

Tour to Lindos

Tuesday, June 30, 2009

Departure time: 8:00

Return to the hotel: 19:30



Lindos is known as one of the most beautiful places to visit in Rhodes. It perfectly combines the contrast between the brilliant white houses and winding lanes of the more recent village built around two beaches, the ancient acropolis and fortifications towering above it from its austere pinnacle. During the excursion we will visit the temple of Athena Lindia built on the 4th century

BC, admire the stunning view and feel the magic and the Ancient Acropolis.

The modern village of Lindos

The entrance to the village is on the north, by its only square, which is now used as a car park and has a large tree in the middle and a small fountain with many features from the period of the Knights. Rocks behind and above it recall ancient aqueducts. The graveyard is also at the entrance to the village, containing the church of Phaneromeni. A little beyond and below the square are the remains of the Moslem cemetery containing a few graves, whose typical grave markers have been demolished. The school has been moved to the side of the Megalo Yialo and the old building, beside the church of the Panayia, built in the neoclassical style, is now used by a local society for various cultural events.

Lindos Acropolis



According to myth, the cult of Athena Lindia was pre-Hellenic, although this is not borne out by the sporadic excavation finds. The history of the sanctuary begins in the Geometric period (9th c. BC). In the Archaic period the tyrant of Lindos, Kleoboulos, revived the cult and built a temple, probably on the site of an earlier one. The Archaic temple had the same Doric tetra style amphiprostyle plan as the subsequent one. The sanctuary was approached by a rough flight of steps. After it was burnt down in 342 BC, the present temple was built with the propylaea and the monumental staircase. The Hellenistic stoa is later. In the 3rd c. BC the cult of Zeus Polieus was introduced, although Athena remained the principal deity of the sanctuary. In the Roman period the priest Aglochartos planted olive trees on the spot, and according to an inscription the Sanctuary of

Psithyros was built close to the Temple of Athena (2nd c. AD).

(see the Registration form for reservation details)

Full Day excursion to Symi

Wednesday, July 1, 2009



Symi is one of Greece's best kept secrets. The island lies 40 kms north west of Rhodes in the Dodecanese, and is approximately 13 kms in length and 9.5 kms across at its widest point. The long deep harbour is like an amphitheatre, with multi coloured two and three storeys 19th century neo-classical grand old houses of the former sponge trading merchants, and churches with coloured domes tiered up the steep hillsides. The high hill overlooking the harbour is Kastro (Castle), with the original settlement of Chorio and dominated by the Church of Megali Panagia, and the ruins of the castle.

Surrounding the harbour area is the town of Yialos, which was built in the 19th century and prospered during the affluent sponge fishing era. Connecting Yialos and the upper old town of Chorio, where the majority of the islands population live are the 375 steps of the famous Kali Strata. It is well worth the effort as you will pass neo classical mansions and views down to the harbour. There is a new road which links Yialos and Chorio with Marathounta and Panormitis. Marathounta is a short distance off the main road, and has a very attractive bay and pebble beach Panormitis lies at the other end of the island from Yialos, at the head of a sheltered bay, and is famous for the Byzantine style Monastery of the Archangel Michael, originally built about 450AD, and rebuilt in 1783.



In the summer, one of the main attractions of Symi is the beaches and coves around the island. Taxi boats will take you to beaches and coves for the day and collect you later in the afternoon. Walking on Symi when the weather is cooler is a very pleasurable experience and a good way to explore the island. There are many tracks through the hills and forests and along the coast, from which there are marvellous views. As the whole of the island is covered with Oregano, Sage and Thyme, the air is filled with the heady fragrance of herbs. Goats and the sound of goat bells are everywhere you go.



During the sail across the Aegean Sea, we pass very close to the Turkish coastline. Symi is one of the most unspoiled of the Greek Islands. We arrive first to the West Coast part of Panormitis with its 12th century monastery. We, then, continue and arrive at the small picturesque harbour with its dazzling multicoloured houses. We are able to relax in one of the harbour side taverns or explore the graphic inland further. Lunch will take place at a local traditional tavern.

A lovely relaxing day out to a beautiful island...

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