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Clockwise from left: Whether you're star-spotting at a harbour-front café, or getting lost in the town centre's maze of whitewashed houses and churches, there's no end of photo opportunities on Mykonos

## Party on Mykonos

Hedonism is the name of the game here. If you're looking for non-stop partying and celeb-spotting, this wild and windy island with a jet-set reputation delivers in spades. While B-listers parade around naff hotels, true stars opt for a dazzling white villa. You'll find a cluster of jaw-dropping Cycladic-style properties in the south-west, boasting huge terraces and jacuzzis. Expensive? Oh yes, but who cares when you've got that sunset view of sacred Delos island? Remember, beach cred is paramount. Bod-strutting on Paranga's semolina-like sand is an addictive sport, once you've shed the cellulite. Nearby, Ithaki Taverna is where the beautiful people gorge on sea urchins from sculpted marble tables created by the Svengali-like owner, Christos Christou. Sunset cocktails in Little Venice are de rigueur, as is shuffling past the designer shops crammed along Matoyanni Street in the town centre. Eat late – either Greek-style at O Nikos, or in wallet-draining style at Sea Satin. Next, bar-hop – Uno or Celebrity are the coolest. Clubbers should schmooze into Space, then see in the dawn at Cavo Paradiso.

**Book now** Fly direct by charter. The new deluxe Mykonos Grand hotel costs from £126 for sea-view doubles with breakfast ([www.mykonosgrand.gr](http://www.mykonosgrand.gr); 00 30 22 8902 5555). Also try the fifteen superb Ai Yanni villas. A week at the Haliotis villa, sleeping six, costs from about £3,000 through Mykonos Accommodation Center (00 30 22 8902 3160; [www.mykonos-accommodation.com](http://www.mykonos-accommodation.com)).

## Escape to Folegrandros

Folegrandros is a dry, mountainous hideaway in the southern Cyclades that feels a bit like Alcatraz, thanks to erratic ferry schedules and the *meltemi* winds that can pound the island in July and August, making the only way out via the heliport – if you've got the cash. But that's all part of the charm.

The new Kifines studios are in blissfully car-free Chora town. But after an eight-hour ferry ride from Piraeus, don't count on a lie-in – a dawn chorus of Pavarotti-trained roosters and a donkey clattering his hind legs against my door reminded me I was far away from the big smoke. The view from the bedroom is one of a dreamy armada of islands floating on the horizon – Sikinos, Ios, Paros, Naxos...

Start the day with breakfast at Platsa's in Chora's Kontarini Square. Architect Le Corbusier described Chora as 'one of the most beautiful villages in the world' and its labyrinth of alleys and squares are postcard perfect. Fourteen chapels sit between neat rows of houses with brightly coloured balconies. In the medieval Kastro, every inch of pavement is scrubbed daily. Cats doze and flowers spill over the courtyard walls.

An easy way to get close to the island's >