Information about villages, beaches, sightseeing, restaurants, activities and more...
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About Kos

Kos, one of the most popular Greek islands, is lying between Nisyros and Kalymnos, close to the coasts of Asia Minor. A lovely island for holidays, Kos is ideal for young people and families, too. Large in size, with amazing beaches and traditional villages, Kos is the second most touristy island of the Dodecanese, after cosmopolitan Rhodes.

Kos is an attractive island with quiet coves, appealing mountainous villages, an excellent touristy infrastructure, verdant landscape, abundant ground water and superb beaches. The most tourist resort is Kardamena, on the southern side of the island, famous for its luxurious hotels and the vivid nightlife.

Other popular resorts include Tigaki, Lambi, Kefalos and Mastihari, which also serves ferry connections to Kalymnos. Beautiful villages in Kos include Antimachia, famous for the strong Medieval Castle above it, and Zia, with its special character and stone architecture.

An island with rich historical background, Kos is known worldwide as "the homeland of Hippocrates", the father of medicine. In fact, the ancient site of Asklepieion, a healing centre, has survived today and constitutes the most famous site of Kos.
Best Villages in Kos

**Town** (Rating: ★★★★ by Greeka members)

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

**Description:** Kos Town is the capital and main port of the island. Its architecture is a mixture of Venetian, Ottoman and modern style. The most characteristic spot of the town is the strong Castle at the port. **Sightseeing:** Ancient Agora, Archaeological Museum, Asklepieion, Casa Romana, Hippocrates Plane Tree, Nerantzia Castle, Roman Odeon

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**Zia**

**Location:** 16 km south of Kos Town

**Description:** Zia is a beautiful, mountainous village in the centre of the island, offering amazing view to the island. Some tourism development is noticed in the village but the atmosphere is still authentic.
**Antimachia**

**Location:** 23 km south west of Kos Town

**Description:** Antimachia stands in the southern side of the island and it is the closest village to the airport. On a hill above Antimachia, there is an imposing Venetian castle.

**Sightseeing:** Antimachia Traditional House, Antimachia Venetian Castle

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**Best Beaches in Kos**

**Mastichari Beach** (Rating: ★★★★★ by Greeka members)

**Location:** 27 km south west of Kos Town

**Description:** Mastihari is an exotic beach with soft, white sand and emerald water. Many windsurfing centres are located along this beach.

**Sightseeing:** Waterpark Lido
Thermes (Rating: ★★☆ by Greeka members)

**Location:** 12 km south of Kos Town

**Description:** Thermes is a small cove with black pebbles and hot water. The beach is surrounded by huge rocks.

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Kefalos beach

**Location:** 40 km south west of Kos Town

**Description:** Kefalos beach is long and sandy cove on the southern side of the island. At the entrance of the cove, there is the picturesque Kastri islet.

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Kardamena Beach

**Location:** 30 km south west of Kos Town

**Description:** The beach of Kardamena always gets very popular in summer, as this is the busiest tourist resort in Kos. The crystal water and the organized facilities attract many visitors.
Marmari

Location: 20 km south west of Kos Town

Description: Marmari is a popular beach on the northern side of the island. It is located between Tigaki and Mastihari.

Best Sightseeing in Kos

Asklepieion

Location: Town

Asklepieion is the most significant archaeological sight on the island. In antiquity, it worked as a healing centre and it got its name from Asklepeios, sun of Apollo and protector of health and medicine.
**Nerantzia Castle**  
**Location:** Town  
Nerantzia Castle, or else the Castle of the Knights, is located at the entrance of the port, Kos Town. It was built in the 14th century by the Knights of Saint John, on the site of a former Byzantine fortress.

**Roman Odeon**  
**Location:** Town  
The Roman Odeon was constructed in the 2nd century BC and it has been very well preserved. It hosted crowds of people that gathered to watch fights between prisoners, like it happened in the Colosseum of Ancient Rome.

**Casa Romana**  
**Location:** Town  
This house is a beautiful Roman mansion and its architectural style resembles of the houses in Pompeii. Some remarkable frescoes and nice atriums can be seen inside.
Hippocrates Plane Tree
**Location: Town**
The myth says that under this plane tree in Kos Town, Hippocrates, the father of medicine, would teach his students the secrets of healing. Of course, this is a descendant of the original tree.

Antimachia Venetian Castle
**Location: Antimachia**
The Venetian Castle of Antimachia is located on a hill above the village, offering gorgeous view to the sea. It was constructed in the 14th century and its walls survive in good state today. Inside the castle, there are two churches.

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.

aleksandar, ateena, aydinbuke, bedru, calatoare, canuck, connyr, crigolo, dudsy64,
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