

# THE THINKING TRAVELLER

PLAKES BEACH, HYDRA

## CITRUS

10 metres across the private garden and you're on a pebbly beach; a few more steps and you're in the sea. Citrus's amazing waterfront location is hard to beat, but the house itself offers great charm, interest and comfort too. Whether you're admiring the interior design, sipping on a sunset aperitif on the upper terrace, or dining al fresco to the sound of the waves caressing the shore, you'll feel at home, at ease, and at one with the world.



**PRICES, AVAILABILITY  
AND BOOKING**



### Service

### Features

Private garden gate with direct beach access

Stunning, panoramic sea views from every angle

Exclusive boat mooring for seamless nautical access

Shaded terraces and lush gardens providing cool, peaceful retreats

Short, scenic walk to charming local tavernas

### Nearby

Email us: [info@thethinkingtraveller.com](mailto:info@thethinkingtraveller.com)

Or call us: +44 (0)20 7377 8518 or toll free in the US or Canada 1-800-490-1107

Citrus 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 Citrus develops over two floors. The main entrance opens into a welcoming grey marble-floored hallway. On the right is an open black steel staircase leading up to the first floor, while to the left a door leads into the kitchen (of which more later).

Heading straight on and down a couple of steps one comes to the social hub of the home, a voluminous open-plan communal space that shows off the property's eclectic style to great affect. Traditional stone-flagged flooring is countered by raw concrete ceilings and industrial light fixtures, colourful, bohemian, maritime-inspired artwork adorns the walls. To one side is a striped sofa, an old desk, and an antique, glass-fronted dresser; at the centre is a large, venerable wooden dining table; at the far end, gathered around a fireplace, are two more classic comfy sofas. Each area has French doors opening out onto the sea view terraces.

At the centre of the room, near the dining table, a couple of steps lead up through a wide opening and into the kitchen, where the eclectic, artistic vibe continues with marble floors, concrete cupboard surrounds and worktops, bespoke cabinetry, a carved marble sink (a motif revisited in the bathrooms) and a selection of antique curios, including a centrally positioned well-head and a rustic cylindrical butcher's block.

On one side of the kitchen a door opens into a handy utility room with sink, laundry facilities, extra storage and a large fridge-freezer. This in turn connects to the staff's quarters. On the opposite side of the kitchen, meanwhile, a walk-through storage area with a shower room to one side leads back into the entrance hall.

Accommodation on the ground floor is completed by the first of the three bedrooms, accessed from a door near the bottom of the stairs. It features a large built-in concrete dais topped with a double mattress (a single mattress could also be added on request), an en-suite shower room, and French doors opening out onto a terrace to the side of the property.

The first floor is home to the two remaining bedrooms off a central landing with access to a large terrace:

- the principal bedroom, a bright, spacious sea-view double with lofty wood-beamed ceilings, a sculptural in-room stone sink, a fireplace, two sets of French doors opening out onto the large shared terrace, and an en-suite shower room enclosed by a semi-partition wall
- a double bedroom with a sitting area, a large built-in concrete dais topped with a double mattress (a single mattress could also be added on request), and an en-suite shower room

**Outside:** al fresco life at Citrus plays out to the metronomic rhythms of the waves caressing the shoreline at the bottom of the garden.

Three French doors in the communal space on the ground floor open out onto a shaded sea-view terrace running along the whole façade of the house. Hosting a dining area, a table and chairs, and a couple of sunloungers, this is a magical spot from which to soak up the sea views and relax.

A couple of steps down from this terrace, outside the ground floor bedroom, is a sitting area with a comfortably cushioned built-in sofa and a collection of lounge chairs.

Next come the gardens, which are laid to lawn and planted with secluding olive trees, fragrant rosemary bushes, oleander and other classic Mediterranean flora. A 12m-long wooden boardwalk cuts across the grass to the sea gate, beyond which is Paralia Plakes, a long pebbly beach, and the irresistible emerald and aquamarine waters of the Aegean.

As evening falls, you may wish to make your way up to the large terrace on the first floor, which is accessed from the principal bedroom and from the landing. There are two sitting areas, one with convivial U-shaped built-in seating and day beds, the other with a sofa and a few easy chairs. The views from here, which pan out across the sea and the northern coastline of Hydra to the island of Dokos and beyond, are absolutely unforgettable, especially when the blushing sun slowly melts into nothingness behind the silhouetted mountains of the Peloponnese.

## CONSIDERATIONS

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Please note that Hydra is a car-free island, and the only way to get to it is via sea taxi. This service is included from Hydra port to the villa. Please contact us for further details.

Please note that this villa does not have a pool.

The number of steps that must be negotiated to get into and/or around this property might make it unsuitable for people with mobility problems.

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

This property is surrounded by countryside, some of which is unfenced and may include drops or steep slopes. We therefore recommend that younger children are supervised by an adult when exploring the grounds.

Just along the beach from Citrus is Hydra's Four Seasons Hotel, whose beach club and restaurant, Tassia's Tavern, are accessible to guests staying at Citrus.

#### Amenities

Accommodates (max)	6
Bedrooms	3
Double beds	1
Flexible (double or twin)	2
Bathrooms	3
... of which en suite	3
Daily maid service	✓
Optional cook	—
Garden gate beach/sea access	✓
Air conditioning <sup>1</sup>	✓
Safe(s)	✓
Washing machine	✓
Dishwasher	✓
Satellite TV	✓
4G Wi-Fi Internet [i]	✓
Transfers <sup>2</sup>	✓
Sea views	✓
Walking distance to restaurant(s)	✓
The Thinking Traveller local support	✓

<sup>1</sup> in the bedrooms

<sup>2</sup> a return sea taxi transfer from/to Hydra Port

✓ = yes/present

— = optional/on request

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THINK ABOUT

Find out more about [getting to the Saronic Islands](#)

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### EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Citrus is located in a small seafront hamlet roughly half way along the north coast of Hydra on the beach of Plakes, about 3km west of the island's capital, Hydra Port.

Hydra is the most southerly of the Saronic Islands after Spetses, and is located off the eastern tip of the Peloponnese. Measuring just 20km (west to east) by 5km (north to south), it is easy to discover in a week, as long as you rent a boat or travel by sea taxi - cars are not allowed on Hydra and there are very few roads.

Apart from Plakes beach right outside the villa, there are several other idyllic bays to enjoy, including those of Vlichos, Palamidas and Molos (between 860m and 2.3km away on the north coast), Mandraki in the northeast, and Limnioniza on the southeast coast (both most easily accessed by boat).

In terms of tavernas, there are several within walking distance, including that of the Four Seasons hotel just along the beach.

The island's mountainous hinterland is scattered with monasteries and crisscrossed by ancient mule tracks, making hiking an interesting proposition in the spring and autumn. Peaks rise up to over 500m before plummeting precipitously into the sea, especially on the south coast, and creating a spectacular coastline.

The island's capital, Hydra Port, is a pretty, unspoilt town and well worth spending some time in. Its harbourfront tavernas and bars rub shoulders with grand mansions built by 19th-century shipping magnates, and there are plenty of independent little shops and a few museums and galleries to explore. Just 5 minutes away by sea taxi, or a 3.2km-walk along a scenic coastal path, it's tantalisingly close.

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#### Distances

Athens Airport: 50mins to Piraeus Port, 1hr30 (approx.) ferry crossing to Hydra Port + 5mins by sea taxi to Citrus

Nearest shops, tavernas and amenities: there are a couple of tavernas in Vlichos (a 10-minute walk east along the coast), one in the Four Seasons hotel along the beach, and plenty of options in Hydra Port - 5mins by sea taxi or a 40-minute (3.2km) walk along a scenic coastal path

Nearest beach: Plakes, right outside the garden gate; Vlichos - 10mins on foot; Palamidas - 15mins on foot



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### GALLERY

