

PARSIFAL
YACHTING

TILOS

itinerary



Tilos island

Tilos is a small Greek island and municipality located in the Aegean Sea. It is part of the Dodecanese group of islands, and lies midway between Kos and Rhodes. Along with the uninhabited offshore islets of Antitilos and Gaidaros, it forms the Municipality of Tilos, which has a total land area of 64.525 square kilometres (24.913 sq mi).

Popularly, Telos was the son of Helios and Halia, the sister of the Telchines. He came to the island in search of herbs to heal his ill mother, and later returned to found a temple to Apollo and Neptune. However, Telos (Telo or Tilo) does not appear in Greek mythology and the name probably has an unknown pre-Hellenic origin. Pliny the Elder notes that in antiquity Telos was known as Agathussa. In the Middle Ages, it was known by the Italian as Episcopio, either because it was a Bishop Seat or because its position as Vantage Point. The island has also been called in Turkish İlyaki and in modern Italian Piscopi.



Livadia

Picture-perfect Livadia is low-key, whitewashed and inviting, its little square hugged by cafes, an Italianate police station, and tavernas with old boys sipping retsina. Its port is the first thing you'll see of the island and welcomes a cosmo cast of artists, yachties and earthy locals. It's a great base from which to hire a scooter and explore the island, or simply relax on its beach, a 2km arc of red, volcanic sand. You might not believe it, but somnolent Livadia is actually the main pulse of the island.



Megalo Horio

Megalo Horio, the island's tiny capital, hugs the hillside with narrow streets teeming with battle-scarred cats and sun-blasted cubic houses. The little museum on the main street houses mastodon bones. From Megalo Horio you can also visit the Knight's Castle, a taxing one-hour uphill walk from the north end of the village. Along the way you will pass the ancient settlement of Tilos, which once stood overlooking Megalo Horio.



Mikro Chorio

Mikro Chorio is a deserted village standing between Livadia and Megalo Chorio, the capital of Tilos. After the year 1940, the village was gradually abandoned and most of the inhabitants moved to Livadia. Today, only ruins of impressive buildings and stone built houses can be seen. The only thing that survives is the beautiful whitewashed church that dominates the village overlooking the valley and the sea. The main attraction of Mikro Chorio is the castle that was built on top of it during the 14th century by the Knights of Saint John.

Over the years, Mikro Chorio becomes relic of an old settlement. As for now, it is arguably one of the best sightseeings of Tilos. A walk in the narrow and tranquil alleys of the village is just a unique experience. Amidst the ruins of the village stands a small bar that works only during the summer. It is definitely a unique experience to enjoy your drink and at the same time wonder around the ruined neighborhoods of Mikro Chorio. This mysterious atmosphere is quite exciting and relaxing for every visitor.



Neolithic Period & Dwarf Elephants

Pottery and stone tools discovered in Kharkhadió indicate human activity on Tilos in the early Neolithic period 8000 BC - 7000 BC, along with the large assembly of dwarf (1.20-1.60 m tall) elephant bones, carbon dated at 4000 - 7000 BC (some now in the museum). Masetti suggests coexistence of these animals with humans, possibly into the historic period.

The Tilos dwarf elephant is the first dwarf elephant whose DNA sequence has been studied. The results of this research are consistent with previous morphological reports, according to which Palaeoloxodon is more closely related to Elephas than to Loxodonta or Mammuthus. After the study of new osteological material <Theodorou et al. 2007> that has been excavated in anatomical connection in the Charkadio Cave on Tilos island the new species name *Elephas tiliensis* has been assigned to the Tilos dwarf elephants. It was the latest paleoloxodontine to survive in Europe. They didn't become extinct until around 4000 BC, so this elephant survived well into the Holocene. An exhibition is available at the Municipality of Tilos Island, soon to be



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