



THE PEARL OF SANTORINI

FEATURE: MICAH MCGEE. PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF KATIKIES HOTEL

Azure waters and white Grecian walls encompass this sun-kissed getaway.

Set in the pristine Cyclades of Greece, the Katikies Hotel sits suspended 100 metres above the enchanting Caldera basin in the scenic town of Oia. The jutting cliffs surrounding the five-star hotel leave little doubt that this site is an architectural wonder. Dazzling panoramas, luxe rooms and Grecian accents combine to make this Santorini boutique hotel a divine paradise.

CAPTIVATING SLEEPS

Perfectly situated to showcase its natural surroundings, the Katikies Hotel links its suites and facilities via a series of bridges and freeform stairs, mimicking the cityscape of Oia. Cubist in form, each one of the hotel's 31 suites has been bestowed with its own design. All are dressed in white cotton linens, feather-filled pillows and marble to create a striking purity amidst the blue vistas, encouraging ultimate relaxation. The *Honeymoon Suites* offer the ideal setting for a romantic escape, promising lofts with large windows, an expansive living room, an al fresco dining area and sundeck, all with stunning views of the sparkling waters.





Every single room offers a stunning view of the Aegean waters

“Dazzling panoramas, luxe rooms and Grecian accents combine to make this Santorini Boutique Hotel a divine paradise”

The picturesque *Katikies Suite* features a sweeping veranda that leads beneath a parabolic archway into the wooden floors of the suite. The spacious living room is complemented by a mix of the hotel's signature white linen couches and cushions, with a few ligneous pieces for a natural semblance. In the clean lines of the white bathroom, guests will be delighted to discover the massage-jet shower and Jacuzzi bathtub.

For those seeking the grander things in life, the *Master Suite* offers a self-sufficient haven. The 40-square-metre suite is characterised by its open-plan bedroom with a separate dressing room and bathroom. A veranda and open-air dining room aren't the only outdoor pleasures; the suite has its own plunge pool and sundecks for private sunbathing. With butler service available on request, you might never need to leave this exclusive abode.



The simple and natural ethos of the Katikies Suite is one of sheer relaxation



One of the hotel's three luxury infinity pools

EPICUREAN LEISURE

Outside, the cerulean waters of the Katikies' infinity pools merge seamlessly with the Aegean Sea for a brilliant waterscape. The *Pool Bar* offers pleasing drink specialties and light gourmet snacks, while its furnishings complement the colours of the Caldera. Also matching its atmosphere of simple sophistication, the *SELTZ Champagne Bar & Restaurant* offers day dining or romantic, candlelit dinners and beholds an exquisite collection of wines for guests to enjoy while harbour watching.

Sumptuous in both its décor and its food offerings, *Mikrasia* provides an al fresco eatery of Grecian influence. White pillars, iridescent curtains, and woven cushions bedeck the outdoor pavilion to create an outdoor eating venue where patrons can drink in a romantic sunset as they dine. Lauded for its Byzantine cuisine with the likes of boureki and atzem pilafi dishes, *Mikrasia* utilises locally sourced ingredients for its mouth-watering fare.

Designs by Greek and international artisans are featured in *MO's Fashion Boutique*, where visitors may find a veritable treasure trove in this well laid-out shop. Featuring large, cream cabinets and dark wood floors, the dainty showroom hosts a wealth of Greek jewellery, fashion with a travel emphasis, beauty products by Ligne St. Barth and hand-embroidered dresses and swimwear from Melisa Odabash.

Guests can fully relax at the *A.SPA*, located a short, beautiful walk away at its sister resort Kirini Suites & Spa, where Katikies promises a holistic spa experience. Imagine an immaculate white cave, bathed in the light of glowing candles and relaxing pools. The *A.SPA* is a serene refuge where guests may undergo an array of pampering treatments from facials to customised massages and pedicures.



The al fresco seating at SELTZ allows for fabulous sunset watching



The Grecian pavilion of Mikrasia



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Katikies' layout mirrors that of the town of Oia

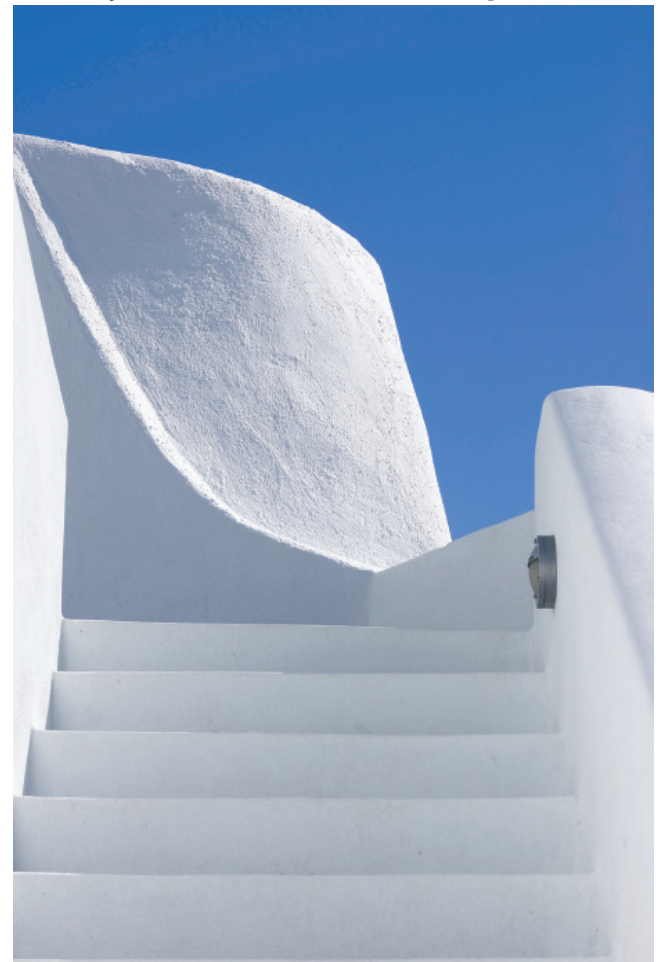


The entire exterior is pristine in white

OIA ESCAPADES

What for years had been a simple seaman's port has been transformed over the years into the ideal Greek tourist destination – Oia. One narrative of the town's blue-and-white architecture tells that during the 400-year Ottoman rule, the Greeks were banned from flying their white flag and thus in defiance, the locals painted their entire housing complexes white. Whether for nationalistic or aesthetic purposes, Oia's white-domed buildings have become a favourite for visitors to the region. Travellers wind around the island's cobblestone roads to peruse several restored churches, the ruins of the Argyri castle, numerous art galleries and ethnic kiosks. Quaint cafes and restaurants line the cityscape peppered with cupolas, all boasting a spectacular view of the sunset; however, one can also view this natural wonder from the comfort of their balcony at the Katikies Hotel.

Teeming with multi-level terraces fashioned in the Cycladic architectural style, the Katikies Hotel is dream-like in appearance. Yet guests will wake each morning to discover the reality of the turquoise waters reflecting in their white milieu. The impeccable interiors of the suites, the tantalising pools and sublime services all act to echo the glorious volcanic rim of Caldera, facilitating the perfect blend of nature and luxury.



The hotel features freeform stairs