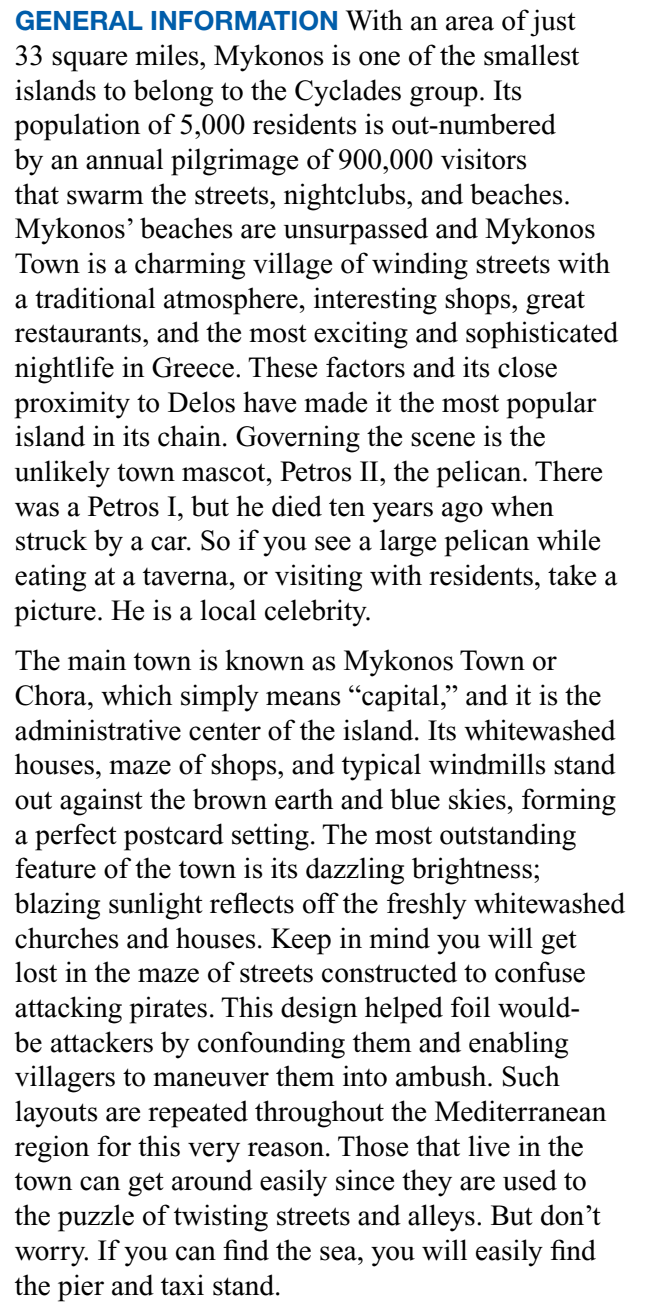


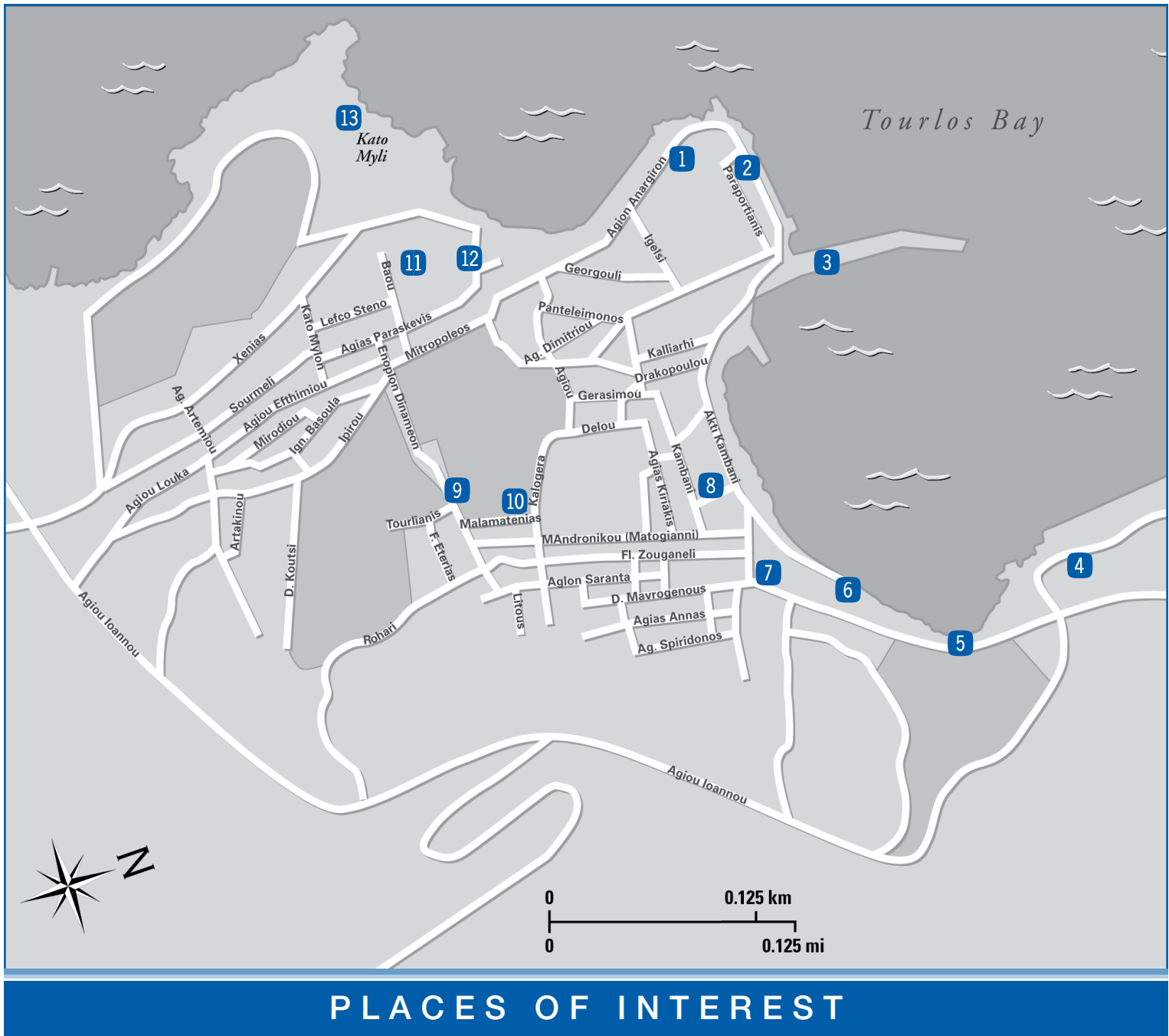
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HISTORY According to Greek Mythology, Mykonos was named after the half-god, half-man, “Mykonos,” son of Anios and grandson of Apollo. According to the legend, the rocks around the island are the petrified bodies of giants that were destroyed by Poseidon and Hercules. The first real inhabitants of Mykonos were the Carians from southwest Asia Minor. There after came the Egyptians, Phoenicians, Cretians, and Ionians during the 30 centuries of recorded Greek history. The Spartans conquered the Cyclades in 393 BC and after that, the Romans. Venetians ruled at first during the Byzantine period and finally the Turks landed in 1500. During the Turkish period, the natives developed the thriving fishing economy that still drives a large portion of the island’s economy as is evident by the fresh selection in the local fish market. However, the inhabitants were not happy under Turkish dominion, and when the Greek War of Independence broke out in 1821, Mykonos was one of the first islands to raise the revolutionary flag. One of the most famous heroines of the Greek War of Independence was a rich Mykonian woman who sacrificed all her fortune to help Greece fight the Turkish oppression. Tourism began to develop on the island after WWI with the start of regular steamship service to Mykonos, but WWII put a stop to it for a while. The island served as an important port for the Allies in the war. Tourism picked up again after the war and has been booming ever since by playing host to thousands of tourist every year.





1 Of all the churches on Mykonos, the most impressive is **Panagia Paraportiani**, a true Byzantine jewel. It actually consists of five churches (four chapels at ground level with another above) rolled into one, however, only one of the chapels on the ground floor is open to visitors from early morning until sunset. Part of it dates from 1425 while the rest was built in the 16th and 17th centuries. The great variety of its form creates innumerable shades of white and is a favorite subject for artists.

2 The **Folk Museum of Mykonos** was founded in 1962 and is housed in an elegant sea-captain's mansion that was built on a section of the surviving wall of the Castle of Mykonos. It contains an important collection of old and modern Mykonian weavings, knitwear, embroidery, ceramics, furniture and other artifacts representing the implements of a typical Mykonian house and home.

4 Housed in a neoclassical building, the **Archaeological Museum** contains a large collection of Hellenistic and Roman carvings, ceramics, jewelry and gravestones, as well as many finds from the ancient site on Delos.

8 The **Library** is located in an old 1735 mansion on Ayia Kyriaki Square. It contains approximately 6000 volumes from the personal library of the Mykonian historian, Ioannis Meletopoulos, as well as a display of ancient Cycladic coins and old seals.

9 The **Maritime Museum of the Aegean**, at the end of Matogiánni, features a collection of model ships from pre-Minoan times to the 19th century, maritime instruments, paintings, prints and old coins. The garden has become the final resting place of old anchors, ships' wheels, cannons, compasses and fans from an old oil lamp lighthouse.

10 Adjacent to the Nautical Museum, **Lena's House**, a 19th century mansion depicts the life of a Mykonian lady, Ms. Léna Skriváno from her lace and needlework to her chamber pot.

11 The **Catholic Church** and the **12 Cathedral** are excellent examples of the more than 400 churches located on Mykonos. Each are impressive in their humble simplicity and their architecture. Most are built in the classic Cycladic style. The 'box base with a dome cap' design is simple but practical and sturdy for this often windy island. Building material is usually plaster or stone, with whitewashed walls and roofs that are accented with just a splash of color, sky blue or dark red.

13 While they may not be currently in operation the **windmills** are still an important symbol on Mykonos. In the past, the round-shaped windmills worked with the force of the brisk breezes to grind wheat into flour but today some have been converted into houses and private museums.

SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to Mykonos we suggest that you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Shore Excursion Desk.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining: Prices in large stores are fixed. Bargaining may take place in smaller owner-managed shops, and is expected with local street vendors.

Tipping: There is no absolute rule for tipping in Greece. A 10% tip is expected in most restaurants and a taxi fare should be rounded up to the nearest Euro.

Local Cuisine: Fish and seafood feature prominently on Greek menus, as well as fruits and vegetables. Bread is served at every meal. The breads vary with flavorings of currants, herbs, wild greens, or cheese. You will most likely find these three favorites on most menus: taramasalata (a dip or spread made from fish roe), melitsanosalata (made from smoked eggplant), and tzatziki (a yogurt cucumber and garlic dip usually used with bread). The traditional main entrees include moussaka (baked dish of minced lamb, potatoes, and eggplant), gemista (stuffed tomatoes or peppers). Fast food in Greece consists of giro (slices of grilled meat with tomato and onions in a pita bread), souvlaki (shish kebab), and pastries filled with a variety of stuffing including spinach, cheese, or meat. A meal is not complete without a piece of baklava (a very sweet phyllo pastry filled with walnuts and honey) for dessert.

Drink Specialties: The most common drink in Greece is wine (either white or red). Specialty drinks include retsina (wine flavored with pine resin for improving the quality), the local spirit ouzo (a clear licorice-flavor drink) and dessert wines from the north Aegean. Small cups of Greek coffee are common at breakfast. Bottled water is recommended.

SHOPPING FACILITIES All shops are independent on the island of Mykonos and their individual opening and closing time vary. Shops throughout the island cater to tourists and usually remain open throughout the day, possibly closing for an hour or two during lunch. Many tourist shops will remain open late into the evening.

Local breads and cheeses, and handicrafts are among the most popular tourist items. Traditional embroidery and hand-woven goods produced locally are also items of interest.

A Value Added Tax (VAT) is almost always added to most purchases. Visitors from outside the European Union who spend over a certain amount may be entitled to reclaim some or all of the tax paid. However, regulations and conditions governing the refund of VAT are subject to change, and RCCL cannot guarantee the cooperation of local authorities.

LOCAL CURRENCY The unit of currency in this port of call is the euro. There are 8 euro coins denominated in 2 and 1 euros, along with 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, and 1 cent pieces. Every euro coin carries a common European face. On the obverse, each Member State decorates the coins with their own motifs. No matter which motif is on the coins they can be used anywhere inside the Member States. There are 7 euro notes. In different colors and sizes, they are denominated in 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, and 5 euros. The notes are uniform throughout the euro area; unlike coins, they have no national side. All euro notes are legal tender in all countries of the euro area.

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES The **6** main post office is located in Downtown Mykonos.

Telephone calls may be made from the O.T.E. (Greek Telecommunications Organization) office located at the **5** Shuttle Bus Terminal. International telephone calls may also be made from street kiosks equipped with meters and from public phonecard booths. Telephone cards can be purchased directly from the kiosks and the local O.T.E. office.

AT&T: 00-800-1311 / MCI: 00-800-1211 / SPRINT 00-800-1411

TOURIST INFORMATION Taxis on the pier are limited. A taxi can be summoned from the **7** taxi station by contacting the dispatcher. Fares are usually a flat rate per taxi. Regular bus service operates daily to the north end of the island and to the beaches. Regular ferry service to the islands of Delos and Tinos Island can be found on the **3** downtown pier. Check the boards on the pier for the current pricing.

USEFUL WORDS
Good Morning • Kali Mera
Good Afternoon • Kalo Apogema
Good Day • Kalli Spera
How much? • Posso kani?
Thank You • Efkaristo
You're welcome • Parakalo
Where is the washroom (toilet)? • Pou eine ei toualetta?