

Kalymnos

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Index of Kalymnos

About Kalymnos	2
Villages	3
Pothia Town	3
Beaches	4
Kantouni	4
Emporio beach	4
Massouri	4
Myrties	4
Sightseeing	5
Rock Climbing	5
Sponge Factory	5
Sea World Museum	5
Telendos Islet	5
Monastery Of Agios Savvas	5

About Kalymnos

Kalymnos is an attractive island with a population of about 12,000 inhabitants, which are mostly leaving in the capital and main port, Pothia. Kalymnos is famous for its **sponge fishing** industry and almost all the old men of the island were one diving for fishing sponges.

Since this industry has fallen because Mediterranean sponges suffered from a viral disease in 1986 and a lot of them died, as the economy of the island did.

Kalymnos is also a rising holiday destination due to another fact: its landscape and geology are ideal for **climbing**. This has brought to the island a new kind of active tourism. The rocky mountains and **interesting caves** of Kalymnos are also continually explored. The most famous is the Cave of the Seven Virgins.

The late tourism has helped a bit the island and its inhabitants, even if many beautiful coasts of the island are still uncrowded during high season.

This gives to the island, along with its beautiful landscape and beaches, a particular atmosphere that charms every visitor. Because of the low level of tourism, Kalymnos is still very authentic and its inhabitants are very friendly and hospitable.

Villages of Kalymnos

Pothia Town

Location: On the southern side of the island

Description: Pothia is the capital and main port of the island. It is a densely populated town that stretches around a bay and it is surrounded by wild mountainsides.

Sightseeing: Archaeological Museum, Chrysocheria Castle, Church Of Saviour Christ, Folklore Museum, Monastery Of Agioi Pantes, Monastery Of Agios Savvas, Rock Climbing, Sea World Museum, Sponge Factory

Beaches of Kalymnos

Kantouni

Location: 5 km north west of Pothia

Description: This is a long beach with soft sand and crystal water. The coast is surrounded by some wild mountains.

Emporio beach

Location: 24 km north west of Pothia

Description: The calm beach of Emporios has pebbled and sandy spots. The water is crystal and few tourist facilities surround the beach.

Massouri

Location: 9 km north west of Pothia

Description: Massouri is a tourist resort on the western side of Kalymnos. Picturesque and calm, Massouri is surrounded by high, impressive rocks.

Myrties

Location: 8 km north west of Pothia

Description: Myrties is a popular beach resort on Kalymnos. The beach is organized and has many tourist facilities.

Sightseeing in Kalymnos

Rock Climbing

Location: [Pothia Town](#)

The amazing mountainous and steep landscape of Kalymnos provides a great opportunity to experience rock climbing. In fact, there is a climbing school on the island and an International Climbing Festival is regularly held, gaining popularity over time.

Sponge Factory

Location: [Pothia Town](#)

Kalymnos had a long tradition in sponge fishing in the past, but today it has only few sponge factories in Pothia. There you can get informed on the process of collecting and elaborating sponges.

Sea World Museum

Location: [Pothia Town](#)

This Nautical-Sea World Museum is housed in a building next to the Town Hall. It consists of four rooms and it exhibits items related to sponge fishing, photographs, ship models and folk pieces about traditional life on Kalymnos.

Telendos Islet

Location: [Myrties village](#)

This small island was separated from Kalymnos due to an earthquake in 535 A.D. Telendos has a single settlement with 50 inhabitants and a nice landscape to stroll around. It is connected to Kalymnos by boat from Myrties.

Monastery Of Agios Savvas

Location: [Pothia Town](#)

The beautiful church of Agios Savvas is located on top of a hill, 2 km south of Pothia, so it offers amazing view to the town and the port. It is made of stone in the shape of cross and has round domes.

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E

Emporio beach 4

K

Kantouni Beach 4

M

Massouri Beach 4

Monastery Of Agios Savvas 5

Myrties Beach 4

P

Pothia Town Village 3

R

Rock Climbing 5

S

Sea World Museum 5

Sponge Factory 5

T

Telendos Islet 5