

## HOTELS AND RESORTS

# CNT REVIEW: KATIKIES HOTEL SANTORINI, GREECE

A grand dame in the picture-perfect village of Oia, Katikies has carved out a reputation as one of the best hotels on the island.

by [Alice Holtham](#) August 4, 2021



## Location

**A** grand dame on Oia's craggy caldera rim, **Katikies Santorini** is a cluster of glowing white buildings at the beginning of the cascading village of Oia. A cinderella-moment entrance down a sweeping staircase takes guests from the main drag to the hotel's reception, and the rest of the hotel is navigated via a warren of steps gently descending toward the bottom of the cliff. A rarity among properties on this stretch, Katikies **Santorini** boasts an elevator for getting between floors, perfect for when those glutes need a rest.

## Decor

A traditional celebration of whitewashed **Cyclades style**, guest rooms are airy and spacious, open plan rooms flowing seamlessly from one into the next. Public spaces are typically minimalist, adorned in calming neutral hues of white, beige and cream, and everything is cleverly laid out to maximise the impossibly perfect vistas of Oia's whitewashed buildings and the scenic landscape.

## Rooms

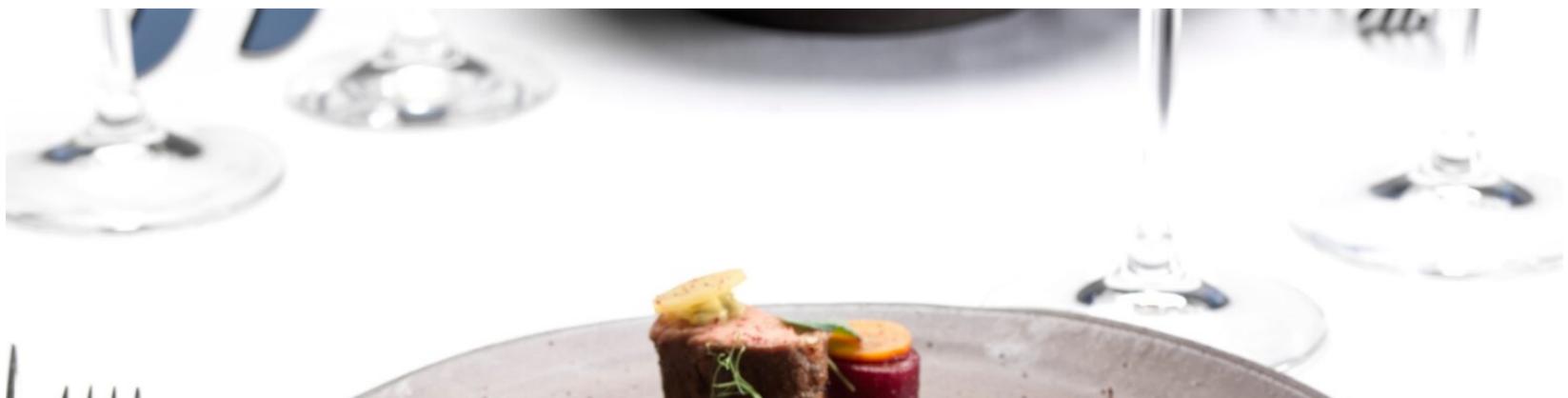


All 34 rooms are cosy and romantic, tucked away in traditional whitewashed **Cyclades style** abodes. Top-tier suites boast spacious alfresco decks, aquamarine jaccuzzis and those signature sought-after views of the volcano.

The split-level Katikies Suites offer more space and privacy, with a cavernous walk-in wardrobe, spacious bathroom with Bulgari amenities and an air living space complete with high-spec amenities on the first floor. Up a spiral staircase, a sumptuous king sized bed is encased in whitewashed walls and an arched ceiling, with a quartet of pillows that invite you to sink straight in after a day of exploring Santorini's finest spoils. The outside space is where Katikies Santorini really shines, and our Katikies Suite towards the lower levels still managed to feel secluded, with a jacuzzi tucked away in a shaded corner of the terrace the perfect spot to enjoy a glass of bubbly while drinking in the commanding views across Oia and towards the volcano.

While Katikies Suites sit at the top tier, the property's honeymoon suites still tick all of the boxes for those seeking the ultimate Santorini experience, complete with outdoor hot tub and endless Aegean views.

## Food & drink





Dining is an epicurean experience: the intimate, five-table Mikrasia restaurant showcases exquisite 9- and 11-course tasting menus by candlelight that are odes to the fusion of cultures that influenced the culinary heritage of Asia Minor. You'll think the turbot with shrimp saganaki sauce is the standout – until the aromatic Greek lamb with capers and Greek yoghurt arrives, the scents of herbs wafting through the restaurant as it arrives.



The chic Seltz Champagne Bar & Restaurant by Fleur de Miraval, with its Mediterranean menu, decadent raw bar and impressive grape list is arguably one of the best spots in the hotel for lazily people watching and enjoying scenic Santorini views. Split across two spaces that flank the edge of the infinity pool, grab a seat at the sea-facing wooden counter and order the fish taco tartare – made fresh with the daily local catch – and pair it with a crisp glass of rosé grape that comes straight from the Cyclades.

It's also here where guests can enjoy a leisurely breakfast each day, while gazing out over the infinity pool. The a la carte selection includes eggs served almost a dozen ways – from Greek omelette to benedicts with crispy prosciutto or salmon – as well as a healthy array of yoghurt, cereals and fresh fruits.

## Leisure & activities



The hotel boasts not one – but three – infinity pools, each cascading down the decks towards the cliff floor. The largest is found adjacent to Seltz, and is a sophisticated spot for soaking up the knockout views from plush loungers, laid out with blue fluffy towels by the ever-friendly team as you arrive. There’s a small spa with a duo of treatment rooms, although access is complimentary to the gym and spa facilities at sister property Katikies Kirini, located five minutes walk away.

Tear yourself away from the romantic allure of the resort for a stroll through Oia. The property is right at the top – the quieter end away from the crowds – although within five minutes guests can easily be amongst the throngs of visitors dipping between the narrow pathways that lead away from the main streets and the endless cafes, restaurants and boutiques filled with souvenirs.

### Insider tip

The in-the-know concierge, Katikies Club, are on hand to ensure every moment of your stay is unforgettable: whether it’s arranging transfers to avoid queuing for one of just 25 taxis on the island, or booking restaurant reservations both on site and at some of the island’s most coveted tables.

For a bucket list day out, enquire about arranging a private cruise onboard the Katikies yacht.

### The verdict

Katikies Santorini sets the standard for elevated luxury hospitality on an island where many do it well. But the timeless Cyclades architecture, world class culinary approach and polished service carved out over many years of delivering hospitality excellence mean it’s consistently top of its game.

*Doubles from AED 3,336; 0030 228 607 1401, [katikies.com](http://katikies.com)*

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