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How Mykonos' Most Fashionable Hot Spots & Resorts Have Welcomed Stars Back Amid COVID



Rosa Sanchez Contributor ^① Style & Beauty I cover fashion, art, travel and everything culture.

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Kenshō Psarou, Mykonos. KENSHŌ PSAROU

It seems everyone is or has been in Mykonos at some point this summer, and it's no surprise. The Greek island has been a vacation destination for celebrities, fashion stars and world travelers for years, and while tourism surely suffered during the first year of the coronavirus pandemic, hotels, restaurants, beach clubs and bars have found safe ways to welcome people back.

Luxurious hotels like the Myconian Villa Collection and lavish beach clubs like SantAnna have implemented strict COVID-19 protocols and managed to come back stronger than ever—with stunning new suites, installations, menus and a sea of eager customers.

Myconian Collection



Myconian Villa Collection. PHOTOGRAPHY © CHRISTOS DRAZOS

The Myconian Collection, the most regal villa and resort collection in all of Mykonos, worked throughout the pandemic to open up new locations all over the island—the Panoptis Escape, ideal for a relaxing retreat, being the latest. The other nine hotels in the Collection are: Ambassador, Avaton, Imperial, Korali, Kyma, Naia, Royal Myconian, Utopia and the Myconian Villa Collection.



Myconian Villa Collection. MYCONIAN VILLA COLLECTION

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The Collection, which was founded in 1979 by George and Elefteria Daktylides, is now managed by the couple's four sons: Panos, Markos, Vangelis and Marios. While each property boasts a splendid view of the island—whether it be of the hills, sea or busy town center—each has its unique interior design style. The Myconian Villa Collection, for example, has elegant black and pink accents and furniture throughout, as well as dramatic light fixtures. It's a welcome contrast to Mykonos' famously white landscape—and the dark, rich ambience pairs well with the resort's sweeping Aegean Sea views.



Myconian Villa Collection. PHOTOGRAPHY © CHRISTOS DRAZOS

To keep visitors safe during the ongoing global health crisis, the hoteliers have made sure their staff members are always wearing face coverings and are regularly tested for COVID-19. The hotel's 5-star restaurants, common areas and suites—including the private villas—are routinely sanitized, and guests are offered antibacterial gel, hand wipes and face coverings daily. A negative COVID-19 test or vaccination card is also required to stay at any of the Collection hotels.



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Myconian Villa Collection. PHOTOGRAPHY © CHRISTOS DRAZOS

Because of how successful they've been at implementing these safety protocols, the resorts were recently able to open their doors to many travel influencers, international celebrities and fashion entrepreneurs. The Blonde Abroad visited the Mykonian Villa Collection this summer, as did Kristallik Blue, Olesya Gevorkyan and Isabella Garofanelli.



Myconian Villa Collection. PHOTOGRAPHY © CHRISTOS DRAZOS

The hotels' incredible fine dining has also returned and is now offering selections of Mykonos' finest wines and seafood, following a shortage of food and water in the island.

SantAnna

Speaking of great food and drinks, SantAnna—undoubtedly the premier beach club in Mykonos—has not only opened its doors to visitors again, founder Dimitris Christoforidis is working on expanding the spot's offerings to make people's experience even more lavish, as the world is anxious to live the good life again.



Beach cabanas in SantAnna beach club, Mykonos. SANTANNA

Unlike any other beach club on the island, SantAnna has an award-winning organic, Mediterranean menu, pool and beach cabanas and sun beds on the glorious Paraga Beach as well as private tables with exclusive rooms underneath, so partygoers can enjoy more privacy.

It also has a helipad—in case you're thinking of flying in from other European summer destinations.

Christoforidis—who helped bring the farm-to-table dining concept to Greece before it was trendy—said that in the past couple of months his club has seen more business

than in all of 2020.



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Fine dining at SantAnna beach club, Mykonos. RIVER OTTER FILMS

It also helps that the spot is entirely open and fresh due to the Mykonos breeze. This makes it easy for visitors to stay socially distanced even when they are eating or swimming without face masks.

Some influencers who enjoyed visits to SantAnna this summer include model Gemma Lenoci, fashion designer Evalinda and model Giada Folcia.

Katikies

Located on the breathtaking Agios Ioannis beach, Katikies offers postcard-worthy views of Mykonos and the crisp, white-and-blue aesthetic that is notoriously associated with the island.

The hotel's luxury villas boast private pools, lounge chairs facing the sea and glamorous bedrooms, ideal for a relaxing honeymoon or chic summer getaway.

Though Katikies' transportation system makes it easy to explore the busy Mykonos center and its many dining options, the hotel has its own gourmet restaurant and bar, where one can enjoy an array of mediterranean wine and seafood pairings.



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Katikies, Mykonos. PHOTOGRAPHY © CHRISTOS DRAZOS

During the pandemic, Katikies' team has made sure to "closely follow the guidelines and recommendations set forth by the Greek government, EFET Hellenic Food Authority, World Health Organisztion and other relevant local authorities in the fight against COVID-19," they said.

They also guarantee the ecological disinfection of every room and mattress, provided by PureSpace.

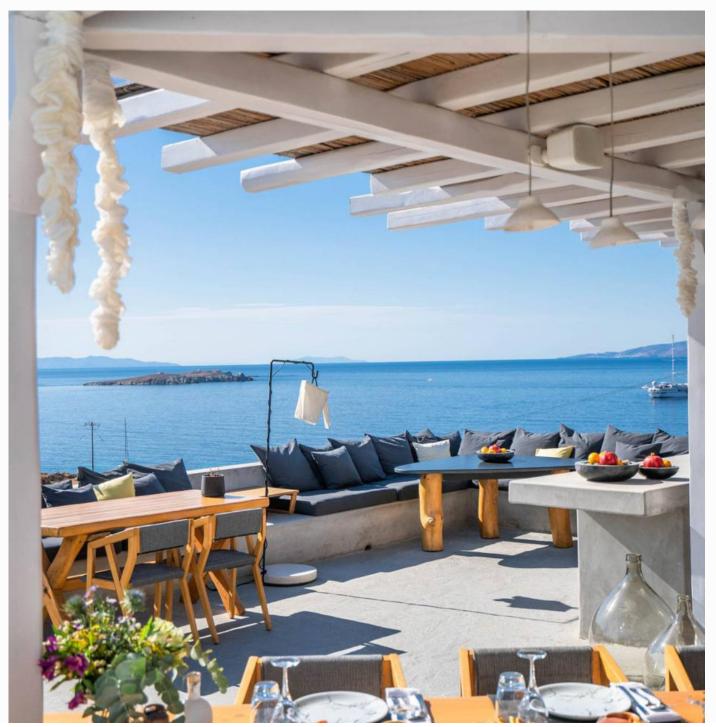


Katikies, Mykonos. PHOTOGRAPHY © CHRISTOS DRAZOS

Over the years, Katikies has welcomed some of Hollywood's biggest celebrities, and this summer it drew in a crowd of fashion stars and travelers. Model Marietta Chrousala enjoyed a stay at the property, as did actress and singer Sienna Hollen and lifestyle blogger Lauren Elyce.

Bohème & Nomad

The sweetest sister hotels in Mykonos—Bohème and Nomad—are entirely different in style and mood, but both offer ultra-exclusive and relaxing holiday experiences.



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Pool restaurant at Boheme, Mykonos. BOHEME

Bohème's vibe is modern, stylish and vibrant. The hotel is a few steps away from the Mykonos' infamous windmills and the trendy Little Venice.

But being near the nightlife scene of Mykonos town doesn't affect the hotel's serene seaside vibe—in fact, it's the best of both worlds for travelers. After a day of shopping, eating and exploring the town, visitors can retreat to their luxury suites, complete with private balconies and jacuzzis.



Boheme, Mykonos. BOHEME

Bohème's mature sister, Nomad, is elegant, moody and peaceful.

Every piece of decoration in the hotel is handpicked, and the architecture is simple yet refined. The smooth, earthy, grey tones throughout create a soothing atmosphere, which is echoed by the tranquil mountainous landscape the hotel is built on.



Pool at Nomad, Mykonos. NOMAD

Every aspect of the property makes one feel grounded and connected to nature. It's the perfect secluded escape within the lively island.



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Suite in Nomad, Mykonos. NOMAD

Both Bohème and Nomad have applied the "Health First" Greek certified action plan to fight COVID-19, and all rooms and facilities are disinfected using PureSpace and Diversey products.

Kenshō Psarou

The Greek islands pride themselves on their fresh seafood and fine, crisp white wine. And it's places like Kenshō Psarou—which has stayed afloat during the pandemic and enticed foodies from around the world with its delightful menu—that are worth the visit.



Cookies on Forbes

Kenshō Psarou restaurant. DIMITRIOS POUPALOS CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY

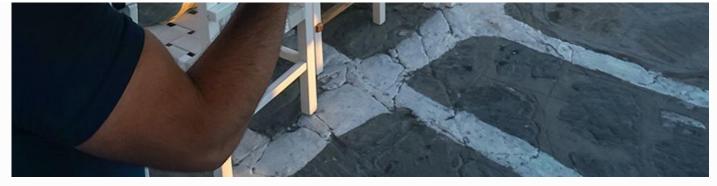
The beach hotel's restaurant, run by chef Ippokratis is one of the most romantic and inventive in Mykonos. The Greek menu is influenced by Japanese and Peruvian cooking, and even has French elements. Surprisingly, all cuisines blend together seamlessly, creating an unforgettable dining experience.

Nice n Easy

Christoforidis, the founder of SantAnna, also runs Nice n Easy, which is a much more laid-back version of his prestigious beach club. The small restaurant is located in the heart of Mykonos town, and has the most incredible seaside view on the island.

Since outdoor dining is the only option, Nice n Easy has become many travelers' go-to dinner spot, especially during the pandemic. Plus, the sunset views one gets from the dinner table are hard to match.





Nice n Easy, Mykonos. RIVER OTTER FILMS

The menu, like SantAnna's, is "healthy gourmet," and each dish is made with fresh, local, seasonal ingredients.



Nice n Easy, Mykonos. RIVER OTTER FILMS

The name of the hot spot was inspired by Frank Sinatra's legendary song "Nice 'n' Easy."

Super Paradise Beach Club

If you're looking for a coronavirus-safe summer party, Super Paradise Beach Club is the place to be. Not only can visitors enjoy a day of tanning and day drinking on the shimmering, white beach, they can also sit down for a five-course meal at the club's restaurant—where Greek rosé flows like water.



Super Paradise Beach Club, Mykonos. SUPER PARADISE BEACH CLUB

Visitors can check the club's website for event details—there are many—every week and choose their favorite day fête in front of the clear, teal Mykonos sea.

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