

MYKONOS TRAVEL GUIDE – LOGISTICS AND ITINERARY



I went with three girlfriends a few years ago to Mykonos and then Santorini, and we had so much fun on both islands. I dreamt about Mykonos every day and wanted to go back so bad, so my husband and I went again three years after my first trip! I can report that it is just as fun and magical (and expensive) always and with anyone.

For more information, here is my [**general guide to Greece**](#) and my [**travel guide to Santorini**](#).

The town of Mykonos is very dreamy and “Greeky” with the whites and blues and fun painted floors. Our schedule basically involved wandering the town in the morning for breakfast, heading to one of the beaches for the day (cue wine and food and great music and great people watching and great beaches and great water), heading back to town for dinner, and going out and enjoying the lively town at night.

From food to beaches to nightlife, Mykonos has some of the best of all of these!!

SHOULD I VISIT MYKONOS?

I think whether you are with all girls, couples, or your significant other, it can't be beat. There is so much energy and so many beautiful people with amazing beaches, food, and shopping. If you don't care much for lots of energy and are more looking for a secluded break, Mykonos probably isn't for you and one of the other 3000 islands in Greece may be more up your alley. Also, you don't have to “love to party” to enjoy it. I just loved being around all the music blasting from the speakers, the incredible people watching, and roaming the streets wine in hand until midnight.

Unlike Santorini, the beauty of Mykonos is actually the cute streets of the old town and the upscale beach clubs. They offer completely different feels to the other islands. It is key to know before you get there though that the island itself is not very pretty – it is dry and flat with no vegetation. You have to know this going in!

WHAT TIME OF YEAR SHOULD I VISIT MYKONOS?

As with all European beach destinations, May – September is the window with it being warmest, and busiest, in July and August. August is also when all of the Greek islands are at their windiest, so you just have to be prepared for that. Mykonos though doesn't face this wind quite as much since it is relatively flat.

HOW DO I GET TO MYKONOS?

There are two options to pretty much all of the more popular Greek islands – ferry or flight. We took the slow ferry from Athens to Mykonos when we flew from the US. It was long and slow, but we still got there in time to go to the beach. I don't think the flights had much better times which is why we went with the cheaper ferry. The ferries are GIGANTIC. It was like a cruise ship. They are nice and have little cafes and a large open deck on the top level. I enjoyed our ferry experience. There are also faster ferries that don't have any sort of view or deck or charm but can cut the time in half.

Some other European cities have direct flights to Mykonos which is how we came from London. Very convenient and a good way to add on to your Europe trip!

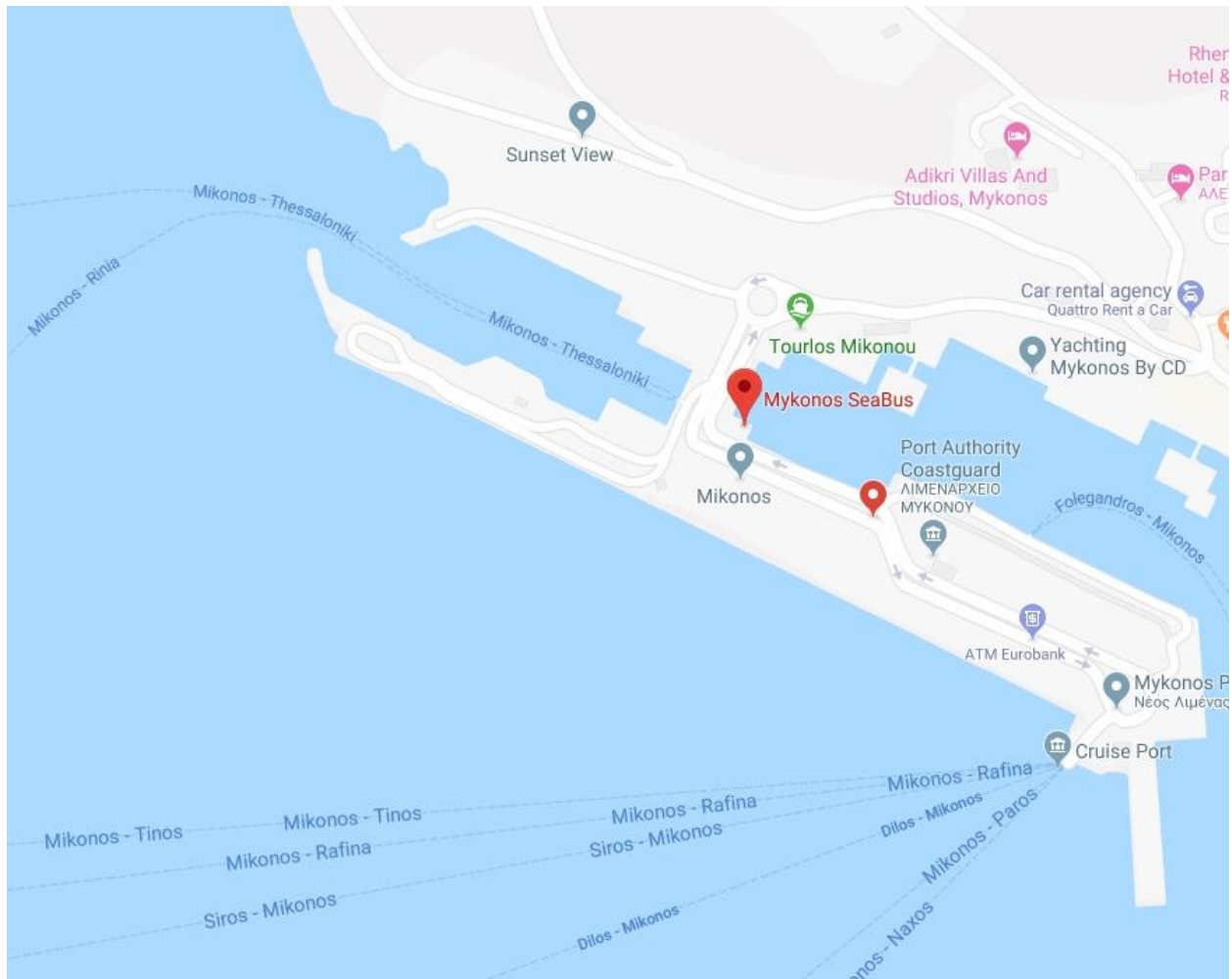
You don't necessarily need to book your ferry ticket ahead of time, but for peace of mind I would just book one. The lines to buy tickets at the ferry terminals can be long and stressful.

Book your ferry ticket here.

When you land in Mykonos via ferry, you will be taken to the New Port. From here, you have to either take a bus, sea bus, or taxi into Mykonos Town. You can also arrange private transportation ahead of time with your accommodation.

The taxi and bus stand are directly across from where you disembark from the ferries (the unmarked red dot below). Taxis can be hard to get with the mass amount of people getting off the ferry and will cost you €25. This will be your best option if you're not staying in the Town. The bus runs every 30 minutes and is €1.80 a person; it takes you to the town or the Old Port.

The **sea bus** is a little bit further away near the port exit, marked on the map. We took the seabus and paid in cash on board only €2 per person. They depart every 30 minutes for your 8 minute trip. To be clear, you will still have to figure out how to get to your hotel (most likely by walking, everything is close) when you get to Mykonos Town. If you are not staying in Mykonos Town, then you will need to take a taxi to your destination or link up with a bus from the Fabrika bus stop. I explain that more below in the how to get around section.



If you take a flight, you will have the bus and taxi options when you depart. The process to use the bus will be the same. We got off the flight fairly early without having to wait for our bags and got a taxi easily (side note, I would recommend paying for a seat in the front of the plane since there was only one immigration agent. He was very fast, but still).

[Book your flight here.](#)

This whole experience can be researched in GREAT DETAIL on **[Santorini Dave](#)**, so there is no point in me trying to recreate his words here. Check out his site for information on which ferry to take, whether you should take a flight or ferry, how to get to the ferry port in Athens, and so much more.

IS THERE A LANGUAGE BARRIER IN MYKONOS?

No – Mykonos is very touristy so everyone speaks English. You will not be able to read all the signs because they will be in the Greek alphabet, but all of the signs will have English translation anyways.

WHERE SHOULD I STAY IN MYKONOS?

I did a lot of research of whether to stay on a beach or in the Old City (/Mykonos Town/Chora) and I am so glad we stayed in the Old City. There is a bus system that goes to every beach and as long as you can keep a schedule, you can take the bus everywhere for pretty cheap. There are also plenty of taxis at a higher price that can take you everywhere. The city is where all the action is at night and there are loads of restaurants and clubs and bars.

If you decide to stay on one of the beaches, just know that it will be a little harder to explore the island and get into town. If that is what you are looking for – one place to stay the whole time – then honestly you should probably look at another island where you can do that for a lot cheaper. Mykonos is really the place to be out and about, and the town is where it all happens at night.

We ended up staying in a hotel called **Eleanna's** both times. They had great customer service, perfect location, and a really low price. The rooms can be hit or miss – our room when I came with my friends was not very nice, and I had a friend stay with her husband and they got a room with a cupboard-size bathroom where you had to basically sit on the toilet to take a shower – but my husband and I stayed in a recently renovated room that was honestly so, so nice. Email them and ask for pictures of the rooms so you can take your pick – that's what I did after my friend's bad experience. Mykonos just gets so expensive, like so so expensive, so I recommend Eleanna's if you're trying to save money.

I'll note too that I've had friends stay in luxury hotels on other beaches on the island and they loved it. They paid for taxis to get everywhere and still explored. If that's in your budget and you prefer the luxury, the hotels on the island are amaaaazing.

During high season, everything books up so far in advance – like 6 months. So try and book your accommodation as far in advance as possible. It's a delicate balance when booking Greece in the high season to make sure you can secure your flights, ferries, and accommodations for the same dates.

[Find hotels and B&Bs on TripAdvisor.](#)

[Look up AirBnBs here.](#)

HOW DO I GET AROUND MYKONOS?

Type in "Fabrika" into Google Maps and save that location! This is the bus stop for all the busses that take you all over the island. They have a timetable posted, and they really do stick to the timetable.

Their **[website](#)** has all the times to the different beaches so you can plan ahead!

It was cheap too. Each ticket is either €1.80 or €1.60. You buy your tickets from a stand in Fabrika but can also pay on board if you are getting on at any other beaches. You must have cash!

When we wanted to go somewhere and there was no bus soon, we just took a taxi. It was much more expensive, but gave you really pretty views over the island. There is a taxi stand in Fabrika square and each ride costs €25.

I want to note here about taking the Sea Bus back to the new port. The stand in Mykonos is right out on the waterfront on the left. Look for the big "Sea Bus" sign on the pier and ask somebody there about the next one. This pier is also where all the cruise passengers get dropped off so it was a little bit chaotic and we almost missed the sea bus by being in the wrong spot.

HOW MANY DAYS SHOULD I SPEND IN MYKONOS?

You should spend at least 3 nights to truly enjoy the island. There is so much going on at each beach like rocks to jump off of, beach clubs pumping music, loungey beach bars, etc. So it's more than just a lay on a beach and don't move until it's time to go situation. You can also spend a day just exploring the town or taking day trips, so you could easily break up your beach time and stay longer. My only hesitation in staying longer is that there are lots more islands you can explore, and they're going to be a lot cheaper than Mykonos!

WHAT IS THERE TO DO IN MYKONOS?

WALK THE STREETS

The streets in the Chora are just amazing. It's those pictures you see with all white, black stones, white paint, and blue waters. All the shops are cute. They even have some high end shops like Louis Vuitton. Vendors sell in the streets until midnight. It's just a great place to be at any time of day, but especially at

night. After we got back from the beach and put cute outfits on, we would just explore the streets – eat, drink, people watch, go to a club.

I've walked the whole town trying to find the cutest streets with the cutest shops, but they're really all over! I would stay away from the bus station and from the waterfront as this is where the tourists coming in from the cruise ship hang out. If you look up "queen of Mykonos" or "katrin", these two areas and all around there are great. The streets that run north to south from the waterfront down to Saki's (and Eleanna's) are great too. The most picturesque spot is definitely Little Venice though!





LITTLE VENICE

A part of the old town along the water is called Old Venice, and it is so cute!! Definitely include this in your walk around the town. This iconic photograph all over Pinterest is from this area at **Kastro's Bar** and I literally died at how cute it was. All the bars along this strip are also adorable with the iconic floors backdropped against the light blue sea.

I highly recommend stopping in **Kastro's** for a drink during the day and **Caprice** for a drink at sunset and later.





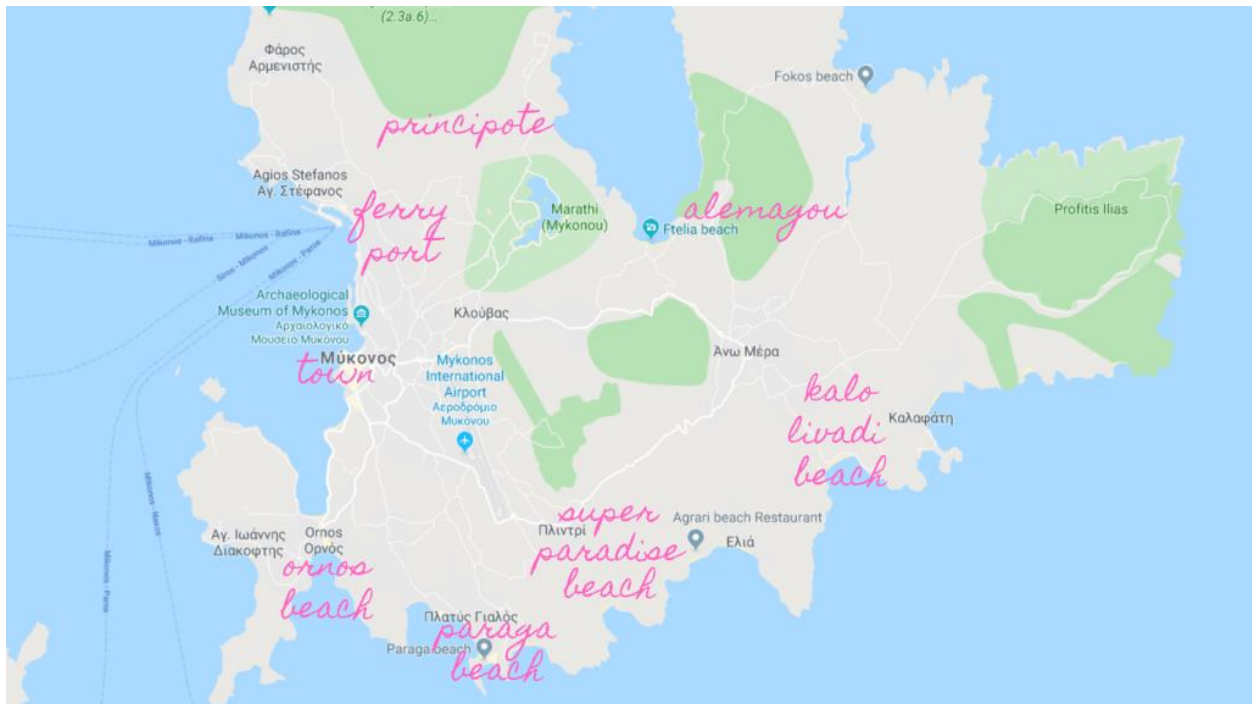
THE WINDMILLS

Another pretty place to see are the iconic windmills of Mykonos. They are also in the town. Google maps "windmills of kato mili" to see where they are.



BEACHES

We ended up going to a lot of beaches while we were in Mykonos, so I'll give my thoughts on all of them!!



When you get to a beach, you have to pay to rent chairs. Sometimes we would pay for 4 and sometimes 2 depending on the price (€20-€50 per chair). They are pretty pricy but it includes a towel and a waiter that you can order drinks and food from – which is really fun. The beaches also have public parts where you don't need to rent a chair, but that's not as fun. I would recommend calling ahead and reserving your chairs just for peace of mind, but some places don't let you. We didn't call ahead and were always fine when it came to the larger clubs, but something swanky like Scorpios with fewer chairs will definitely be booked up. Calling ahead will also get you chairs closer to the water – we always ended up on the back row.



ORNOS BEACH

Bus to Ornos – 7:15, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 1:30, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:30

Bus from Ornos (makes a stop at Agios Giannis before heading back to Mykonos) – all the times above but add 5 minutes

The first day we went to Ornos Beach because it was the next one up on the bus list after we had changed into our bathingsuits. It was a great beach to spend a few hours on. It had a laidback vibe with soft music and a few bars. I loved that it had the cove feel, but it didn't have enough people or actions to entertain me for a full day. Still a great option though.





PARAGA BEACH

Bus to Paraga – 10:15, 11:15, 12:15, 1:15, 2:15, 3:15, 4:15, 5:15, 6:15, ... 1:15

Bus from Paraga – above plus 15 minutes

The next day we went to Paraga beach which was my favorite of the whole trip. It was kind of in a cove and it had a really fun rock that you could jump off of and feel so Mediterranean. There are two “clubs” that you should choose between. One is called **Kalua** and one is called **Scorpios**. I would spend your day at Kalua and your night at Scorpios. We spent the day at Kalua and then walked to Scorpios for sunset and had dinner there. It is so freaking hip and you will love it.

On my trip with my husband we stayed at Kalua and didn't have quite as much fun. You realize that the beds are very close together with not much sun exposure, the server we had was SO rude and uninterested in serving us, and the prices are extraordinary. BUT it is the best option on Paraga, I think we just had a bad guy because the others seemed nicer, and the people watching is out of this world. We would sit out on the rocks in the ocean just watching people and giving them names. It was so fun.

Scorpios is a very quiet option for the day with less people watching but more space. I'm sure you've heard of this place – it's very cool and famous. On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays they have big parties until 1 in the morning. You can make a reservation way in advance or try to get there really early. We got there kind of late and randomly got let in by the bouncer when we said we had friends we were meeting inside. On the other nights they also have some sort of event. The night that we had dinner they had “Origins” night with a DJ wearing a tribal mask and burning incense while playing the flute. It's very hip.





PARADISE BEACH

The beach next door was called Paradise and we walked there and walked back because it seemed pretty tacky. But to each their own. You do you.



KALO LIVADI BEACH

The third day we went to Kalo Livadi beach which was very high-end but quiet, so it wasn't my favorite. I am pretty partial to cove beaches, and this was more a long stretch of sandy beach. Some people love that, but growing up with that, the cove beaches are really exotic and fun for me. However, since then Lindsay Lohan has opened her **beach club** here so I am sure it's not so boring anymore (UPDATE: it only lasted a year, poor Lindsay).

Our second time to Mykonos, our friends stayed on this beach and absolutely loved the beach club **Solymer**. It's probably one of the most expensive clubs on the island at €50/chair, but that means super luxurious people watching!

SUPER PARADISE BEACH

Busses every 30 minutes.

Then we cabbled over to **Super Paradise Beach**, not to be confused with Paradise Beach, which was the liveliest of all the beaches we went to. It's the kind of beach where you order shots alongside your bottle of white wine, but it wasn't trashy like Paradise.

ALEMAGOU BEACH

We went to this remote beach club, **Alemagou**, on our second trip with friends and really loved it. It's very beautiful and well-designed like Scorpions with a chill vibe. The service was just amazing, the water was perfect, the restaurant food was delicious, and it was a great chill day. Much more chill than the beaches mentioned above. We spent €30 on each chair and spent the whole day here, heading up for an early dinner as the sun went down. Apparently on Fridays they have a sunset party that is supposed to be pretty amazing – like Scorpions. I will be checking this out next time for sure!





MORE BEACHES

I know there are lots more beaches and beach clubs scattered over the island, and I don't think you can get to these via bus. Two that I have read a lot about but still haven't gotten to go to see **Nammos** on Psarou Beach and **Principote Mykonos**. I think both are pretty high end with celeb sightings!

WHERE DO I EAT IN MYKONOS?

BREAKFAST

I found this place by the bus stop that had amazing greek yogurt breakfasts and is adorable – Cosmo Café.

The other girls had breakfast overlooking the water while I did that, and loved it. One day we just picked up fruit from a stall in the street on the way to the bus stop.

There are lots of places in town, so just wander around!



LUNCH

We were usually at the beach around lunchtime so we would order food from whatever restaurant's chairs we were using. A place called **Pepper** is listed on a lot of sites I've looked. I have eaten at **Souvlaki Story**, Jimmy's Gyros, and Saki's which are all great cheap spots for souvlaki and gyros.

When you are on the beach, it's probably best to order lunch from whatever beach club you are at. It will most certainly be overpriced so don't be afraid to bring a sandwich or snack and scarf it down when no one is watching. For us, we usually got out of the hotel closer to noon anyways so counted breakfast and lunch together.

DINNER

There are three categories here – dinner at a beach club, nice dinner in town, and cheap dinner in town.

For cheap, you have to get dinner at **Souvlaki Story** one night. There are several locations, and it's kind of like fast food so it was cheap. But hip. My husband and I ate it three times when we were there! I recommend anything with the special sauce. For other cheap options, a gyro will always be the best option. If you don't want to do Souvlaki Story, Sakis and Jimmy Gyros are more cheap options.

For beach clubs, I highly recommend spending one night watching the sunset at **Scorpions**. We did dinner there too. It was so freaking expensive but literally worth every penny. The experience and service is excellent as well. It's hard to get a reservation on the party nights – Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday – so it's best to book ahead.

I also recommend eating at **Alemagou!** Very expensive too but amazing food.

In the town, two slightly nicer places that looked the best and were highly recommended that we didn't get to go to were **Sea Satin** and **La Maison de Katrin**. Both of them look very upscale with a high-end clientele. Sea Satin was on the water next to the windmills, so very pretty, and La Maison de Katrin was adorable and tucked into the winding paths of the Chora – more romantic.







IS THERE A PLACE TO GO OUT IN MYKONOS?

Yes duh! That's kind of the whole point of this island! I would categorize going out into two categories – beach clubs and places in town.

IN TOWN

To get the night started, I would get a drink at **Caprice** in Little Venice. It's more lively on weekend nights with DJs playing fun dance tracks. You can have a (expensive) drink right on the water. The atmosphere is really great and I'll definitely be recommending this place to all my friends! Clubs usually don't start getting crowded until midnight at the earliest so this is a great place to be after dinner but before midnight.

If you enjoy dancing around to fun DJ and throwback music, you have to go to **Scandinavian Bar**. The best music and atmosphere, but definitely a younger crowd. I went with my girlfriends and we danced on elevated surfaces all night having a blast. We late-nighted after this on some gyros from Jimmy's Gyros (pro move). I went with my husband and we had fun here too. It's definitely more of a college bar vibe but the music is so danceable. The cover charge is to buy a drink at the bar, so €10-€12.

There are so many clubs and bars in the town that just walking around, listening to the music, and seeing where the people are will help you choose. **Bonbonniere** and **Queen** are low key options with less music and more people watching. We checked out **Moni** and **Astra** too. They are also great for people watching but were not as danceable with more vibey music.

ON THE BEACH

Each beach club has its key night where it has a big party. In my experience these usually start around 3 PM and go until 1 AM. They range from super dancey with people dancing on their sun chairs to more vibey and hip.

The wildest parties happen at Paradise Beach and Super Paradise Beach, so I've heard. A club promoter came up to us promoting this place called Cavo Paradiso and she said the DJ didn't come on until 3 AM and played until 8 AM!! Check out each beach club's website for more information about what nights the parties happen!

The ones I know about are Friday nights at **Alemagou** and Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday nights at **Scorpios**.

WHAT SHOULD I PACK FOR MYKONOS?

Wedges or heels are really not a great idea. Some people will be wearing them, but they will be having a really difficult time walking through the sand and rough cobblestones. Most everyone just wears sandals. Mykonos is definitely a jet-set crowd so wear your cutest resort wear. Also note that it gets super windy here! So any dress that would blow up in the wind and show your booty is not a great idea.

During the day, we wore bathing suits and cover ups and at night we had cute dresses or rompers.

MY PERFECT 3 DAY MYKONOS ITINERARY

DAY 1

Get in and head to a beach nearby. Drink wine, get snacks. Grab a drink at sunset at Caprice or Kastro's before dinner. Have dinner at one of the places listed above and then wander through Mykonos Town, people watching and shopping. If you're up for dancing head to Scandinavia Bar for some fun.

DAY 2

If you're in the mood for a fun time or just really good people watching, head to Super Paradise for the day.

If you want to be boujee and more chill, head to Alemagou Beach Bar Restaurant (probably call ahead to reserve your chair) or Principote Mykonos (same).

Watch the sunset here, grab a bite to eat, and head back to town when you're beached out.

DAY 3

If you want the same vibe as yesterday, get some chairs at Scorpios. If you want more people watching, get them at Kalua Beach. Jump off the rock in the water, hang out, people watch, and then book a dinner reservation nearby at Scorpios for sunset.

Head back to town for one more night out or just go to bed :).