

# Donoussa

Cyclades // Donoussa by Greeka.com



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## Map of Donoussa

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## Organize your trip to Donoussa

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## About Donoussa

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Donoussa is a small island between Naxos and Amorgos. It is a tiny island with only 130 inhabitants and three villages, Stavros or Donoussa, Kalotaritissa and Mersini. This island is the ideal destination for those who love nature and relaxing beaches. Indeed, the long, sandy and quiet beaches are Donoussa's characteristic. The most famous beaches include Livadi, Vathi Limenari, Stavros and Kedros.

According to the myth, it was on Donoussa that god Dionysus took Ariadne when Theseus abandoned her on Naxos. In the ancient times, Donoussa was a place of exile for the Romans. In the Medieval times, its remote caves constituted a safe haven for the pirates. Then, the island was inhabited by people of Amorgos, who occupied with agriculture and fishing.

In the beginning of the 20th century, the island had about 3000 inhabitants, most of whom worked in the marble mines. Donoussa experienced a shortage of farm workers in the 1960's due to extreme poverty and emigration. As a result, the land was abandoned.

The first tourists arrived in the island in the 1980s and since then the island flourished. A port was built for the convenience of the people and life started moving again on the island. Currently, Donoussa possesses a number of tourist facilities, including coffee shops, taverns, hotels and rooms to rent. There are also a few sights to see, such as Christian churches, archaeological sites and two caves.

Stavros, Donoussa's harbour, is the most crowded place to visit. You can capture the best sunset on the island there. Donoussa has also got extraordinary geographical features. It is mainly a mountainous island but some verdant parts are also found. In general, you should not expect extreme nightlife or popular location there, just calm and relaxing holidays with the beauty of nature around you and gorgeous beaches to swim.

## Villages of Donoussa

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### Town

**Location:** On the eastern side of the island

**Description:** Donoussa is the capital and main port of the island. This is a traditional Cycladic village with small houses and narrow paths.

**Sightseeing:** Caves, Church Of Holy Cross, Church Of Virgin Mary

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### Mersini

**Location:** 6 km to the east of Town

**Description:** Mersini is a small village surrounded by lush nature and offering with nice view to the sea.

**Sightseeing:** Church Of Agia Sofia

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## Beaches of Donoussa

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### Kendros

**Location:** 3 km east of Town

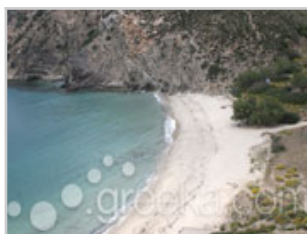
**Description:** Kendros is the largest beach on the island. It is a sandy coast that gets very popular with free campers. The beach is pretty safe and protected from strong winds.



### Fikio

**Location:** 6 km east of Town

**Description:** Fikio is a small natural cove with clean water surrounded by a rocky landscape. It can be reached by tour boat from Donoussa.



### Livadi

**Location:** 5 km east of Town

**Description:** Livadi is a nice beach with crystal waters, surrounded by huge rocks. It can be reached on foot or by boat from the port.

## Sightseeing in Donoussa

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### **Church Of Virgin Mary**

**Location:** [Town](#)

The church of Virgin Mary and Agios Ioannis is built on a hill overlooking Donoussa village. The church was built in 1892 and from this location, you can get nice view of the island and the sunset.

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## Credits

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Greeka.com would like to thank the following members for their valuable contribution, as some of the photos included in this guide belong to them.

**claude, mcariello**

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