

THE THINKING TRAVELLER

SANTA MARIA, PAROS

MNYME

Meticulously designed, lovingly cared for, and furnished with a summery lightness of touch, Mnymy is a dream for anyone with a passion for light, space, and carefree living. White-washed stone walls provide the perfect backdrop for the vivid colours of the exuberant floral gardens and the blue waters of the Aegean, and an atmosphere of peace, privilege and privacy reigns supreme.



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Service

Features

Wonderful sea-view terraces

Tranquil courtyard gardens

17m-long zero-edge pool

Walking to beach and tavernas

Nearby

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ABOUT THE VILLA

12 GUESTS 6 BEDROOMS 6 BATHROOMS

Inside: accommodation at Mnyme is spread over a single storey main house and a guesthouse on two levels.

The entrance to the main house opens into a welcoming, luminous living room, with four white armchairs and a sofa gathered round a central coffee table and facing a fireplace. A triptych of French doors looks out to sea and provides access to the terraces. With its scrupulously white-washed stone walls and wood-beamed ceilings, its flagged floors, its a sense of order, its olive grey door and window frames, and its atmosphere of timeless tranquillity, this endearing space epitomises the character and the soulful style of the property as a whole (including the guesthouse).

An opening to the right of the main entrance allows the space to flow into a spacious, fabulously equipped sea-view kitchen with a breakfast table, a large central island, French doors opening out onto one of the shady al fresco dining areas and a side terrace, and access to the central, walled courtyard garden.

Back in the living room, and turning left from the main entrance one comes to a guest WC and the first two bedrooms:

- the principal bedroom, a spacious, triple-aspect double with walk-through wardrobe, sea views, a pair of French doors opening out onto the sea-facing terraces, and an extremely generous en-suite bathroom with tub and a pair of open showers
- a twin bedroom with en-suite shower room

The guesthouse is located next to the main house and is accessed from the internal courtyard garden. First is an open-plan communal space with a kitchen and breakfast table to one side and a comfortably furnished sea-view living area with sea views and access to the sea-facing terraces to the other.

Doors from a little vestibule off the living area open into the two ground floor bedrooms:

- a good-sized double with sea views, terrace access and an en-suite bathroom with tub and overhead shower
- a twin bedroom with sea views and an adjacent shower room

The remaining accommodation is located on the lower ground floor, accessed via a staircase from the living area. Here there are two children's bedrooms, both of which have two sets of bunk beds. One has an en-suite shower room, the other has an adjacent shower room and a door accessing the lower terraces.

Outside: in terms of al fresco living, Mnymy offers two distinct, but equally irresistible options: on one side are the wonderfully sheltered courtyard gardens and pool area; on the other is a wide expanse of open sea-view terraces.

In the former, which covers over half an acre, white-washed stone walls connect with the façades of the two houses to wrap around a garden of delight, where paved areas alternate with emerald lawns, palm trees rise regally into the skies, and all manner of flowering plants, climbers and shrubs bring vibrant colours, heady scents, and a sense of serene tranquility. At the centre sits the irresistible 17m-long zero-edge pool, while to one side, looking back across the pool at the main house, is a gorgeous shaded communal space, with plenty of comfortable seating, a super-long dining table, a cooking area with large barbecue grill, workspace and sink, and a WC.

A wooden door in the wall between the main house and the guesthouse, as well as a path to one side of the main house, provide access to the sea-view terrace, which fans out to take in endless vistas over the northeast coast of Paros, the islets of Finisses and Evriokastro, and the deep blue Aegean Sea. Accessed from the principal bedroom, the living area and the kitchen in the main house, and from the double bedroom in the guesthouse, this terrace includes a shaded al fresco dining area, which presents guests with a delicious quandary - to dine in the courtyard gardens or looking out to sea.

Back in the courtyard gardens, a flight of steps lead down to a terrace with a wood-beamed roof and a table tennis table, the perfect spot for tournaments during your stay.

And finally, near the entrance to the main house, steps lead up to a roof terrace, from where the 360-degree views are extraordinary.

CONSIDERATIONS

You may have noticed that although Mnymy can technically accommodate up to 16 people, we limit the number of guests to 12.

Some areas of this property may be overlooked.

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

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Amenities		
Accommodates (max)	12	
Bedrooms	6	
Double beds	2	
Flexible (double or twin)	2	
Quad beds	2	
Bathrooms	6	
... of which en suite	4	
Pool	17x5m	
Walking distance to beach(es)/sea access ⁴		✓
Walking distance to restaurant(s) ⁴		✓
Daily maid service		✓
Barbecue		✓
Table tennis		✓
Private parking		✓
Air conditioning ¹		✓
Smart TV		✓
Hairdryer		✓
Iron		✓
Tumble dryer		✓
Washing machine		✓
Dishwasher		✓
Microwave		✓
Safe		✓
Staff on the grounds ³		✓
¹ in the bedrooms only		
² the staff will prepare a continental breakfast. Please note that ingredients are not included and should be paid for on presentation of receipts.		
³ the housekeeper of Mnymy manages the villa and stays at the property until the end of August. Her discreet presence ensures that guests are able to enjoy the property to the full. She lives in an independently accessed		

studio, located just below the main house.

4 the walk to Mikri Santa Maria beach, which also has a taverna, is about 20mins, slightly steep on the way back

 = yes/present

 = optional/on request

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THINK ABOUT

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EXPLORING THE LOCAL AREA

Mnymy sits at the northeastern tip of Paros just over 1km from the beaches of Mikri Santa Maria and Santa Anna and from a trio of tavernas. It is also extremely well located for exploring the north of the island, which has plenty to offer.

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, picturesque Naousa, sleepy Marpissa, and buzzing Parikia (the capital and main port) are just a 15-, 20- and 25-minute drive away respectively. The former boasts a little harbour, a web of narrow streets flanked by shops and tavernas, and the remains of a Venetian castle. The second 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 third, meanwhile, 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.

Just across the bay from Naousa is idyllic Kolimpithres beach, renowned for its transparent waters and fascinating rock formations, while for those with an

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Distances

Paros Airport: 25km-15.5miles-40mins

Athens Airport: 40-50mins to Piraeus Port, 3-5h (approx.) ferry crossing to Paros Port + 30mins from Paros Port to villa

Nearest beaches: Mikri Santa Maria - 1.9km, 20 to 25-minute walk, 5 minutes by car; Santa Maria - 2.7km, 30-minute walk or 5 minutes by car

Nearest tavernas: there are three within a 15-minute walk

Nearest shops and amenities: in Naousa - 7km-4.5miles-15mins

Parikia (the capital of Paros): 15.5km-9.5miles-25mins

The Mycenaean Acropolis: 10km-6.2miles-20mins

Monastiri Park: 13km-8miles-25mins

Marpissa: 15km-9.3miles-25mins

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



