia (the capital of Paros): 16km-10miles-25mins

Marpissa: 14.5km-9miles-20mins

Lefkes: 19.7km-12.2miles-30mins

Naousa: 25km-15.5miles-40mins

The Mycenaean Acropolis: 25km-15.5miles-40mins

Antiparos: 12km-7.5miles-18mins (to the port of Pounta) + a 10-minute crossing

In the north of the island is the picturesque village Naousa, whose little harbour, web of narrow streets flanked by shops and tavernas, and Venetian castle make it a pleasure to spend time in. Just across the bay from Naousa is idyllic Kolimpithres beach, renowned for its transparent waters and fascinating rock formations, while for those with an interest in history, a visit to the Mycenaean Acropolis is called for. Sitting atop a rocky scarp high above Kolimpithres, it was built way back in the 13th century BCE and offers not only insights into Paros's long history but also stunning views. It's quite a walk to get up there, so you may wish to tackle it in the early morning or late afternoon when it's not so hot.

Paros's most northerly tip, the Monastiri peninsula is also close by. A protected park covering some 80 hectares of rocky, element-sculpted hills, hidden sandy beaches, walking trails, and undisturbed flora and fauna, it's a great day out for nature lovers and hikers with the added bonus of an end-of-excursion swim in the sea.

Cultural tours are readily available on Paros, so not matter whether you wish to learn about Parikia's old town centre, the ancient marble quarries, or the unique island of Despotiko, you'll be able to delve into the island's history with ease. Children are well catered for too, and a trip to the butterfly nature reserve just north of the airport is good fun.

If all that wasn't enough, Paros's little sister, Antiparos, is just a 10-minute ferry ride across the water from nearby Pounta, making a little island hopping eminently possible.



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GALLERY



