

Municipality of Syros Hermoupolis, Department of Tourism



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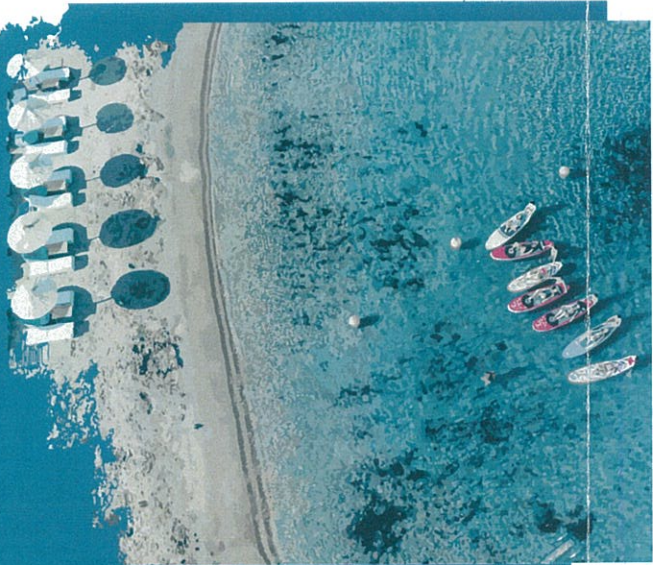
SYROS

CYCLADES



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MUNICIPALITY OF SYROS HERMOUPOLIS



Syros, a charming island in the Cyclades archipelago of Greece, exhibits a rich history, stunning beaches, and a vibrant culture. With an area of roughly 86 square kilometers and a population of around 21,500, Syros offers something for everyone.

The southern part of Syros is a haven for beach lovers. Its beaches, either sandy or pebbly, all boast crystal-clear waters. Perched on the island's highest point lies Ano Syros, the captivating old town. A wander through a maze of charming, traditional Cycladic alleys leads to the magnificent Catholic church of Agios Georgios. This town is a testament to the historic peaceful coexistence of Catholics, Orthodox Christians, and others. It also holds the distinction of being the birthplace of "rebetiko," a beloved genre of Greek music that emerged in the 1930s.

At the foot of Ano Syros lies Ermoupoli, the capital of Syros and administrative center of the entire Cyclades. Named after the Greek god of travelers, Hermes, this city boasts a distinct architectural style. Imposing neoclassical buildings stand as a reminder of its former glory as Greece's most important port. In the center of Ermoupoli, in Miaouli Square, stands the emblematic town hall of Syros, designed by the renowned German architect Ernst Ziller, which dates back to 1876. This building houses not only the Syros Archaeological Museum but also the court and various public services. Art lovers will appreciate the Apollo Municipal Theater, a miniature replica of Milan's La Scala, built in 1864 by the French architect Chabeau.



Syros is a foodie's dream! The island is dubbed "cheese paradise" for a reason, boasting the most expensive Greek cheese, "San Michalis," produced exclusively here. Beyond cheese, Syros' culinary scene delights with fresh, local ingredients, such as sausages, wild greens, herbs, and capers, all culminating in unforgettable dishes featuring the freshest fish. Syros is renowned for a long-standing tradition of desserts. One of the island's most beloved treats is "loukoumia," a traditional sweet with a unique texture and flavor. This jelly-like confection, made from starch and sugar, is often flavored with rose water or mastic and dusted with powdered sugar. Apart from "loukoumia", Syros offers a variety of other delightful treats, showcasing the island's commitment to quality and tradition. From rose and fruit flavors to mastic and nut delicacies, there's something for every sweet tooth. A truly special treat is "halvadopita," a dessert that combines the richness of halva with flaky pastry.

