

Kea

Cyclades // Kea by Greeka.com



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Map of Kea



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About Kea

The island of Kea is one of the smallest in the Cyclades, and had remained unexplored until relatively recently. Its features make it ideal for those who want to escape from the big crowds that more famous islands concentrate, but at the same time they do not want to be in complete solitude and quietness. In fact, Kea is a lively island that still keeps its roots and traditional style.

Although it has many positive things to offer in tourist terms, the locals still earn their living from agriculture, fishing, and cattle farming. Its rich history left outstanding historical monuments.

Most of the objects related to the main periods, such as Bronze Age, the Archaic and the Roman Era among others, can be found at the Archaeological museum of the island. Another fact that usually impresses visitors is the architecture, like in the case of the monastery of Panagia Kastriani on top of a rock, or the church of Agia Marina and its high tower.

Kea also has some ancient towns, like Karthea. This ancient site hosts the temples of Athena, Apollo and Asklepios. All these sites can be reached following the [trekking trails](#) on Kea. However, this wide variety in historical and cultural terms does not mean the island cannot offer anything when it comes to having fun.

The ports of Vourkari and Livadi, and also the villages of Korissia and Ioulida concentrate most of the bars and taverns distributed along Kea. Korissia is also famous worldwide because this is where the [shipwreck of Britannic](#) happened in 1916.

Also its great restaurants offer local specialities, such as lobster pasta, loza, which is smoken pork, mushroom pie, and paspalas consisting of a pork with tomato and eggs, among others.

Finally, the fact of being close to Athens has been a positive fact along time, since many tourists and Athenians come to Kea in order to spend a relaxed weekend.

Villages of Kea

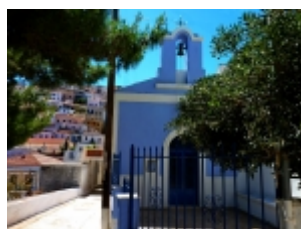
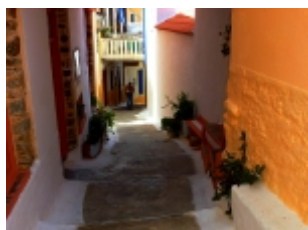


Ioulida (Rating: ★★★★★ by Greeka members)

Location: On the northern side of the island

Description: Ioulida, or Chora, is the capital of the island. Built along the slopes of a hill, it is a traditional village, away from mass tourism.

Sightseeing: Archaeological Museum, Church Of Agia Marina, Monastery Of Agia Anna, Stone Lion



Beaches of Kea



Koundouros beach (Rating: ★★★★★ by Greeka members)

Location: 15 km south west of Ioulida

Description: Koundouros is among the most popular beaches on Kea. It is well organized and has many tourist facilities around it.



Gialiskari

Location: 7 km north west of Ioulida

Description: Gialiskari is among the most popular beach on Kea. It is a sandy bay with clean water and some tourist facilities around.



Sightseeing in Kea



Stone Lion

Location: Ioulida

This impressive stone lion head is built on a rock and it dates from the Prehistoric times. Located a short trekking path from Ioulida, this lion is connected to many traditions and legends of the island.

Credits

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.

[angie](#), [epoems](#), [marie](#), [pinknoise](#)

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