

# HONEYMOON DESTINATION

## Santorini

White marble streets, glorious sunsets and towns perching on the edge of an extinct volcano; Santorini could be the definition of paradise and the perfect escape for your honeymoon.

Words by Leah Goodwin

### WHAT TO DO

We can't think of a better way to unwind post wedding than admiring the beautiful views of Greece's most romantic island. Head for the capital Fira on the west coast for designer stores and bars - but be warned, they can get very busy in peak season!

If you're after a more laidback atmosphere, take a picturesque stroll to Skaros Rock. Locals say this spot, situated on the ruins of a 15th-century fortress, has the most romantic sunset views on the island.

Whether you join an organised trip or rent a boat of your own, one of the things you should definitely do during your stay is a cruise to see the famous volcano and hot springs - a truly unforgettable experience to share as newlyweds.

### BOUTIQUE BLISS

**Iconic Santorini** – The cave-sheltered rooms and sun-drenched terraces of Iconic Santorini (in Imerovigli village, the highest point on the island) boast the best views out across Aegean Sea. The building has been literally carved from the volcanic caldera wall on the hillside and transformed into a boutique hotel with a stunning pool and an intimate spa.

[www.iconsantorini.com](http://www.iconsantorini.com)

**Hotel Anassa** – A new edition to the popular resort of Kamari and just some metres away from the beach. This four-star small and intimate hotel combines a traditional Greek atmosphere with a more modern, luxury twist. It boasts 17 trendy maisonettes all varying in shape, colour and size. Attracting a younger crowd, there's an inviting terrace and pool area where you can relax as the bar serves a great range of drinks and snacks.

[www.hotelanassa.gr](http://www.hotelanassa.gr)

**The Tsitouras Collection** – With just five suites and one villa, this elegant 1780s hotel owned by wealthy lawyer turned art collector Dimitris, definitely stands out from the pack. With complimentary cocktails included, sit back and enjoy your honeymoon the moment you step through the door. [www.tsitouras.com](http://www.tsitouras.com)

### GREEK EATS

The little Metaxy Mas (meaning 'between us') makes a perfect setting for a romantic dinner for two and feels like a secret gem where you can experience the most authentic local food.

[www.santorini-metaximas.gr](http://www.santorini-metaximas.gr)

Give your taste buds a treat at Argo, where all the foodies flock. Overlooking the local vineyards, the kitchen makes the most of the island's fantastic produce in dishes such as creamy sea urchin risotto and Greek specialty, moussaka.

[www.argo-restaurant-santorini.com](http://www.argo-restaurant-santorini.com)

### NIGHTLIFE

Sip fruity cocktails whilst soaking up the cool sea breeze at Tango Bar. Start the night on the balcony before heading down to the veranda that offers an all night party atmosphere.

[www.tangosantorini.gr](http://www.tangosantorini.gr)

Being the oldest bar in Fira, Kira Thira Jazz Bar is a must-do. Dark wood and vaulted ceilings give it an intimate atmosphere and with regular live bands performing, you won't be disappointed.

[www.kirathirajazz.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.kirathirajazz.blogspot.co.uk)

### GETTING THERE

Fly direct from Newcastle to the island of Santorini with Thomas Cook ([www.thomascook.com](http://www.thomascook.com)) for Summer 2015.



IMAGE (AND BELOW) COURTESY OF ICONIC SANTORINI

