

ABOUT KOS



The island of [Kos](#) lays almost in the heart of the Aegean sea, surrounded by wonderful beaches. It is an inland full of antiquities. Gifted from Gods and positively influenced by various civilizations through the centuries, Kos is the perfect getaway, with its splendid sea, the famous archaeological sites, monuments and castles, its exquisite Mediterranean cuisine, and its high quality accommodation.

Its proximity to other beautiful islands such as Kalymnos, Patmos and Rhodes offers unique opportunities for small daily trips.

[Hippocrates](#) 'the father of medicine' lived and practiced in Kos. His treatise *Airs, Waters and Places*, stressing the importance of a healthy environment, was no doubt inspired by the sparkling sea and the hot sun of his native patch. West of Kos Town, in a magnificent hillside setting overlooking Anatolia, is the [Asklepieion](#), an old temple and cure centre where Hippocrates' practiced and taught medicine.

Cosmopolitan, with excellent facilities, magnificent beaches and lush interior, Kos, combines it all. This is the reason why each year the island hosts many international conferences in its many large conference venues.

The International airport of Kos is connected via [charter flights](#) to the whole Europe as well as [Athens](#) and the other major cities in Greece, while there are daily [sea connections](#) with Piraeus, Rhodes and the other Dodecanese islands.



The Town Of Kos



The town of Kos was founded in 366 BC and has been the capital of Kos island ever since. It is situated on the north-eastern side of the island and provides access to every part of the island.

Eighteen thousand people live in this beautiful town, full of palm trees and colorful flowers. It is a cosmopolitan centre, offering a vast range of choices, starting from the magnificent Archeological Museum and the [Ancient Market](#), to a rich modern market and numerous bars & restaurants. A trade centre throughout the centuries, Kos has a really interesting market of -among others- jewellery, clothing and leather gadgets.

The town of Kos, a crossroad of civilisations, prides itself and its multinationalism and beauty formed by a number of cultures. Conquerors and visitors, nations from Europe and Asia, have put their stamp on each and every rock in this place.

At the main harbour, cruises from all over the world arrive to admire the island's beauty. The imposing [Medieval Castle](#), being one of the oldest and most beautiful castles in the entire Mediterranean area, will captivate you.



History & Culture

Kos is the birthplace of Hippocrates (460 – 370 B.C.), the father of modern medicine. The plane tree under which he used to teach, still stands in the centre of the Town, being the oldest tree in Europe and one of the oldest worldwide.



The [Asclepieion](#) is undoubtedly the most important monument in Kos. It lies 3, 5 km north-west of the ancient city and stands on the slopes of a low hill surrounded by cypress trees.

It is the site of the first school of medicine and of a hospital built in the 5th century BC. Climbing the 30 steps to the second level, you will see the best preserved remains of the Asclepieion in the elegant, slender white columns of the 2nd century BC, Temple of Apollo. High atop these remains you will get the best views of the entire Asclepieion site, Kos, the Turkish coastline and the nearby islands.

The [Hippocratic Oath](#) ceremony is performed here every summer, at the temple of Asclepieion, spoken in ancient Greek. Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Othomans and Italians have passed through the island and formed the mosaic of modern Kos. Arcaelological monuments reaching back to more than 3000 years can be found all over the island. Numerous castles, ancient temples, old theatres and the Ancient Market remain throughout the centuries witnesses of the glory and fame Kos has known. Voices from another era can still be heard in the landscapes of Kos.



Beaches

Most beaches in Kos have been awarded the clean water Blue Flag. With crystal, deep blue waters and beaches with white, soft sand, Kos is definitely a place blessed by God.



Get to live the experience of water sports, becoming one with the sea. Sail boats, jet skis, paddle boat and surf boats, parade in front of your eyes. Kos is one of the most famous sailing and surfing destinations in the Mediterranean.

Those who enjoy the sea should try snorkeling or scuba diving, or even a more extreme sport like bungee jumping or parasailing.

Kos Marina

Kos is proud of its [Marina](#), whose facilities and services have turned Kos into one of the main sailing, and cruising crossroads of the Mediterranean Sea. With a capacity of 230 boats the marina has a full range of services including a bank, a post-office, shops and restaurants. Each docking station is equipped with electricity, ISDN telephone lines, cable TV, waste removal, etc.

Even the most demanding skippers will be satisfied and can use the marinas as an ideal base for their sailing adventures in the Aegean Sea.



Entertainment

Kos, famous for its cosmopolitan environment, offers a great variety in recreation centers satisfying all kind of tastes. Numerous cafes, cocktail bars and nightclubs are scattered all over the town. Enjoy authentic Greek live music or listen all the international hits! Try exquisite gourmet international cuisine in luxurious first class restaurants and unique island specialties in traditional tavernas.



Activities



Discover the multiple possibilities for sports and activities on Kos such as wind surfing, scuba diving, water skiing, parachuting or sailing.

For visitors that prefer the land, try cycling or jogging through Kos Island's beautiful countryside. Approximately 14 kms away from the city of Kos, the mountain Dikaiois is well known of its impressive natural beauty. Vast vegetation, great variations in altitude, picturesque traditional villages and a breathtaking view of Kos and the surrounding islands certainly contribute in making hiking or climbing an experience to remember. Other options for outdoor activities include tennis, go-carting or horseback riding.



Island Hopping

Due to its geographical position, Kos is perfect for daily tours to the beautiful surrounding islands of [Nisyros](#), [Patmos](#), [Kalymnos](#), [Rhodes](#), [Leros](#).

Each of the islands has something different to offer to the visitor with a maximum travel time of 2 hours by hydrofoil.

An alternative option is to take a visit to [Bodrum](#) - the ancient Alikarnassos - in Turkey, which lies, just across the city of Kos. Combine two countries by travelling just 30 minutes!

You may find more information about Kos island at: <http://www.kosinfo.gr/en> and www.gnto.gr