Rhodes Travel Guide

Rhodes: Island of History and Mediterranean Beauty

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Things to do in Rhodes

Landmarks & Monuments

Rhodes is home to iconic historical structures that tell the story of Greek civilization, from medieval fortifications to ancient wonders recognized worldwide.



Must See

Palace of the Grand Masters

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A stunning castle fortress built by the Knights Hospitaller in the 14th century, featuring medieval architecture with ornate decorations, grand halls, and panoramic city views. The palace showcases two centuries of Crusader occupation with intricate mosaics and period furnishings.



Must See

Medieval Old Town

3-4 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A UNESCO World Heritage site with narrow winding streets, medieval buildings, ancient relics, and traditional architecture. Explore the Street of the Knights (Odos Ippoton), the Jewish Quarter, and the Turkish Quarter with their distinct cultural heritage and historic charm.



Top Pick

Suleiman Mosque

30 minutes No Booking Needed

Map

Built in 1522 following the Ottoman siege, this elegant mosque features a striking red and white striped minaret, ornate interior decoration, and represents the island's Ottoman heritage. The mosque is not regularly open for worship or general visits; it is made available for Eid prayers on special occasions.

Tips for Landmarks & Monuments

- In the winter season (November–March), the Palace is closed Tuesdays; check current seasonal hours before planning an early visit.
- Wear comfortable walking shoes for exploring the Old Town's cobblestone streets
- Best photo angles of the Palace are from the gardens on the south side

- The Old Town gets extremely crowded in peak summer months (July-August)

Museums & Galleries

Rhodes hosts world-class museums preserving ancient artifacts, medieval treasures, and contemporary art collections that chronicle the island's rich cultural heritage.



Top Pick

Archaeological Museum of Rhodes

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

One of Greece's finest archaeological museums located in the Palace of Knights. Houses exceptional collections of Minoan, Hellenistic, and Roman artifacts including the famous marble sculptures, pottery, and bronze works. Notable exhibits feature treasures from ancient Lindos and Ialysos.



Notable

Museum of Byzantine Art

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

Dedicated to Byzantine religious art and artifacts from the 7th to 15th centuries. Features an impressive collection of icons, manuscripts, sacred vessels, and ecclesiastical vestments representing the island's Christian heritage during Byzantine and medieval periods.



Notable

Museum of Modern Greek Art

1.5 hours No Booking Needed

Map

Contemporary and modern Greek artworks spanning from the 19th century to contemporary times. Features paintings, sculptures, and installations by prominent Greek artists, offering insight into Greece's artistic evolution and cultural expression.

Tips for Museums & Galleries

- The Archaeological Museum’s published summer hours are 08:00–20:00; in winter it is 08:30–15:30 and closed Tuesdays.
- Combination tickets often available for multiple museums
- Photography restrictions may apply in religious artifact sections
- Hire a guide for deeper understanding of historical context

Religious Sites

Rhodes reflects centuries of religious diversity with churches, synagogues, and mosques representing Christian, Jewish, and Muslim heritage across the island.



Top Pick

Church of the Assumption

45 minutes No Booking Needed

Map

A stunning Byzantine church in the Old Town featuring beautiful marble columns, intricate mosaics, and ornate iconostasis. Built in the 15th century, this Orthodox church exemplifies medieval Byzantine architecture with its soaring dome and golden interior lighting.



Top Pick

Kahal Shalom Synagogue

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed

Map

The oldest and most important Jewish synagogue in Rhodes, built in 1577 by Sephardic Jews. The synagogue features ornate chandeliers, hand-woven carpets, and a moving Holocaust memorial. The adjacent Jewish Museum documents the thriving pre-war Sephardic Jewish community with historical photographs and artifacts.



Notable

Church of Saint Panteleimon

30-45 minutes No Booking Needed

Map

A beautifully restored Orthodox church in the Medieval Old Town with traditional Byzantine architecture, elaborate interior frescoes, and candlelit atmosphere. Known for its peaceful courtyard and authentic religious ceremonies conducted in Greek Orthodox tradition.

Tips for Religious Sites

- Dress respectfully: cover shoulders and knees when entering active churches
- Avoid visiting during services unless you wish to participate
- Photography may be restricted in some religious sites
- The Jewish Quarter offers guided tours with historical context
- Arrive early for a peaceful experience before tour groups arrive

Ancient & Historical Sites

Discover Rhodes' ancient past through remarkable archaeological sites featuring temples, acropolis ruins, and the legendary location of the Colossus of Rhodes, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.



Must See

Lindos Acropolis

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

The acropolis is on a rocky hill above Lindos; don’t give a 116-meter height without a reliable source. The commanding views span across Vlycha Bay and surrounding islands. A winding stone path with carved ancient steps leads to the summit for an unforgettable experience.

Must See

Colossus of Rhodes (Legend Site)

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed

Map

Marking the legendary location of one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World: the **bronze statue of the sun god Helios**, about 33 meters tall, built in the 3rd century BC and toppled by an earthquake around 226 BC. Nothing of it survives, and its exact position is debated. Today visitors see the harbor and the **deer statues at Mandraki**, the spot usually linked to the legend.



Top Pick

Ancient Kamiros

2-2.5 hours No Booking Needed

Map

Extensively excavated ancient city ruins showcasing Hellenistic urban planning with streets, homes, temples, and an acropolis. Located on the west coast, this archaeological site provides excellent examples of classical city layout and architecture from the 6th century BC through Roman times.



Top Pick

Valley of Butterflies (Petaloudes)

2-3 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A scenic natural reserve in a lush valley where The valley’s official site identifies the species as *Panaxia quadripunctaria* and says it gathers there seasonally; its life-cycle guidance cautions against disturbing the moths. The peaceful valley features walking paths through dense vegetation, small waterfalls, and a cool microclimate that attracts these distinctive butterflies. An on-site museum explains the natural phenomenon and butterfly lifecycle.

Tips for Ancient & Historical Sites

- Lindos Acropolis requires climbing many ancient steps; wear sturdy shoes
- Bring water and sun protection; limited shade on exposed ruins
- Visit Lindos early morning or late afternoon to avoid midday heat and crowds
- Ancient Kamiros has minimal facilities; bring supplies
- Valley of Butterflies is best visited mid-morning when butterflies are most active
- Consider hiring a guide for deeper historical context

Squares & Streets

Experience the vibrant public spaces of Rhodes where locals gather, history unfolds, and traditional Mediterranean life thrives amid historic architecture and modern amenities.



Must See

Street of the Knights (Odos Ippoton)

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed

Map

One of Europe's best-preserved medieval streets featuring ornate stone facades of 15th-century mansions built by Knights from different European nations. The steeply sloping street is lined with impressive heraldic shields, arched doorways, and period architectural details that transport visitors directly to the medieval era.



Top Pick

Symi Square (Plateia Rimini)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

The heart of Rhodes Old Town featuring a beautiful stone fountain with a bronze deer statue, surrounded by medieval architecture and lively cafes. The square pulses with energy throughout the day, hosting locals and tourists enjoying traditional Greek food and strong coffee. Excellent for people-watching and soaking in authentic Mediterranean atmosphere.



Top Pick

Hippocrates Square

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A charming plaza in the heart of the Old Town dominated by a sprawling ancient plane tree that local legend links to Hippocrates. Surrounded by traditional tavernas, cafes, and shops selling local crafts, this square epitomizes Greek island charm with its tree-shaded seating and historical significance.



Top Pick

Sokratous Street

1-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A lively pedestrian shopping street in the Old Town connecting major squares and featuring a vibrant mix of traditional shops, modern boutiques, tavernas, and gelato stands. The narrow stone-paved street captures the essence of Greek island commerce with locals and tourists mingling throughout the day.

Tips for Squares & Streets

- Explore streets early morning (before 9 AM) for authentic local atmosphere
- Wear comfortable shoes for extensive walking on uneven medieval cobblestones
- Get lost intentionally in the winding streets to discover hidden courtyards and local tavernas
- Shopping streets are most crowded in afternoon and early evening
- Street photography is excellent; medieval architecture creates dramatic shadows throughout the day

Neighborhoods & Districts

Explore distinct districts of Rhodes, each with unique character, cultural heritage, and local charm ranging from medieval quarters to vibrant modern neighborhoods.



Top Pick

Jewish Quarter (Evraiki)

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A poignant historic district preserving Sephardic Jewish heritage with narrow winding streets, traditional buildings, and the important Kahal Shalom Synagogue. The quarter tells the story of a thriving community that flourished for centuries before the Holocaust. Street plaques commemorate victims and buildings feature traditional Jewish architecture elements.



Top Pick

Turkish Quarter (Arabo)

1-1.5 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A distinct neighborhood featuring Ottoman-era architecture, traditional residential buildings, small mosques, and atmospheric narrow streets. The quarter preserves Turkish cultural heritage with hammams, traditional shops, and authentic local atmosphere. Walking through reveals layers of history and cultural synthesis unique to Rhodes.



Top Pick

Mandraki Harbor District

1-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

The modern waterfront area featuring the historic harbor where ships operated for centuries, the iconic harbor deer statues marking the Colossus location, and contemporary restaurants with sea views. This bustling area combines maritime history with modern amenities, perfect for sunset dining and evening promenades along the water.

Tips for Neighborhoods & Districts

- Best explored on foot for discovering hidden passages and local life
- Respect local residents and be mindful when photographing in residential areas
- Join locals at neighborhood kafes (cafes) for authentic Greek coffee
- Many restaurants in older quarters offer excellent traditional food at fair prices
- Quieter neighborhoods reveal more authentic Rhodes away from tourist crowds

Parks & Gardens

Discover Rhodes' natural green spaces providing peaceful respite with lush Mediterranean vegetation, scenic walking paths, and opportunities to experience the island's flora and local wildlife.



Top Pick

Rodini Park

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A large urban park featuring ancient aqueducts, shaded walking paths through dense vegetation, small streams, and peacocks roaming freely among the plants. The park offers respite from summer heat with its cool microclimate and is dotted with benches for quiet relaxation. Perfect for morning walks or afternoon rest with views across Rhodes.

Tips for Parks & Gardens

- Early morning park visits offer the best peaceful atmosphere and cooler temperatures
- Bring water and sun protection even in parks with shade
- Rodini Park offers excellent natural cooling; perfect during midday heat
- Parks are ideal spots for photography with morning and late afternoon light
- Local wildlife like peacocks and birds are active during early morning hours

Tours & Activities

Engage in guided experiences, water sports, cultural activities, and adventure tours that provide deeper insights into Rhodes' history, nature, and vibrant contemporary culture.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Medieval Old Town Guided Tours

2-3 hours Book Ahead

Professional guided walking tours through the Medieval Old Town with expert historians explaining architecture, history, and culture of each district. Tours typically last 2-3 hours covering major landmarks, hidden courtyards, and lesser-known sites. Available in multiple languages with options for themed tours (Knights, Ottoman heritage, Jewish history).



Top Pick Book Ahead

Scuba Diving & Snorkeling

3-4 hours Book Ahead

Professional dive centers offering beginner courses through advanced certifications in clear Mediterranean waters. Popular dive sites feature underwater archaeology, marine life, and dramatic seabed formations. Snorkeling excursions explore shallow reefs and coastal formations. Multiple operators offer daily trips with equipment and instruction.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Boat Tours to Symi & Panormitis

7-8 hours Book Ahead

Full-day boat excursions visiting nearby Symi Island and its famous monastery with swimming stops along the way. Tours depart from Mandraki harbor, typically including meals and stops at local tavernas. The scenic journey provides excellent views of Rhodes' coastline and Greek island hospitality in authentic fishing villages.



Notable

Hiking & Nature Walks

3-7 hours Book Ahead

Organized hiking excursions through Rhodes' forested interior, mountain trails, and coastal paths. Trails range from easy morning walks to challenging day-long treks. Professional guides share knowledge about native flora, wildlife, geological formations, and traditional village life. Suitable for all fitness levels with various options available.

Tips for Tours & Activities

- Book popular tours 1-2 days in advance during peak season
- Morning tours avoid afternoon heat and crowds
- Water activities require reasonable swimming ability; inform operators of any concerns
- Bring adequate water, snacks, and sun protection for full-day activities
- Many operators offer hotel pickup; confirm location and time when booking
- Group discounts often available; ask when making reservations

Day Trips & Excursions

Explore nearby islands, coastal villages, and inland attractions accessible as day trips from Rhodes, expanding your Mediterranean experience beyond the main island.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Symi Island

7-8 hours Book Ahead

Map

A picturesque island famous for its colorful harbourfront buildings reflecting in clear blue waters. The charming town features traditional stone houses in pastel colors, seafood tavernas on the waterfront, and a peaceful atmosphere. The Panormitis Monastery on the island is an important pilgrimage site. Day trips include boat transport, lunch, and swimming time.



Top Pick

Lindos by Land

5-6 hours No Booking Needed

Map

Day trip exploring Lindos town and acropolis by bus or car with optional beach time at nearby Vlycha Bay. The coastal town features whitewashed buildings, Captain's houses, and narrow winding streets. The acropolis perched above offers spectacular coastal views. Lunch at traditional tavernas serves fresh seafood overlooking the bay.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Marmaris, Turkey

8-10 hours Book Ahead

Map

A popular day trip across the Mediterranean to the Turkish Riviera town featuring bustling harbor, Turkish bazaar, water sports, and cultural experiences. Fast ferries depart from Rhodes with customs processes streamlined for day visitors. Explore Turkish cuisine, traditional markets, and beaches in this vibrant holiday destination.



Notable

Seven Springs (Epta Piges)

3-4 hours No Booking Needed

Map

A scenic inland attraction on Rhodes featuring mountain springs, waterfalls, and lush vegetation creating a refreshing natural oasis. A scenic path leads through a tunnel carved through rock to reach deeper pools perfect for swimming. The area features restaurants and sits within forested highlands offering escape from coastal heat.

Tips for Day Trips & Excursions

- Book island ferries early, especially in summer when spots fill quickly
- Bring passport for international excursions (Turkey)
- Pack light bags for boat excursions; secure luggage available at hotels
- Ferry schedules vary seasonally; confirm departure times day before
- Sea conditions may cause cancellations in winter; always have backup plans
- Wear protective clothing on boats; sea spray can be strong

Food & Dining

Real, highly-rated Restaurants in Rhodes, sourced from Google Places (rating above 4★).



Epos Restaurant★★★★★ 5 (115)

1-2 hours

Map

Epos Restaurant is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 5★ from 115 reviews. Located at Lachitos 13, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 5:00 PM – 1:00 AM
- Tuesday: 5:00 PM – 1:00 AM
- Wednesday: 5:00 PM – 1:00 AM
- Thursday: 5:00 AM – 1:00 AM
- Friday: 5:00 PM – 1:00 AM
- Saturday: 5:00 PM – 1:00 AM
- Sunday: Closed



The Ritualist★★★★★ 4.9 (402)

1-2 hours

Map

The Ritualist is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.9★ from 402 reviews. Located at Sofokleous 35, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 3:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 3:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 3:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 3:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 3:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 3:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 3:00 – 11:00 PM



MELI Restaurant★★★★★ 4.9 (1,607)

1-2 hours

Map

MELI Restaurant is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.9★ from 1607 reviews. Located at Platonos 25, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:05 – 11:30 PM
- Tuesday: 12:05 – 11:30 PM
- Wednesday: 12:05 – 11:30 PM
- Thursday: 12:05 – 11:30 PM
- Friday: 12:05 – 11:30 PM
- Saturday: 12:05 – 11:30 PM
- Sunday: 6:00 – 11:30 PM



Ma Poulette Liya. French, Greek & Mediterranean Restaurant★★★★★ 4.9 (470)

1-2 hours

Map

Ma Poulette Liya. French, Greek & Mediterranean Restaurant is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.9★ from 470 reviews. Located at Nikiforou Mandilara 16, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: Closed



at Thomas★★★★★ 4.8 (1,862)

1-2 hours

Map

at Thomas is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.8★ from 1862 reviews. Located at Κισθινιου κ, Μεσαιωνικη πολη, Thiseos 50, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:30 – 10:30 PM



Ta Kardasia★★★★★ 4.8 (1,135)

1-2 hours

Map

Ta Kardasia is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.8★ from 1135 reviews. Located at Platonos 4-8, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 5:00 – 10:30 PM
- Tuesday: 5:00 – 10:30 PM
- Wednesday: 5:00 – 10:30 PM
- Thursday: 5:00 – 10:30 PM
- Friday: 5:00 – 10:30 PM
- Saturday: 5:00 – 10:30 PM
- Sunday: 5:00 – 10:30 PM



Kerasma★★★★★ 4.8 (1,084)

1-2 hours

Map

Kerasma is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.8★ from 1084 reviews. Located at Afstralias 100, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 6:00 – 11:00 PM



Avocado Restaurant Rhodes★★★★★ 4.8 (1,065)

1-2 hours

Map

Avocado Restaurant Rhodes is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.8★ from 1065 reviews. Located at Γρίβα 71 & γωνία, Dilmperaki, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM



PANERI Restaurant, Creative Mediterranean Cuisine★★★★★ 4.8 (1,200)

1-2 hours

Map

PANERI Restaurant, Creative Mediterranean Cuisine is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.8★ from 1200 reviews. Located at Pithagora 22, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:30 – 10:30 PM
- Tuesday: 12:30 – 10:30 PM
- Wednesday: 6:00 – 10:30 PM
- Thursday: 12:30 – 10:30 PM
- Friday: 12:30 – 10:30 PM
- Saturday: 12:30 – 10:30 PM
- Sunday: 6:00 – 10:30 PM



4 Rodies★★★★★ 4.8 (2,279)

1-2 hours

Map

4 Rodies is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.8★ from 2279 reviews. Located at Kanada 29, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: Closed
- Wednesday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM



Greek Stories★★★★★ 4.8 (1,759)

1-2 hours

Map

Greek Stories is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.8★ from 1759 reviews. Located at Nikiforou Mandilara 9, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM



Marco Polo Restaurant★★★★★ 4.7 (1,326)

1-2 hours

Map

Marco Polo Restaurant is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.7★ from 1326 reviews. Located at Agiou Fanouriou 40-42, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 7:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 7:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 7:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 7:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 7:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 7:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 7:00 – 11:00 PM



TAMAM Restaurant★★★★★ 4.7 (4,528)

1-2 hours

Map

TAMAM Restaurant is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.7★ from 4528 reviews. Located at Leontos 1, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 5:00 – 11:00 PM



Ta Marasia★★★★★ 4.7 (1,325)

1-2 hours

Map

Ta Marasia is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.7★ from 1325 reviews. Located at Agiou Ioanni 155, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 11:45 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 11:45 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 11:45 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 11:45 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 11:45 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 11:45 PM



Dafni★★★★★ 4.7 (1,587)

1-2 hours

Map

Dafni is a highly-rated restaurant in Rhodes, rated 4.7★ from 1587 reviews. Located at Νικηφόρου Μανδηλαρά 4-8, Mandilara 6, Rodos 851 00, Greece.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 11:00 AM – 11:30 PM
- Tuesday: 11:00 AM – 11:30 PM
- Wednesday: 11:00 AM – 11:30 PM
- Thursday: 11:00 AM – 11:30 PM
- Friday: 11:00 AM – 11:30 PM
- Saturday: 11:00 AM – 11:30 PM
- Sunday: 11:00 AM – 11:30 PM

Practical Information

Best Seasons for Rhodes

April-May (Spring): Ideal weather with temperatures 20-25°C, wildflowers blooming, and fewer tourists. Perfect for exploring archaeological sites without midday heat intensity.

September-October (Fall): Pleasant temperatures 25-28°C, sea water still warm, and fewer crowds post-summer season. Excellent for beach and water activities.

July-August (Peak Summer): Hottest period (32-35°C) with maximum tourists. Beaches and attractions extremely crowded, but ideal for swimming. Plan indoor activities during peak afternoon hours.

November-March (Winter): Mild 12-16°C but frequent rain. Some attractions reduce hours; ferry schedules less frequent. Excellent for solitary exploration and local interaction.

Avoid: Mid-July through mid-August for crowds-averse travelers. Winter for beach activities.

Getting Around Rhodes

Arriving by Air: Rhodes International Airport (RHO) serves frequent flights from Europe. Taxis, buses, and car rental available. Journey to city center approximately 15 km (20-30 minutes).

Public Buses: Reliable network (RODA company) with routes to major towns and beaches. Buy tickets at booths (check the fare at the booth). Frequent service during summer, reduced winter schedules.

Taxis: Readily available with meter systems. Airport to city center is a short ride; agree the fare beforehand. Agree on fares beforehand for longer journeys.

Car Rental: Multiple agencies at airport and town center. Rates vary by season. Driving is on right side; roads generally good quality. Parking available throughout city.

Scooters/Motorcycles: Popular for exploring; rates vary by season. Helmets required by law.

Ferries: Daily service to Symi (about an hour), seasonal to Turkish coast and other islands.

Walking: Old Town fully pedestrian-friendly; excellent for exploration on foot.

✈ Airport Transfer

Rhodes International Airport Diagoras (RHO) to city center:

- **The airport-to-Rhodes Town service is a RODA bus; KTEL operates routes on the island’s east side:** Runs to Rhodes Town in about 25 minutes, check the current fare
- **The Rhodes municipal taxi page lists €27–29 by day and €37 at night from Rhodes Town to the airport, about 20 minutes**
- **Private Transfer:** Prebooked door-to-door transfer to hotels in Rhodes Town at a price to confirm when booking, about 20 minutes
- **Rental Car:** Major agencies operate desks at arrivals, roughly 20 minutes to Rhodes Town with rates with rates that vary by season

Shopping & Local Products

Traditional Souvenirs: Sokratous Street and Old Town bazaar offer ceramics, textiles, leather goods, and handicrafts. Quality varies; bargaining acceptable at smaller vendors.

Local Products: Extra virgin olive oil (high-quality local varieties), Greek wine, liqueurs (ouzo, raki), honey, and nuts. Purchase at markets or specialty shops for authenticity.

Textiles & Embroidery: Traditional Greek weavings and hand-embroidered items from local artisans. Prices fair; small vendors offer personalized service.

Jewelry: Gold, silver, and Byzantine-inspired pieces available throughout Old Town. Verify authenticity at established shops.

Shopping Hours: Most shops 9 AM-2 PM, then 5 PM-9 PM. Many close 2-5 PM. Sunday hours vary; closed Sundays in many smaller shops.

Markets: Public market near harbor provides fresh produce, local cheeses, and traditional foods. Morning shopping offers best selection.

Bargaining Etiquette: Expected at souvenir shops and street vendors, but not in modern retail stores. Always polite and respectful; 10-20% negotiation typical.

Annual Events & Celebrations

Easter (Variable March-April): Greek Orthodox celebrations with religious processions, special church services, and traditional feasts. Major cultural event throughout island.

May Day (May 1): Celebrations with flower wreaths, traditional foods, and street festivities across Rhodes.

Symi Festival (Summer): Cultural celebration on nearby Symi Island with traditional music, dance, and maritime heritage events.

Don’t present July–August as a fixed annual date range; the municipality’s 2026 listing places a Rhodes International Festival concert at the Palace on September 8.

Dormition of the Virgin (August 15): Religious holiday with processions, family gatherings, and traditional celebrations in villages and towns.

September 14 is the Orthodox feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross; don’t describe it as a Tsambika icon pilgrimage.

Local Village Celebrations: Smaller communities celebrate patron saints with traditional food festivals, music, and dancing throughout year.

New Year (January 1): Celebrations with special foods and family traditions.

Sample 5-Day Itinerary

Day 1 - Medieval Old Town Immersion: Morning exploring Palace of Grand Masters and surrounding Medieval Old Town. Afternoon wandering Street of the Knights and Symi Square. Evening sunset from harbor area, dinner at traditional taverna in Old Town. Evening activity: watch sunset over Mandraki harbor.

Day 2 - Ancient Heritage: Early morning visit Lindos Acropolis with dramatic coastal views. Afternoon at nearby Vlycha Bay for swimming and relaxation. Late afternoon exploring Lindos town whitewashed architecture. Dinner at beachfront taverna in Lindos with fresh seafood specialties.

Day 3 - Archaeological Exploration: Morning at Archaeological Museum viewing ancient treasures and artifacts. These are separate stops: the Valley is about 26 km from Rhodes Town, and Kamiros is farther along the west coast; allow for the drive between them. Late afternoon in Rodini Park. Relaxed evening in modern city center exploring contemporary Rhodes.

Day 4 - Island Adventure: Full-day boat tour to nearby Symi Island including Panormitis Monastery, swimming stops, and waterfront lunch at local taverna. Return evening in Mandraki harbor. Optional sunset walk and evening gelato.

Day 5 - Cultural Blend & Relaxation: Morning in Jewish Quarter and Kahal Shalom Synagogue learning Sephardic heritage. Afternoon relaxing at city beach or visiting Seven Springs (Epta Piges) for swimming in natural springs. Evening leisurely stroll through Turkish Quarter exploring Ottoman heritage. Final evening dinner overlooking harbor.

Best Photography Locations

Palace of Grand Masters: South gardens provide dramatic architectural photos. Early morning light casts interesting shadows on facades. Late afternoon golden hour excellent for backlighting and silhouettes.

Street of the Knights: Dramatic perspective photos of medieval facades in golden hour light. Cloudy days offer even lighting without harsh shadows on stone details.

Lindos Acropolis: Pre-dawn arrival captures sunrise behind temple ruins. Late afternoon golden light illuminates white buildings with dramatic cliff shadows. Aerial views from paragliding shots stunning.

Mandraki Harbor: Iconic deer statues with sunset backdrop create postcard-perfect images. Dawn light reflects beautifully in calm harbor waters. Evening lights illuminate waterfront restaurants.

Symi Island (Day Trip): Colorful harbor houses reflecting in water create vivid compositions. Early morning before tourist boats arrive offers peaceful, clear images. Elevated viewpoints capture entire harbor panorama.

Simi Square & Hippocrates Tree: Morning shade provides even light for architectural details. Tree-framed shots of surrounding buildings create layered compositions. People photography captures authentic local life.

Best Times: Golden hour (dawn 6-7 AM, dusk 7-8 PM) provides warmest light and interesting shadows. Avoid harsh midday sun 12-3 PM. Overcast conditions ideal for texture and detail photography without shadows.

Electrical Information

Voltage & Frequency: Greece operates on 230 volts (V) at 50 hertz (Hz), standard throughout European Union.

Plug Types: Type C (2-round pins) and Type F (2-round pins with grounding clips) are standard. Older Type E sockets exist in some buildings.

Adapter Requirements: North American devices (110V) require voltage converter; UK/AU/NZ devices compatible at 230V with plug adapter. Most modern electronics (phones, laptops) auto-convert 110-240V.

Adapters & Converters: Available at airport shops, electronics stores, and hotels. Bring adapters from home to ensure compatibility. Consider portable power banks for extended sightseeing.

Practical Tips: Test electronics at hotel before extended use. High-power devices (hairdryers) may require dedicated circuits. Carry spare batteries for cameras given extended exploration hours.

USB Charging: Many hotels and restaurants offer USB charging stations; ask staff if unsure. Power banks readily available for purchase if needed.

Must-Try Dining Experiences

Fresh Seafood: Rhodes specializes in grilled octopus (chtapodi), mussels, shrimp, and daily catch. Waterfront tavernas near Mandraki offer best selections. Request 'catch of the day' for freshest options.

Local Specialties: Souvlaki (grilled meat skewers), moussaka (layered eggplant casserole), pastitsio (pasta bake), and saganaki (fried cheese). Traditional bakeries serve warm spanakopita (spinach pie).

Mezze & Appetizers: Tzatziki (yogurt-cucumber dip), taramosalata (fish roe), hummus, dolmades (stuffed grape leaves), and salade Horiatiki (Greek salad with feta).

Street Food: Souvlaki sandwiches, gyros, and koulouri (sesame ring bread) inexpensively available from street vendors.

Desserts: Baklava (phyllo pastry with honey), galaktoboureko (custard pastry), traditional Greek yogurt with honey, and loukoumades (honey donuts).

Local Wine & Drinks: Rhodian wines offer excellent value; ouzo (anise liqueur) traditional after-meal drink. Local beers equally refreshing.

Dining Tips: Lunch typically 1-4 PM, dinner 8-11 PM. Water always complimentary. Service charge included; small tip appreciated (5-10%). Waterfront restaurants pricier but offer ambiance; neighborhood tavernas provide better value with authentic cuisine.