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# A Much-loved Santorini Hotel Opens Its Doors On Mykonos

recently-opened Katikies is the sister property of one of Santorini's best boutique hotels, and has managed to stay happily low-key on party-loving Mykonos

by *PAMELA GOODMAN*



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Since my last visit to Mykonos four years ago, there has been a fair old frenzy of development on the island – not surprising really, given its booming popularity as the eastern Mediterranean's party hotspot. Hedonism aside, however, Mykonos retains a deep-rooted, windswept Cycladic charm, its rugged coastline indented with numerous idyllic bays and its capital, Mykonos Town, a typically beguiling labyrinth of



Numerous visitors to Mykonos, and particularly those who have come from further afield than Europe and are keen to see more of the Aegean, often twin a trip to Mykonos with the island's equally celebrated neighbour, Santorini. So it's no surprise that a hotel which has made a name for itself on one island might choose to spread its wings to the other. Hence the recent opening of Katikies on Mykonos, which follows in the footsteps of Katikies Santorini, one of the best-loved boutique hotels dramatically sited on the rim of Santorini's famous caldera.

Architecturally, Katikies Mykonos takes a lead from its sister property, and indeed from the common vernacular of the Cyclades, ascending a hillside in a series of white cuboid blocks linked by alleys and steep staircases (there is a buggy route for the less able). The rooms, 35 in all, are simply, stylishly, coolly dressed in predominantly white and blue and most, though not all, come with some form of outdoor pool (the tiniest of which are more akin to large baths than plunge pools). Privacy in these is by no means guaranteed so bear this in mind when making a reservation.

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The public areas are what impressed me most – stylishly executed with pared-back, white-on-white elegance punctuated by well-curated decorative accessories and furnishings. Seltz, the main bar and restaurant, breezily overlooking the lower pool and hotel entrance, is the focal point. Climb your way to the top of the hotel and you’ll find a second infinity pool (unusually bordered by sand and palm trees) from where the views of the bay, Agios Ioannis, are stupendous. This is also the location of Mikrasia, the hotel’s fine-dining restaurant which offers fusion Mediterranean and Asian food in a low-key, toes-in-the-sand setting.

It’s a marvel, in fact, how such a compact space has been cleverly manipulated to feel so expansive. Two pools, two restaurants, a spa, a gym and a small boutique seem barely possible yet, as a whole, the hotel works well. And the location is good, too. True, there is no direct beach access but Agios Ioannis is a pretty bay, sheltered from the prevailing wind and not wildly overdeveloped like some parts of the island. Grab a towel and follow the coastal path half a kilometre or so, past the church and round the corner to the west, and you’ll come across a small sandy beach. It won’t be deserted, of course – this is Mykonos after all – but it’s a great spot for an evening swim and to watch the sun slip into the sea.

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*Double rooms cost from €340 on a B&B basis. Airport transfers can be arranged and there is shuttle for guests to and from Mykonos Town. For more information about Katikies, visit [katikies.com](http://katikies.com). For more information on Mykonos, Greece and the Greek Islands, visit [visitgreece.gr](http://visitgreece.gr).*

**[Via House & Garden UK](#)**

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