

Map of Santorini



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About Santorini

Its incredible scenery attracts thousands of visitors every year to Santorini for vacation, honeymoon and **wedding ceremonies**. The island has also attracted several movie productions, including Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life.

The island of Santorini faces the caldera, the famous submerged volcano crater situated in the middle of a basin with water. In the ancient times, the island of Santorini was called Strogili, which means "round" in Greek and a myth says that it was created in a miraculous way. After a terrible volcanic eruption, the centre of the island sank in the sea, leaving only the crater and the imposing cliffs. From these cliffs, one can admire the most stunning little villages that seem suspended in the sky and the unique wild **nature** of the island.

These villages consist of white typical Cycladic houses with blue painted windows facing the black volcanic rock of the caldera: a sight that has inspired artists and ordinary people, especially in the sunset when the horizon is tainted by the amazing colors of pale red and orange.

The name "Santorini" comes from "Santa Irene", although its official Greek name is Thera. It is located at the south of the Cyclades islands, between Ios and Anafi. The capital is Fira but the most picturesque village of Santorini is Oia. Popular resorts also include Firostefani and Imerovigli. The most famous beach is Red Beach but nice beaches also include Perissa, Kamari, Perivolos and Vlychada.

The most important sight of Santorini is certainly the volcano, whose eruption changed the course of world history. The first eruption of the volcano is estimated at around 1500 BC and archaeologists say it was so strong that the tsunami waves destroyed the Minoan towns in Crete. The last eruption was a few years ago, in 1956, and today the volcano is still alive today. Some legends lead to believe that the destruction of Santorini could be related to the myth of **Atlantis**, the rich town that sunk in a day and night.