

SantoriniDress · Founded 2016

THE SANTORINI PHOTO SPOTS GUIDE

Twenty six locations across the island, shot by our team over more than ten years, with what each one is actually like now: who can get in, when the light works, and where the queue forms.

Before you set off

THE ISLAND KEEPS CHANGING ITS MIND

Most location guides get written once and left alone, which is how people end up walking to a viewpoint that closed two summers ago. Santorini moves faster than that. Roofs get roped off, walls go up, churches get repainted, and a spot that was open to anyone last season now belongs to the hotel beside it.

So this is not a list of pretty places. Every entry says what the spot gives you, what it costs in stairs or patience, and where it has changed since these photographs were taken.



Before you set off

EVERY PHOTOGRAPH HERE IS OURS

Nothing in this guide is stock. Each frame was taken by our photographers on the exact spot described on the page, most of them in one of our own dresses, which is also why we can tell you where the light lands and where the crowd stands.

Where a location is no longer publicly accessible we say so plainly. Finding that out on the morning of your shoot is the worst possible time.

Every location carries its coordinates and a direct Google Maps link, so you can build a route on your phone and walk it yourself whether or not you ever shoot with us. If you have seen a photograph somewhere and cannot work out where it was taken, send it over. We almost always know the spot.



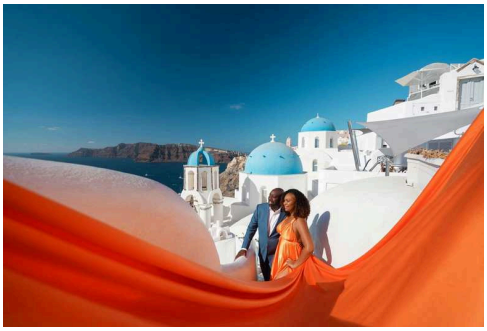
01 · Location

THE BLUE DOMES OF OIA

The postcard, and the queue that comes with it.

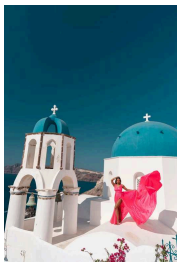


















01 · Location

THE BLUE DOMES OF OIA

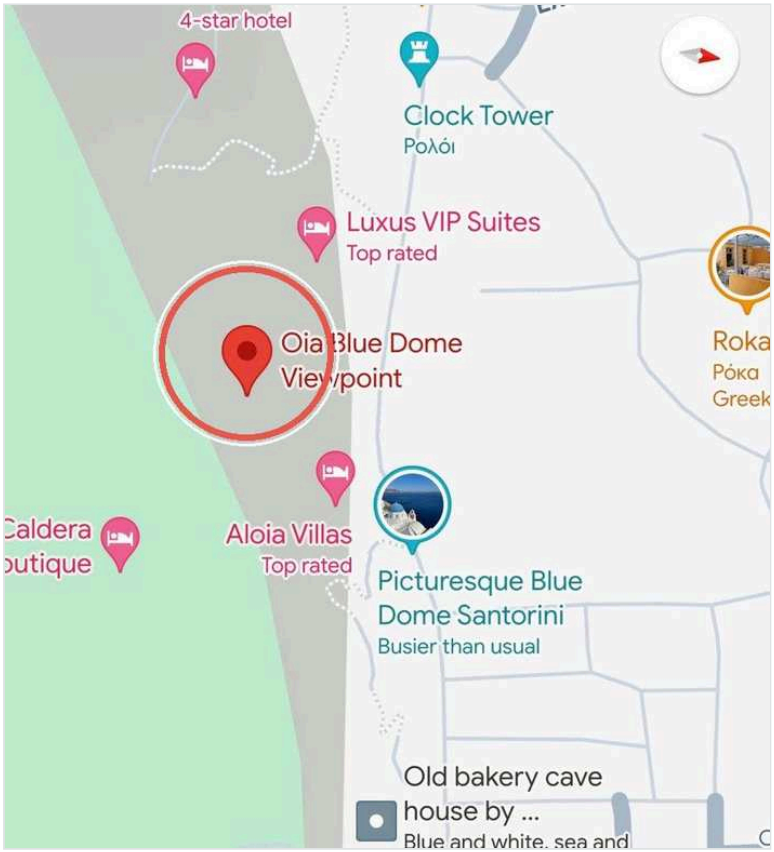
Every Santorini shot list starts here, and for good reason: three domes, the caldera behind them, and a composition that works even on a phone screen. What nobody tells you is how contested the spot is. In high season there is a queue for the spot everybody photographs from, and several of the surrounding terraces are private and roped off.

Our advice is to keep walking. Take the stairs down past the main viewpoint and the domes reorganise themselves at every level, with fewer people in the frame and better separation between the white and the blue. The classic angle is worth having, but the ones a few steps below it are usually the photographs people end up printing.

COORDINATES

36.4613752, 25.3759637

Open in Google Maps

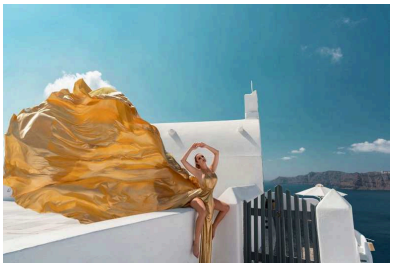


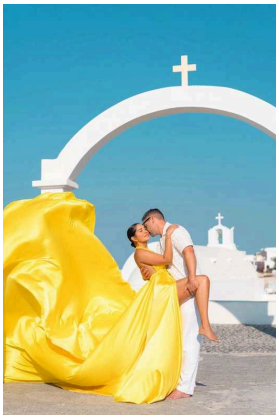
02 · Location

THE SQUARE IN OIA

Five minutes from the crowd, and much easier to work in.










02 · Location

THE SQUARE IN OIA

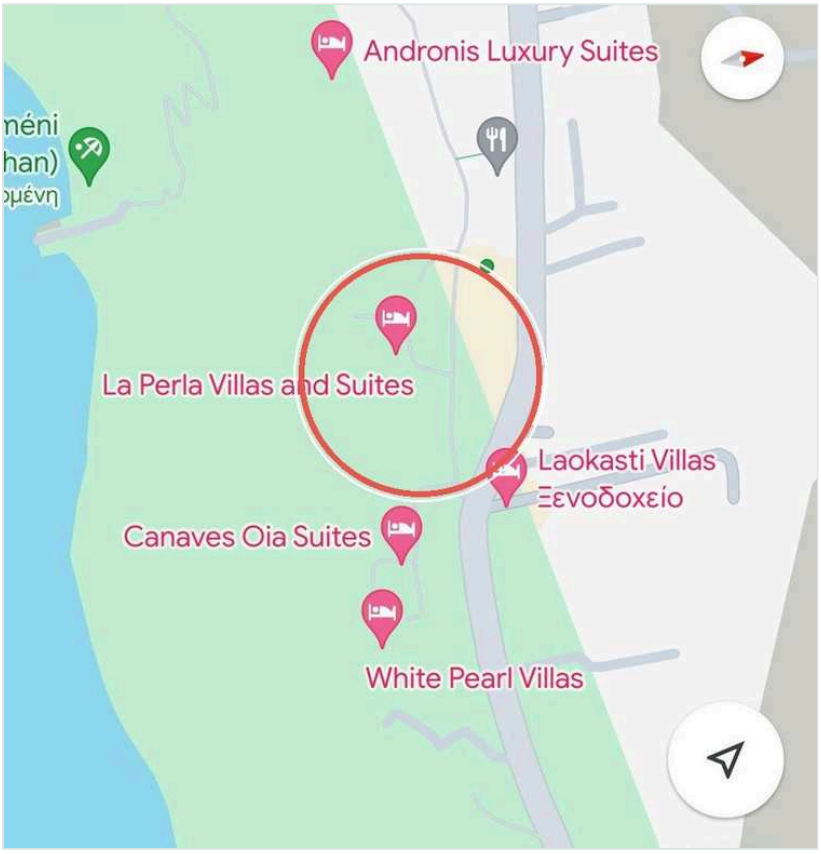
A short walk down the main street from the domes brings you to a small square with a church and another wide view over the caldera. It is one of the few central spots in Oia where a long train has room to open properly without somebody having to step over it.

Because it sits off the main viewpoint circuit it stays workable for longer in the day, and the church wall gives you a clean background when the caldera side is blown out by hard light.

COORDINATES

36.462045, 25.382481

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BACK VIEW OF THE DOMES

The same domes, from the side almost nobody shoots.









BACK VIEW OF THE DOMES

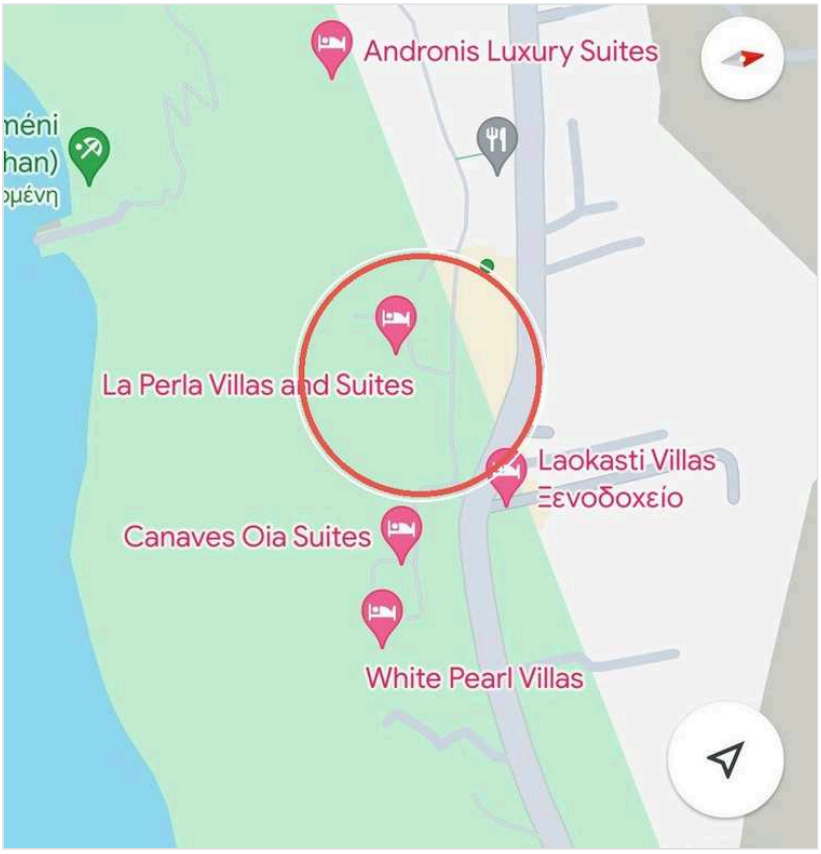
Step off the main pedestrian street into the first narrow turn and the domes appear again from a completely different angle, with the village stacked behind them instead of the sea.

One honest note: the best version of this view now sits on private terraces, so the strongest photographs from this spot are realistically available to guests staying in that cluster of hotels. From the public path you still get a good frame, just a tighter one, and we will work with what the path gives us.

COORDINATES

36.4613715, 25.3752208

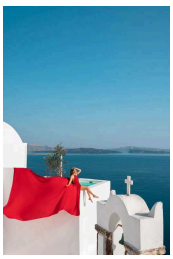
Open in Google Maps



THE BELL TOWER AT ASPAKI

Beautiful, photographed constantly, and not actually public.











THE BELL TOWER AT ASPAKI

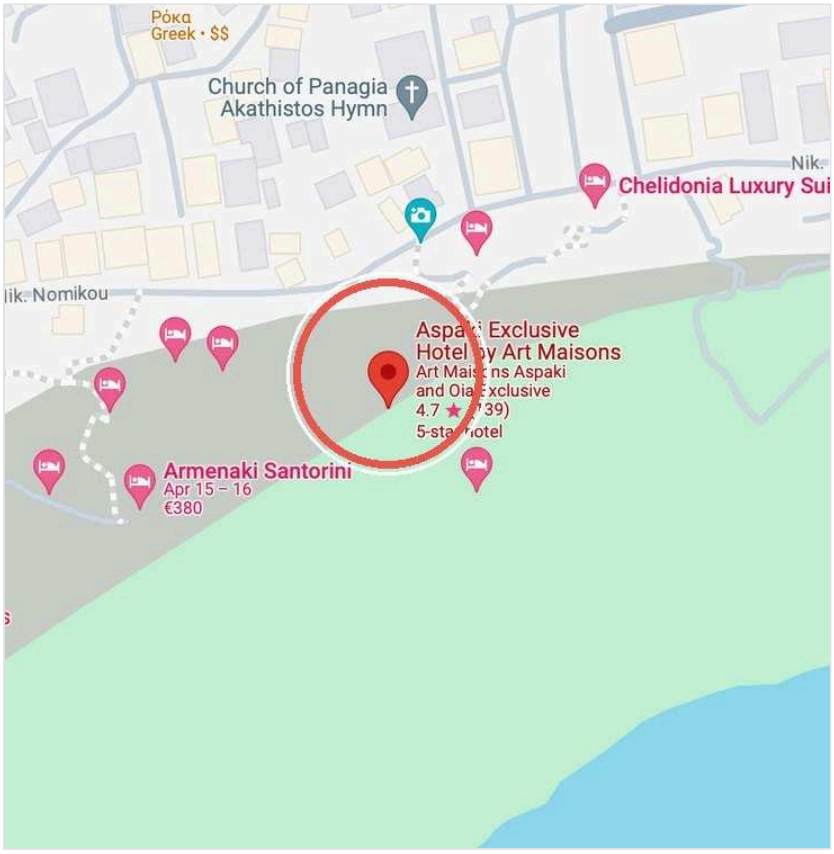
The bell tower you see in these photographs stands beside the Aspaki hotel, and this is the part worth reading twice: the church does not belong to the hotel, and in principle nobody is allowed up there.

In practice, if you are staying at the hotel they will sometimes let you go up, and the way to make that happen is to arrange it in advance rather than turn up and ask. It also depends on the hour. If you are lucky and the tower is quiet, permission is easier to get than at the busiest part of the day. We would not build a shoot around it without that conversation happening first.

COORDINATES

36.4612854, 25.3760757

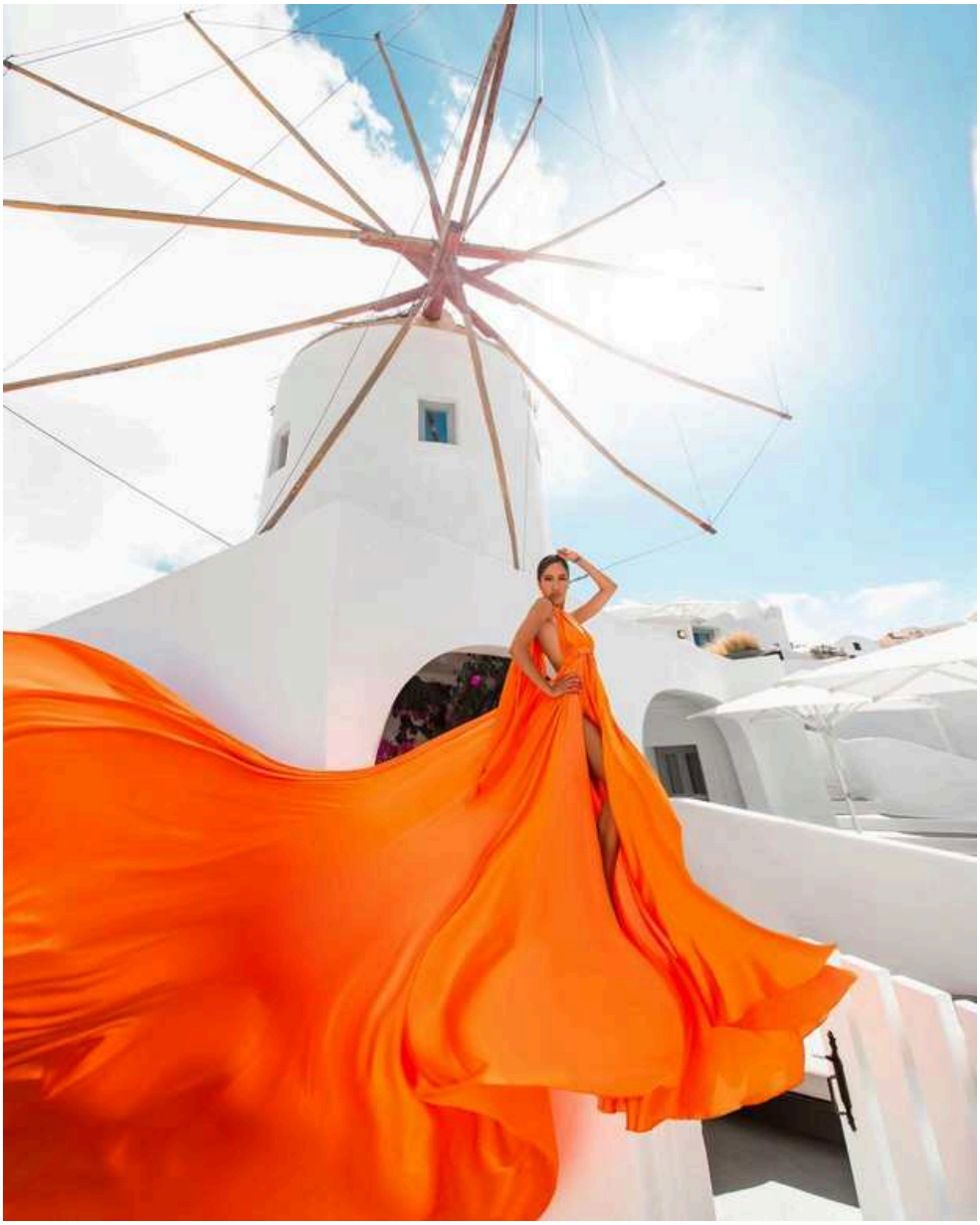
Open in Google Maps



05 · Location

THE WINDMILL OF OIA

Two free angles, or you stay in it.











THE WINDMILL OF OIA

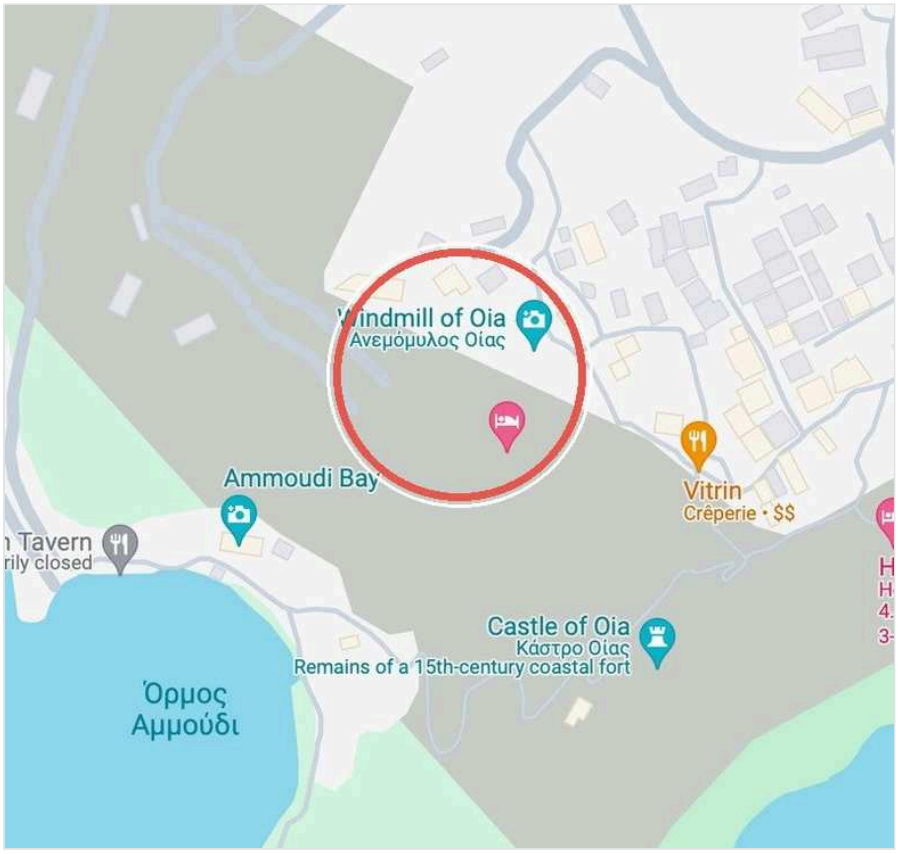
The windmill sits in the sunset end of Oia and photographs beautifully, but access to it is limited. From the public streets there are only a couple of usable angles, and they are tighter than most people expect from the photographs they have seen.

There are two ways around that. The souvenir shop next door will sometimes let you shoot from their side if you buy something, and the windmill itself belongs to Charisma Suites, who rent it out as a suite, so guests staying in it have the whole thing to themselves. If the windmill is the shot you came for, booking that room is the reliable version of the plan.

COORDINATES

36.461488, 25.372264

Open in Google Maps

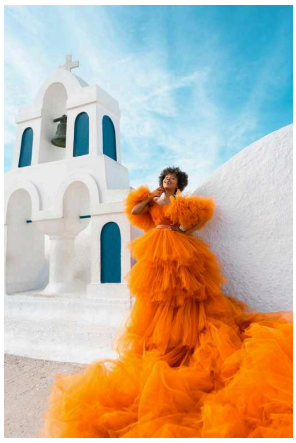


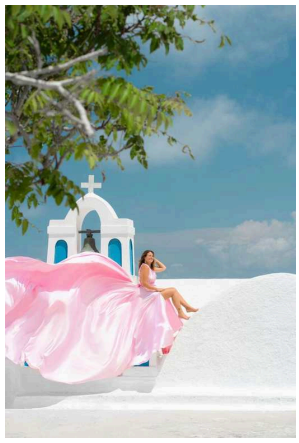
METAMORFOSI

Central, easy, and busy for exactly that reason.



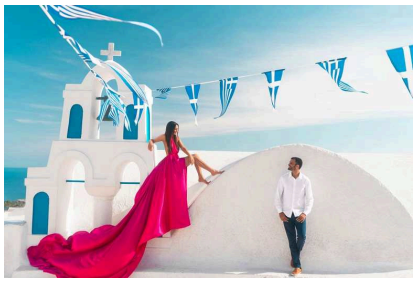












METAMORFOSI

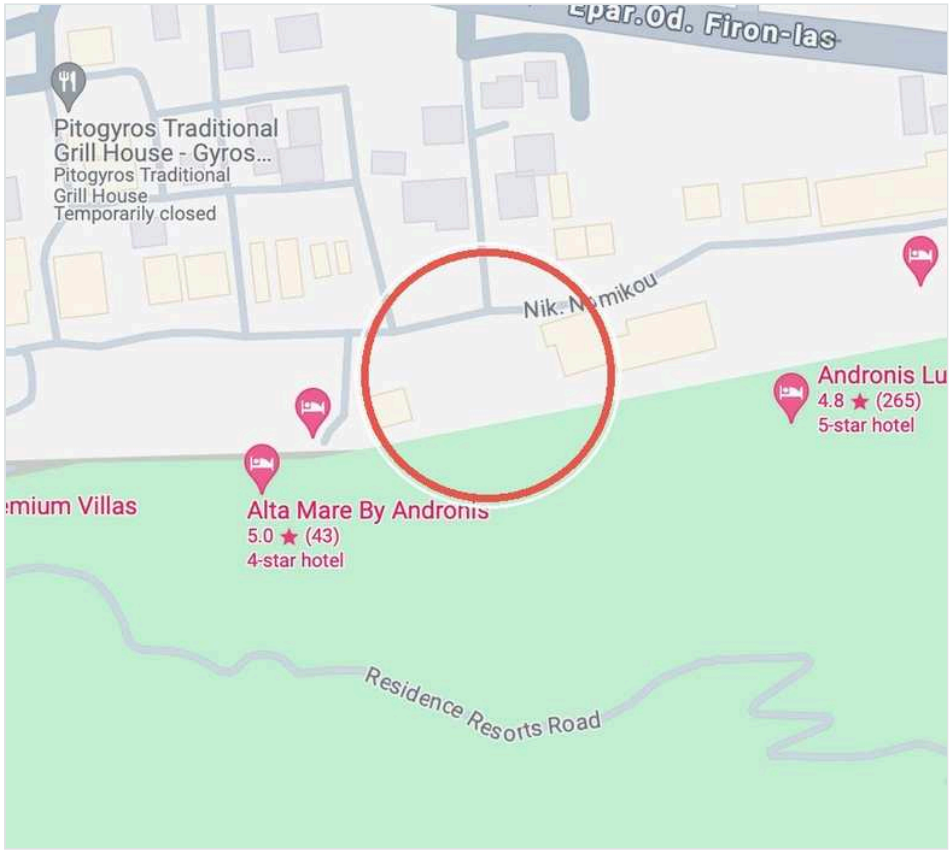
A small church on the square with the playground, roughly halfway along the main pedestrian street. It is one of the most accessible spots in Oia, which is its advantage and its problem at the same time.

In high season expect other people waiting for the same frame, and plan a little patience into the schedule. Early morning is when it belongs to you rather than to the queue.

COORDINATES

36.462200, 25.379072

Open in Google Maps



07 · Location

THE HIDDEN CHURCH

Down the small paths, and repainted since these photos.















THE HIDDEN CHURCH

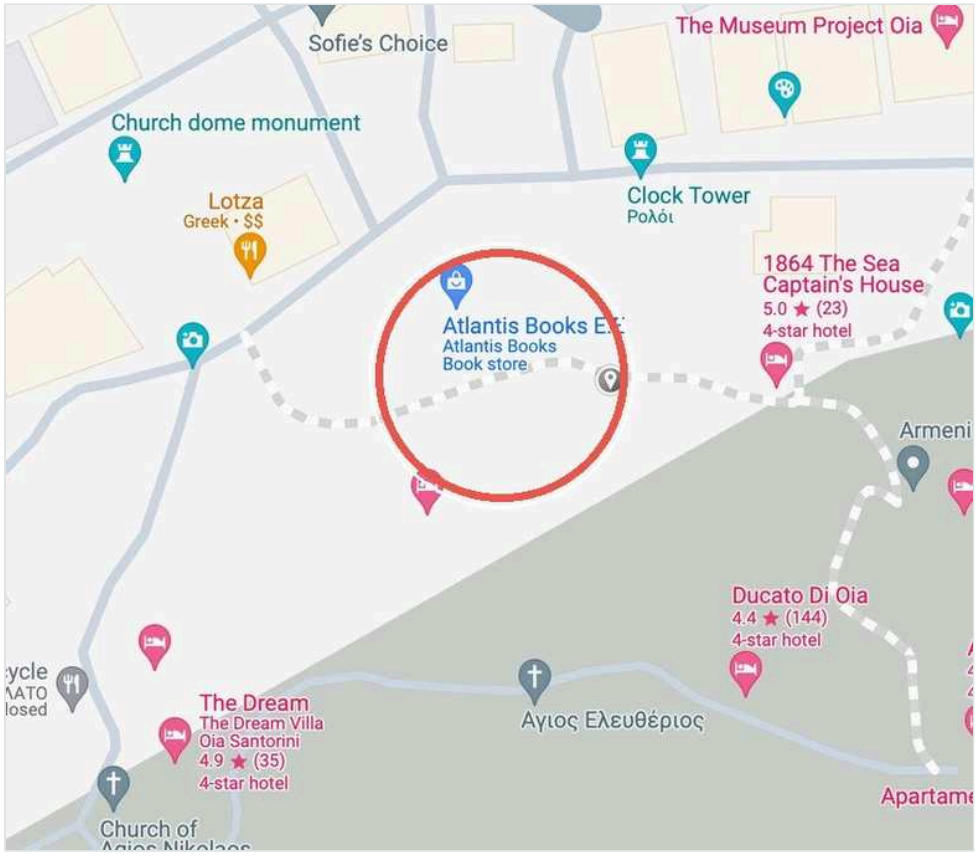
Tucked into the small paths of Oia, this is a spot people find either by wandering the village properly or by staying in one of the hotels nearby. Two tiny churches, domes, and open sea behind them, with good frames from almost any angle.

Two things have changed since these photographs were taken. The church is now brown rather than blue, which you can see in the newer images here, and standing on it is no longer allowed. There is a large sign saying so. You can still photograph beside it, and the walk down the path is worth doing to the very end, because the views keep opening up.

COORDINATES

36.461263, 25.374708

Open in Google Maps · 1 Open in Google Maps · 2



THE VIEWPOINT IN OIA

Honest version: the famous angle is not public.











THE VIEWPOINT IN OIA

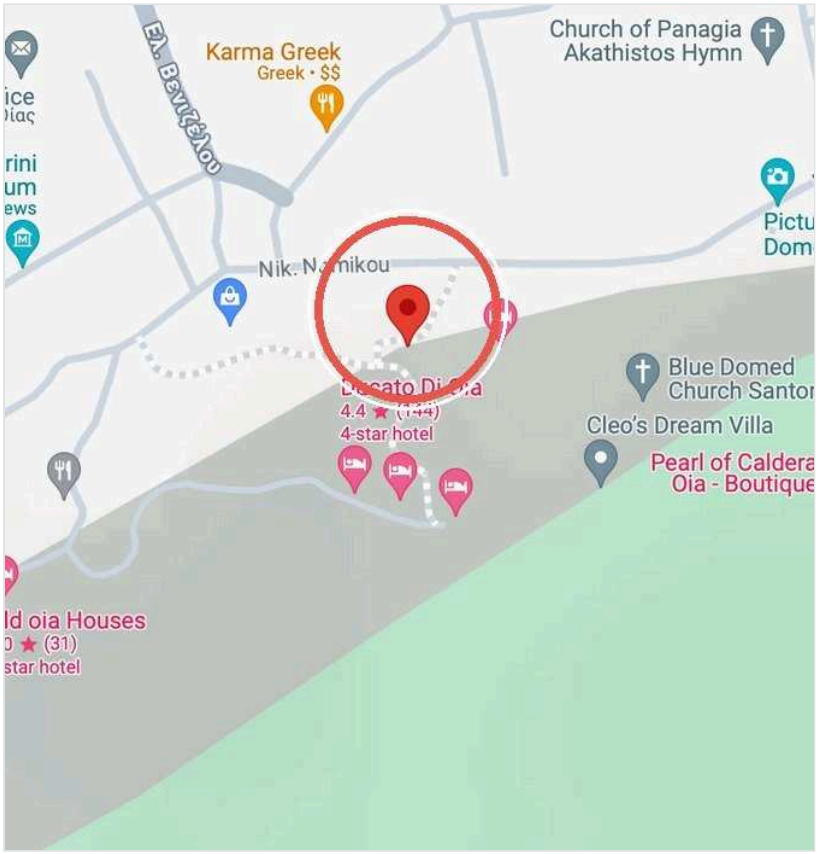
Behind a few turns off the main street there is a narrow white roof with the classic Santorini panorama behind it, and it is one of the most requested frames we get sent.

The truthful answer is that you can only be photographed on that roof if you are staying at the property it belongs to. If you are not, we will find you the closest thing from the road, and among the pictures here the one taken from the road is the honest reference for what that looks like. It is a good photograph. It is just not the one on the roof, and we would rather tell you that now than on the day.

COORDINATES

36.46139, 25.37507

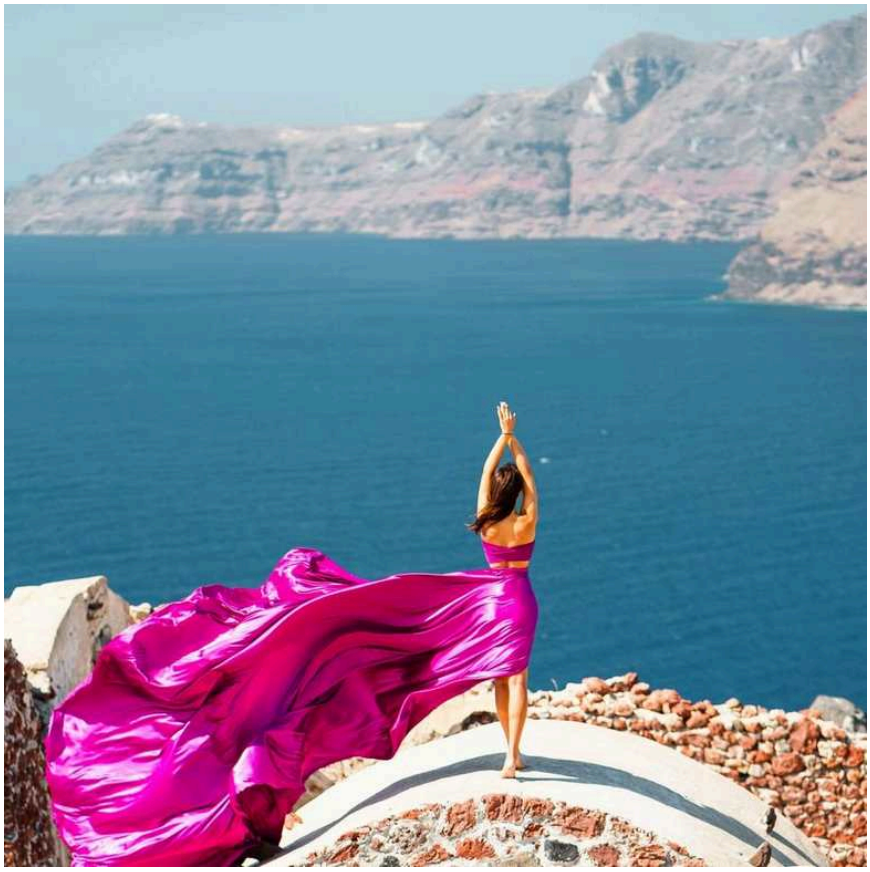
Open in Google Maps



09 · Location

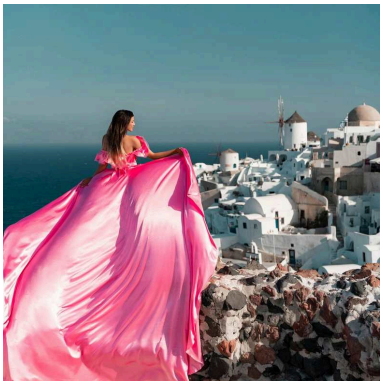
THE VIEW FROM OIA CASTLE

Come in the morning, not at sunset.











09 · Location

THE VIEW FROM OIA CASTLE

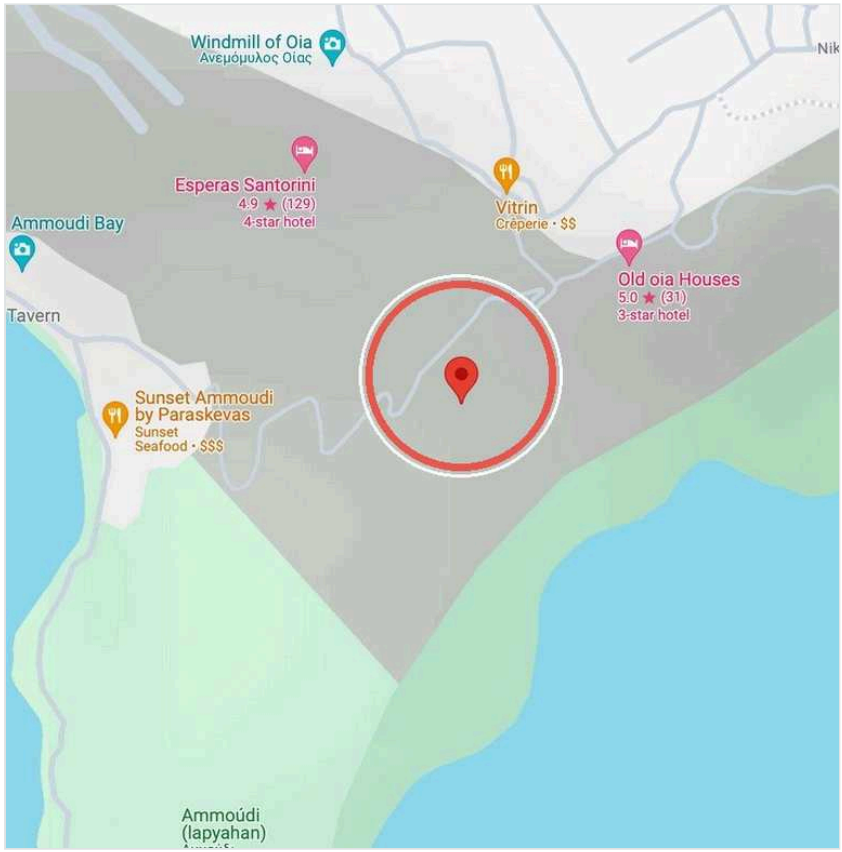
The other postcard view, and the most popular sunset spot on the island. In peak season the castle at sunset is genuinely difficult: crowds, queues to stand anywhere useful, and a slow crush of people afterwards trying to get on the same bus.

Go in the morning instead. The light is beautiful, you can move freely, and every angle that is impossible in the evening is simply available. This is the single easiest swap on the whole list.

COORDINATES

36.46019, 25.37297

Open in Google Maps



AMMOUDI BAY

Still open on foot, and worth the stairs.











AMMOUDI BAY

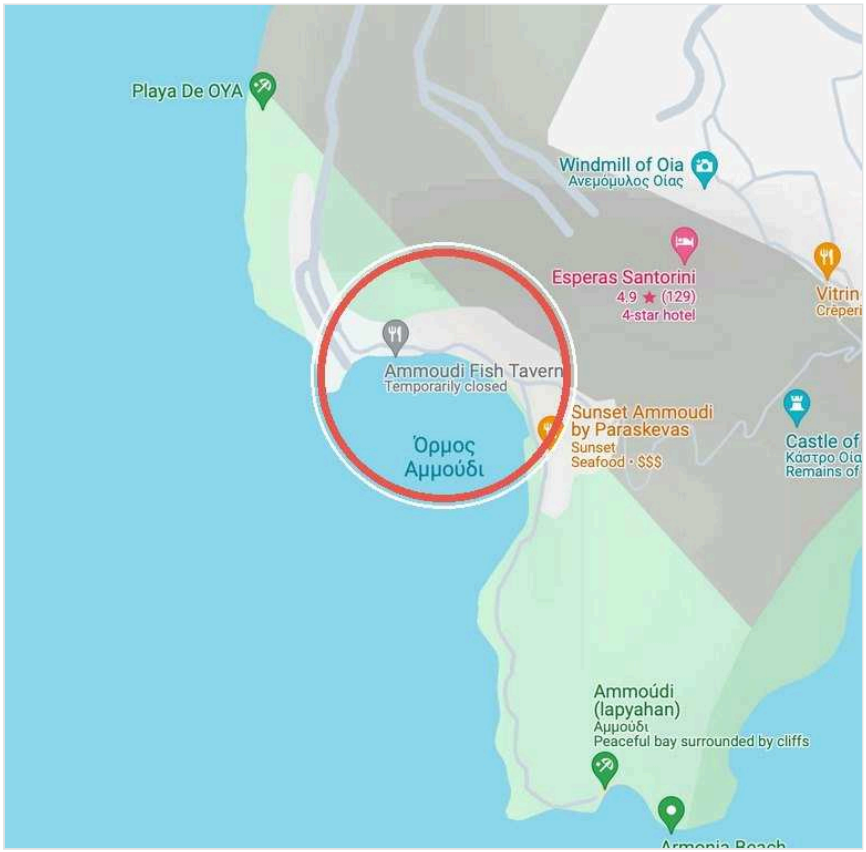
The little harbour below Oia, with red cliffs going straight up out of the water and fishing boats along the quay. Most visitors never see it unless they arrive by boat, which is exactly why it photographs so differently from everything above it.

Getting there needs planning now. Under the civil protection measures in force until the end of March 2027, vehicles are not allowed down the municipal road from the Oia ring road to Ammoudi port, with narrow exceptions for supply vehicles in the early morning and a small rotating number of licensed passenger vehicles. The harbour itself, the tavernas and the boats are all operating as normal, and the pedestrian staircase down from Oia is open. Wear shoes you can manage the stairs in, and stay for the seafood afterwards.

COORDINATES

36.46043, 25.37097

Open in Google Maps



MORE OF OIA

The list could run for another twenty pages.























Still looking

MORE OF OIA

Those are the spots people ask about most, but Oia does not really end. Every turn off the main street has another wall, another set of steps, another gap between two buildings with the caldera sitting in it, and the list could run for another twenty pages without repeating itself.

So if you have seen a photograph of somewhere in Oia, ours or anyone else's, and you cannot work out where it was taken, send it to us. We almost always know the spot, and we will tell you how to find it whether or not you shoot with us.

ASK US DIRECTLY

Instagram DM **WhatsApp**

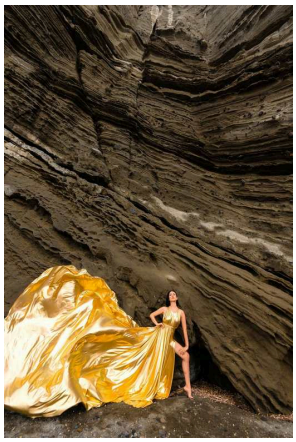
11 · Location

COLOMBOS BEACH

A real walk, and worth doing properly.















COLOMBOS BEACH

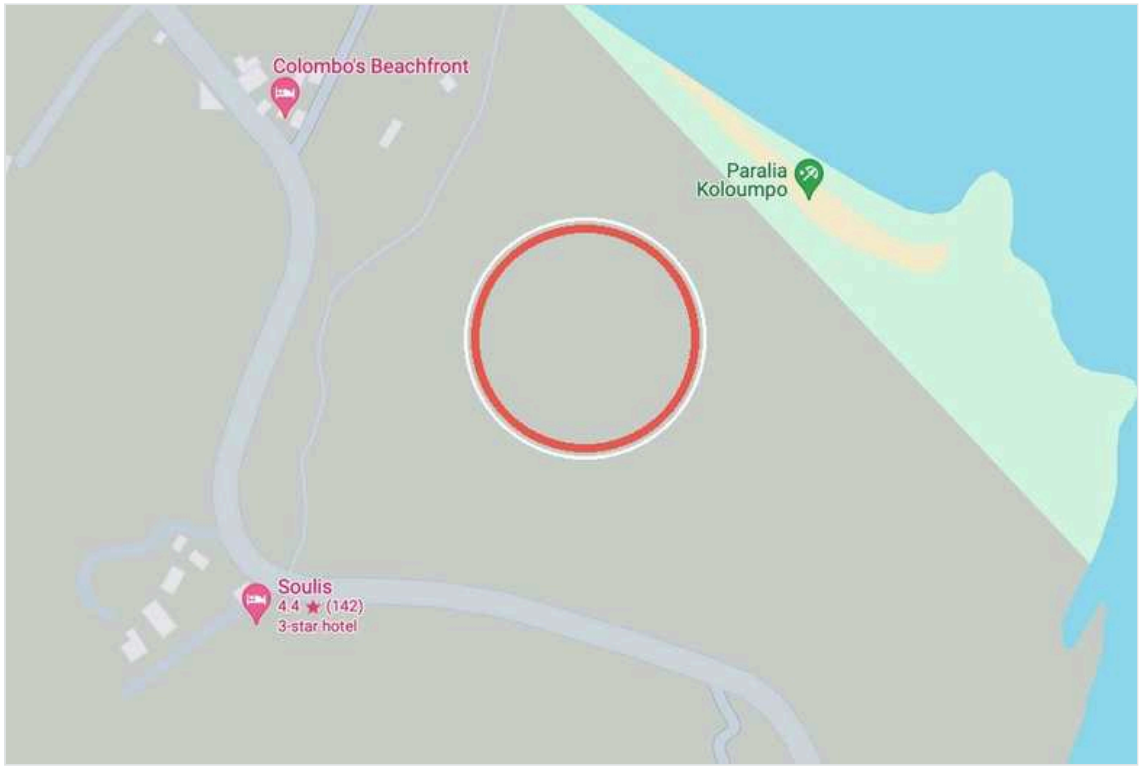
Kolombo sits away from everything, and reaching it is part of the deal. Park at the first pin, then follow a narrow overgrown path that is genuinely rough in places, and continue right along the beach to get to the part worth photographing. Proper shoes, not sandals.

It is one of the island's few nudist beaches, so people's privacy comes first and we shoot accordingly. In exchange you get almost nobody in the frame and a completely different Santorini from the one on the postcards.

COORDINATES

park at 36.47232, 25.41744 · beach at 36.47376, 25.42066

Open in Google Maps · 1 Open in Google Maps · 2



FAROS

The lighthouse, and the cliff path above it.











12 · Location

FAROS

The southwestern tip of the island, where the lighthouse stands. It used to be empty and it is getting busier, but it still feels remote compared with anywhere in Oia.

What most visitors miss is the narrow path up the hill behind it. Climb that and the views from the cliff are better than the ones from the lighthouse itself, with the sea on three sides and nothing built in the frame.

COORDINATES

36.3578, 25.35707

Open in Google Maps

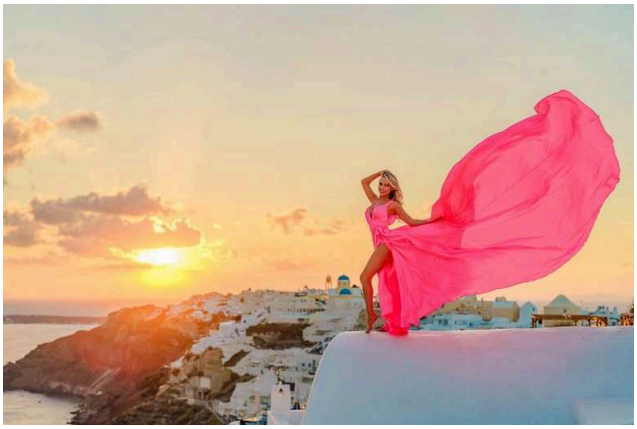


FINIKIA VILLAGE

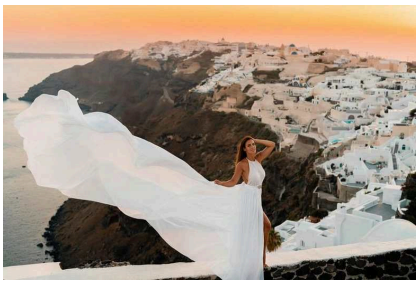
Our sunset alternative to Oia.

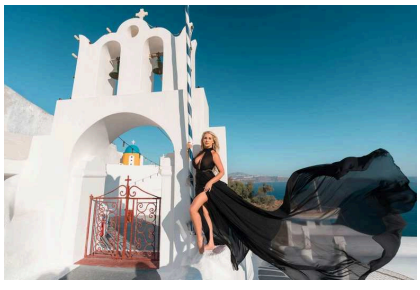












FINIKIA VILLAGE

Finikia sits right next to Oia and looks back at it, which means you get the same evening light and the same view of the village without the crowd that comes with standing inside it.

There are still unoccupied corners here at sunset, which is close to impossible next door. Mornings are lovely too, quieter and softer, and the streets are narrow enough to work as backgrounds in their own right.

COORDINATES

36.46071, 25.38873

Open in Google Maps



MEGALOCHORI VILLAGE

For photographs that do not look like everyone else's.











MEGALOCHORI VILLAGE

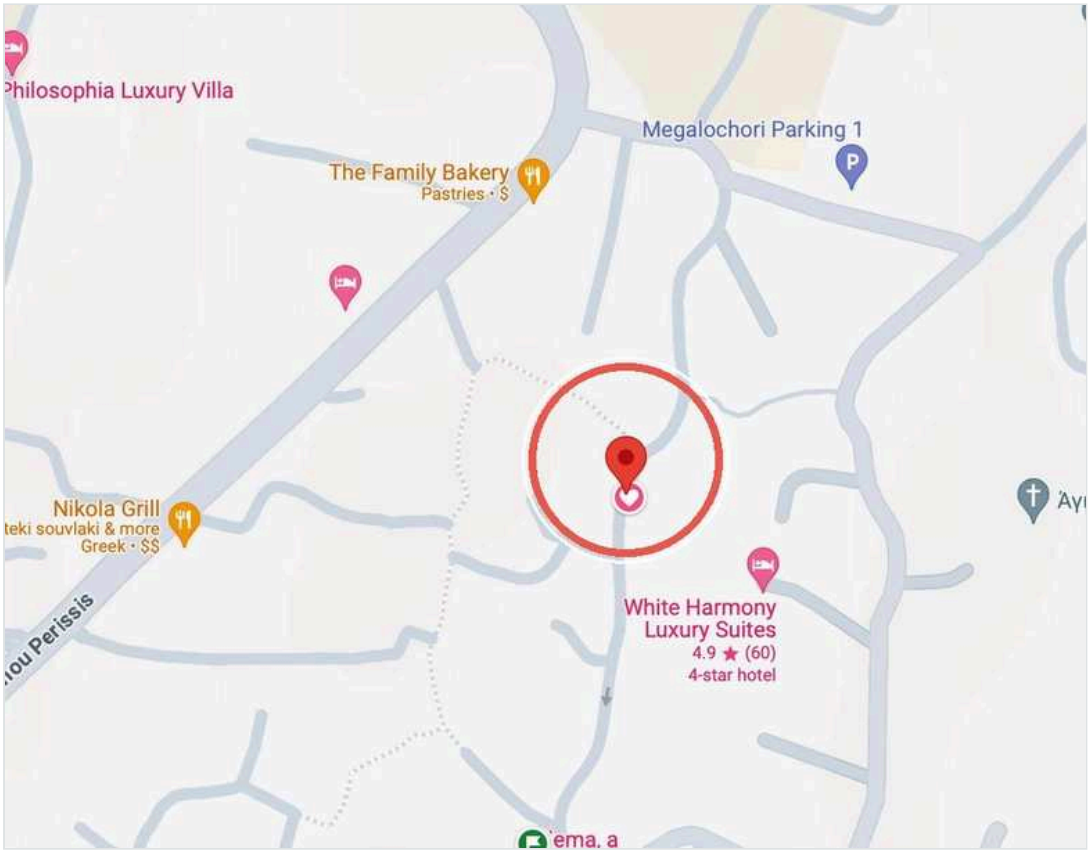
If crowds make you self conscious, or you simply want images that are not the standard Santorini set, Megalochori is the answer. Bell towers, blue domes, and bougainvillea in season, with a fraction of the traffic.

Timing matters more here than anywhere else on the list. The streets are narrow, so about an hour before sunset most of the village drops into shade. Come earlier than you think you need to.

COORDINATES

36.37735, 25.43222

Open in Google Maps



THE CHURCH NEAR MEGALOCHORI

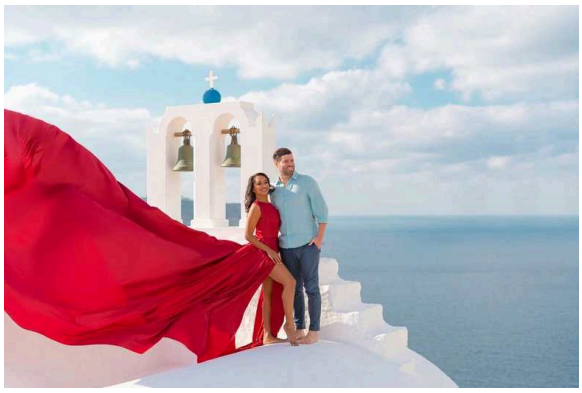
Beautiful, remote, and occasionally guarded.













THE CHURCH NEAR MEGALOCHORI

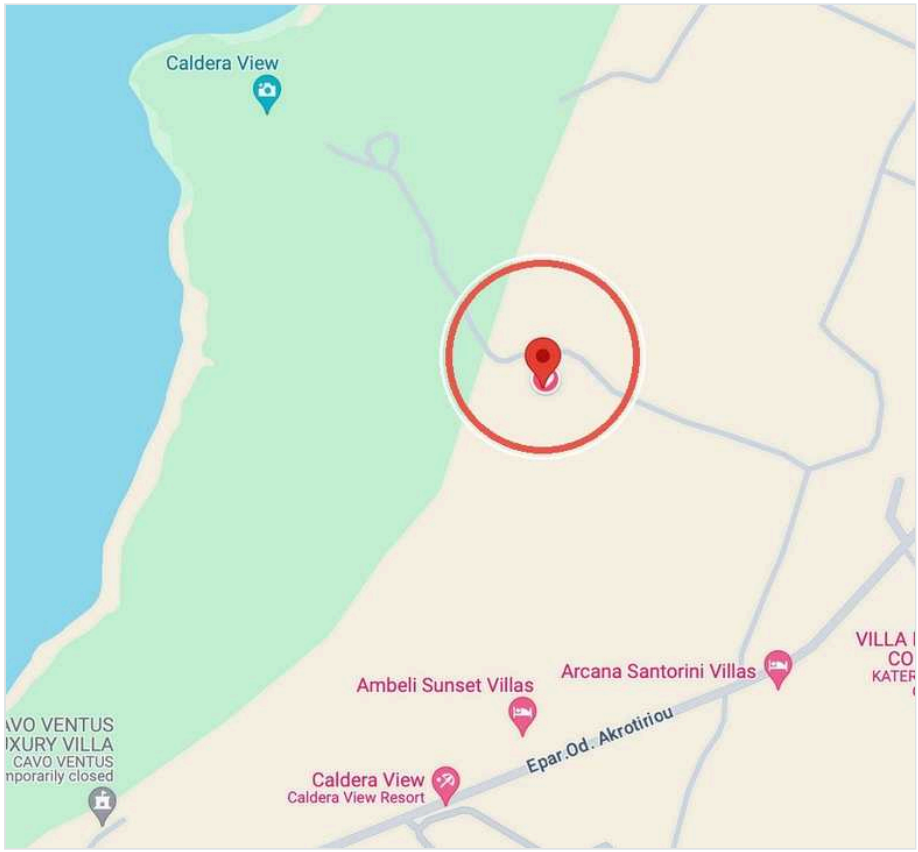
A single church standing alone on the cliff, with nothing around it. It is a lovely sunset spot and it photographs as though the island belongs to you.

We have heard consistently that a caretaker now lives nearby and either asks for money for photographs or moves people along, so come prepared for that possibility rather than surprised by it.

COORDINATES

36.365498, 25.420571

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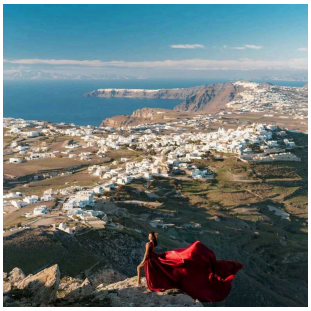


PROFITIS ILIAS IN PYRGOS

The whole island in one frame.













PROFITIS ILIAS IN PYRGOS

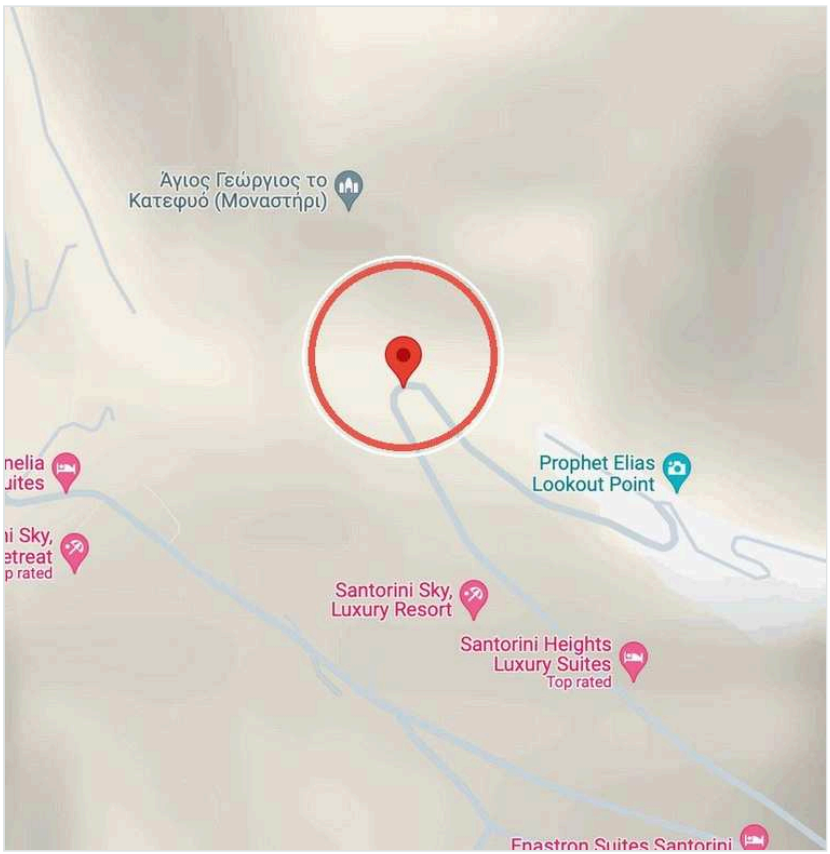
High on the hill above Pyrgos, on the road up to the old Profitis Ilias monastery near the former military base, there is a spot where the entire island opens out below you.

It is a panorama rather than a detail: sea on both sides, villages scattered across the slopes, and enough space that nothing crowds the dress. Good at almost any hour, and spectacular late in the day.

COORDINATES

36.3705, 25.45787

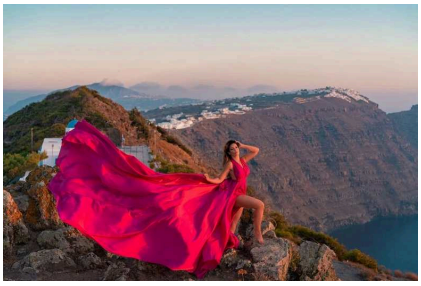
Open in Google Maps



PROFITIS ELIAS IN IMEROVIGLI

Hard to reach, empty when you get there.













PROFITIS ELIAS IN IMEROVIGLI

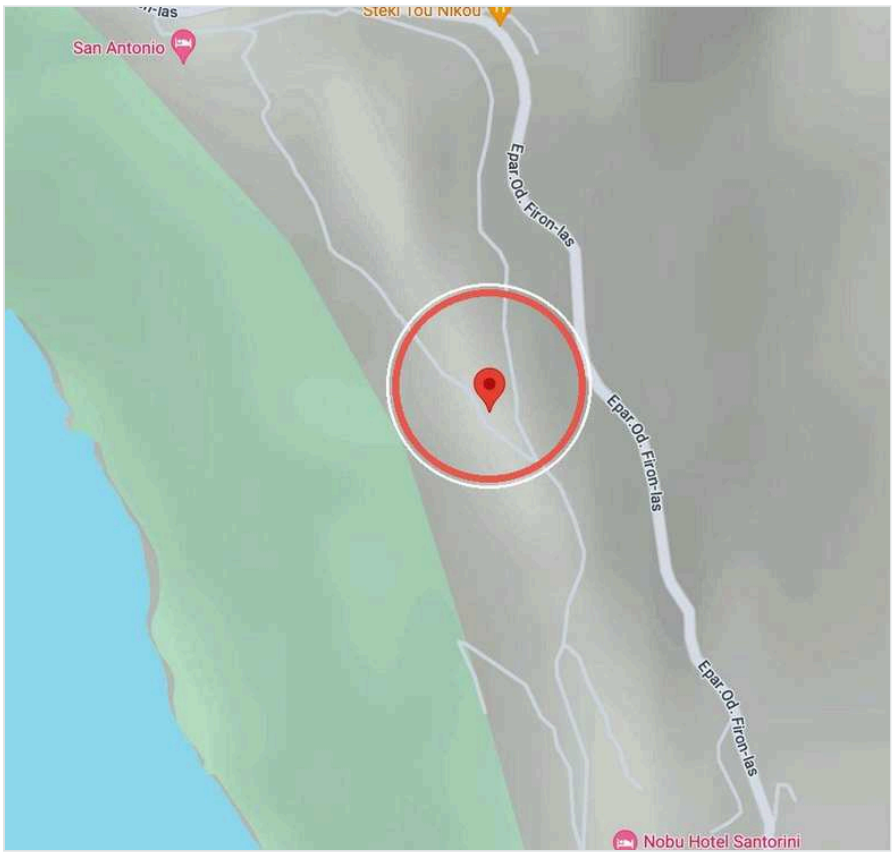
A church with the same name as the one in Pyrgos, and a completely different experience. The road out to it is rough and runs along the cliff edge, so it is not a drive for everyone.

The reward is a blue dome, a full panorama and a sunset you will very likely have entirely to yourself, which is rarer on this island than any particular view.

COORDINATES

36.45366, 25.42336

Open in Google Maps

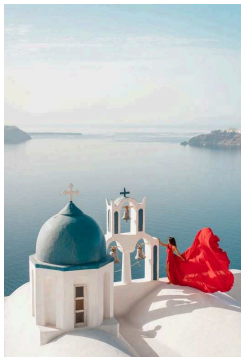


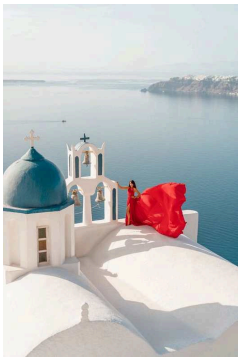
SKAROS ROCK

One of our favourites, and the most physical spot here.

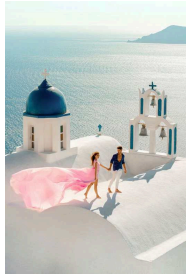














SKAROS ROCK

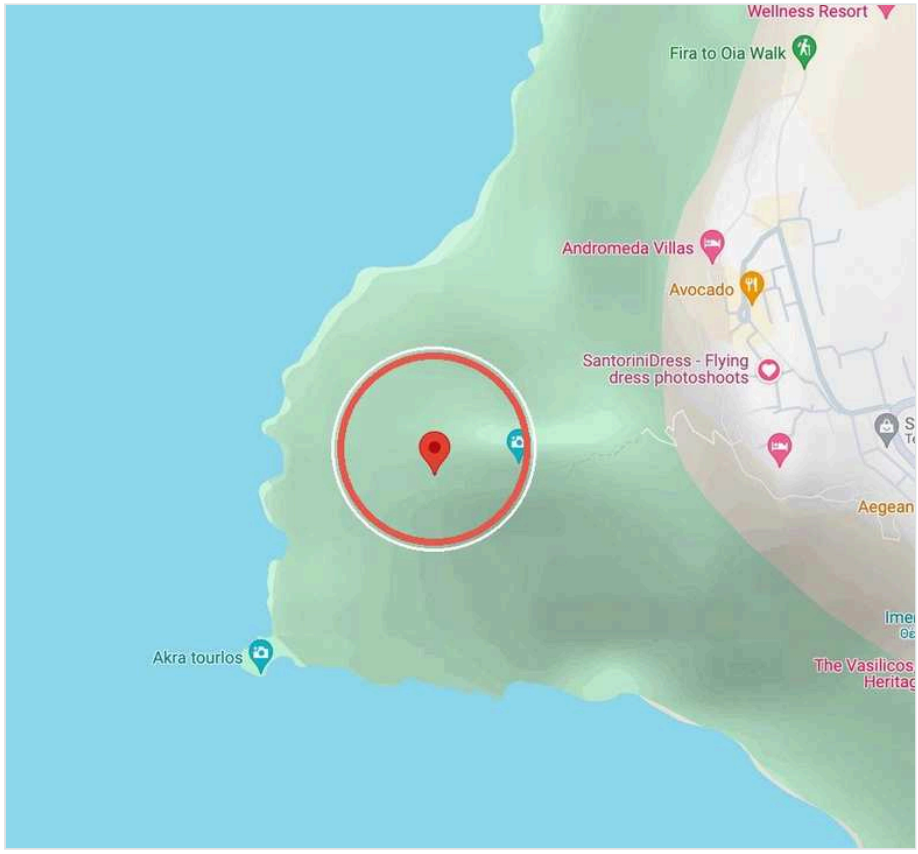
The photographs make the argument better than we can. Before you plan it though, read this part properly: the path runs along a cliff, it is a long sequence of steps up and down with no railings, and it is easy to slip.

In real heat the walk back is harder than the walk out. If you are comfortable on your feet and used to hiking it is entirely doable and completely worth it, and if you are not, there are better places on this list for you.

COORDINATES

36.43222, 25.41673

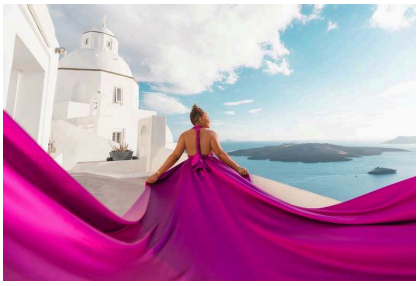
Open in Google Maps



FIRA

Best answer when the clock is against you.













FIRA

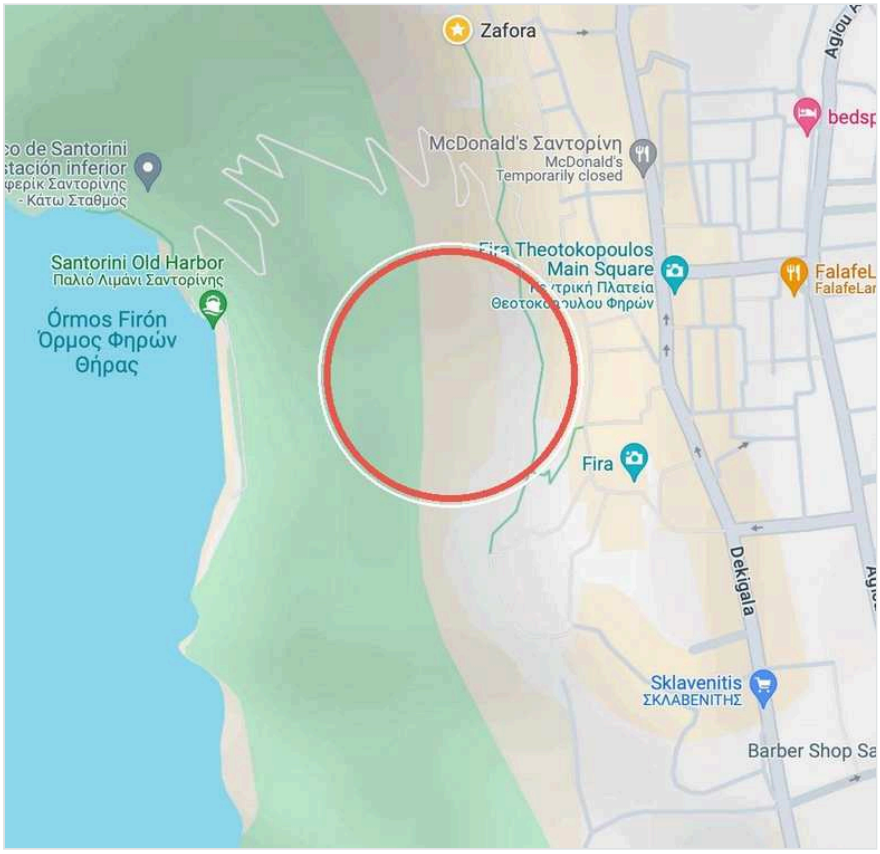
The capital has endless views and comparatively few spots where a long dress actually works, because the pedestrian area is busy and the terraces are commercial. The photographs here come mostly from one point, pinned on the map.

Where Fira wins is logistics. If you have arrived by ferry or you are off a ship with a few hours, this is the shoot that fits in the time you have.

COORDINATES

36.416749, 25.431249

Open in Google Maps



VLYCHADA & EROS BEACHES

The part of the island that looks like Mars.















VLYCHADA & EROS BEACHES

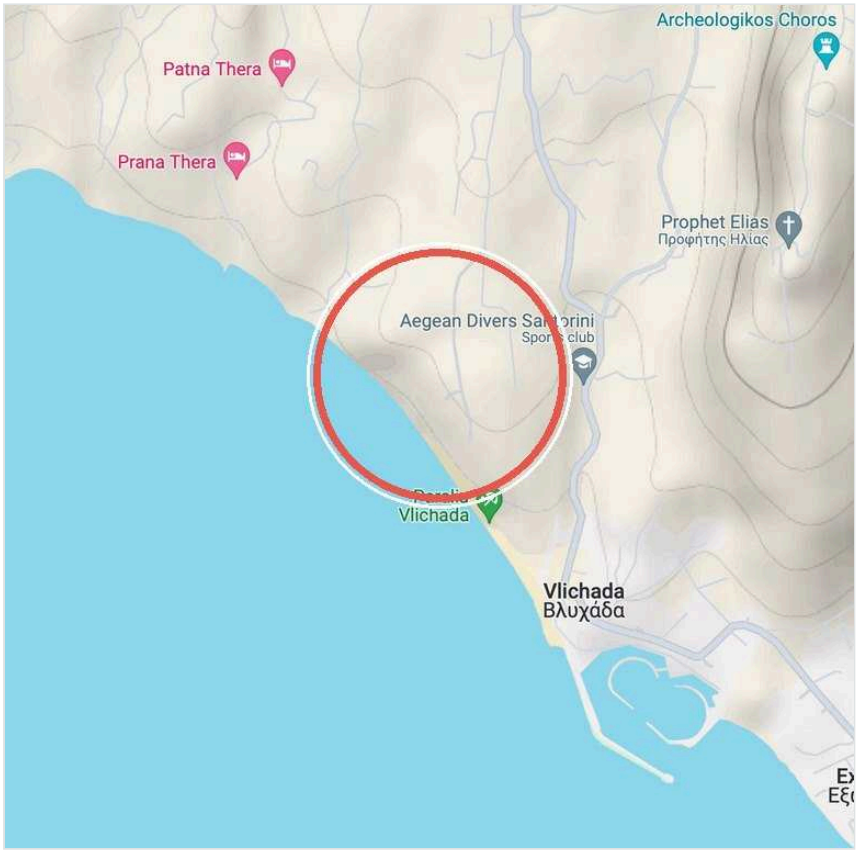
Volcanic eruption carved these cliffs into shapes that do not look like they belong on the same island as the white villages: pale, pitted, folded rock that reads almost like a film set. Two beaches meet here, Eros and Vlychada, each reached from its own side.

For the strongest frames plan to walk along the sand towards the middle where the formations get dramatic. Parts of this stretch are nudist, so we shoot with that in mind and keep well away from other people.

COORDINATES

36.34515, 25.42441 · 36.3394, 25.4315

Open in Google Maps · 1 Open in Google Maps · 2



THE BLUE DOME IN IMEROVIGLI

Changed a lot, and about to change again.













THE BLUE DOME IN IMEROVIGLI

Anastasi Church in Imerovigli is one of the most requested spots we get asked about, and the honest picture of it in 2026 is quite different from the photographs that made it famous. Climbing onto the dome was possible years ago, the constant traffic damaged the roof, and access has been prohibited for some time now.

Since then a higher wall has gone up, so even the version we used to shoot from the road is no longer available. Whatever angle is still workable comes with a queue of visitors waiting for it. On top of that the church is due to be renovated, and until that work happens nobody can say what access to this spot will look like afterwards. We will tell you what is actually possible on your dates rather than guess from old photographs.

COORDINATES

36.43208, 25.42246

Open in Google Maps



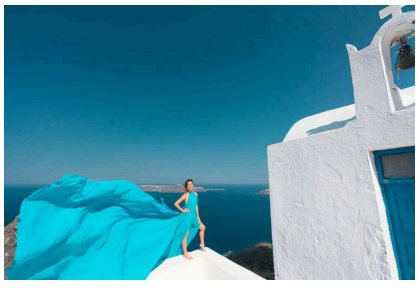
ST JOHN'S CHURCH

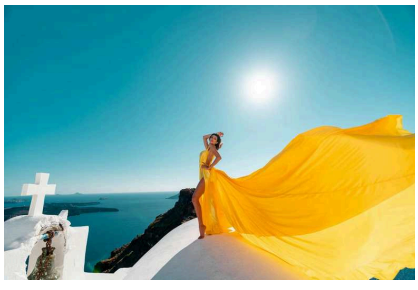
Panoramic, and now partly restricted.











ST JOHN'S CHURCH

The small church below Imerovigli, under the Grace hotel, sits on an edge with the caldera opening out behind it, and it has always been one of the better sunset positions on this side of the island.

Access up onto the church itself is now restricted, and there are signs stating that photography there is not permitted. We respect that, and we still shoot from beside the church, where the view is essentially the same. Two practical notes: at sunset you will be sharing it, and it is not a spot for anyone uncomfortable with heights.

COORDINATES

36.43298, 25.4206

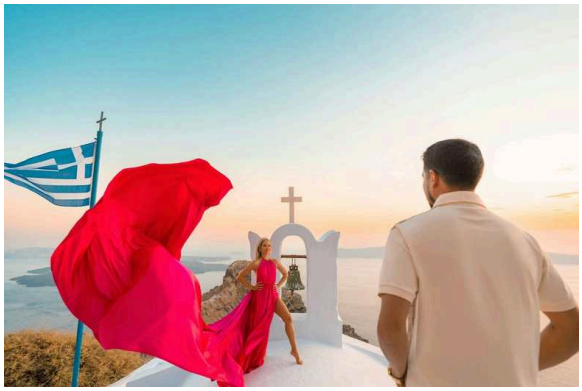
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23 · Location

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Down the stairs, behind several turns.










CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

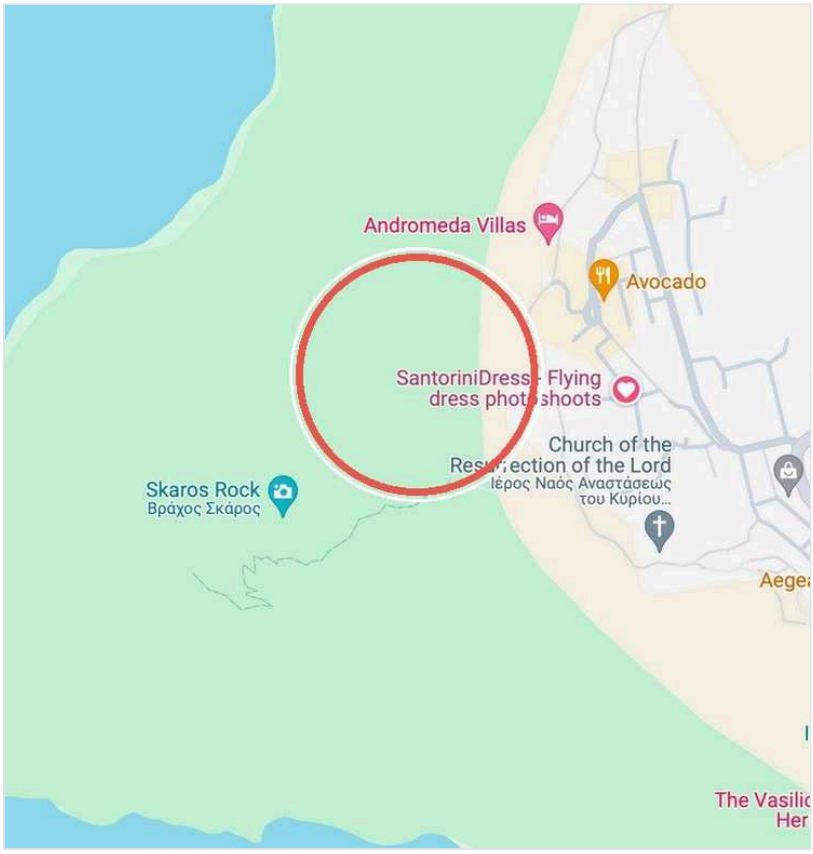
Very few visitors get here, because finding it means going down the steps and around several turns with no obvious reason to think anything is there. Photographers know it well.

If nobody else has had the same idea that evening, the sunset frames from this spot are some of the best on the island for how little effort the location asks of you once you have found it.

COORDINATES

36.434123, 25.420706

Open in Google Maps



LOCATIONS BY THE WALKING PATH

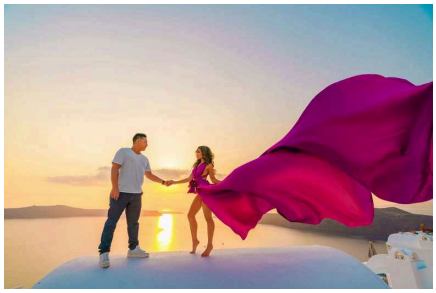
Mostly hotel ground now, and still worth knowing.







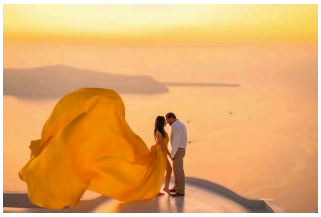




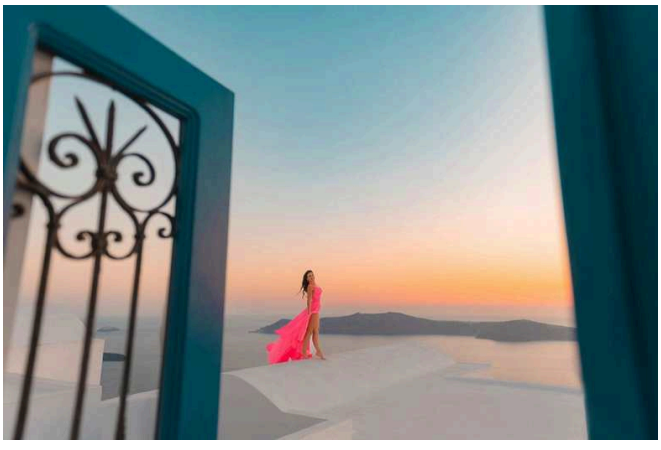












LOCATIONS BY THE WALKING PATH

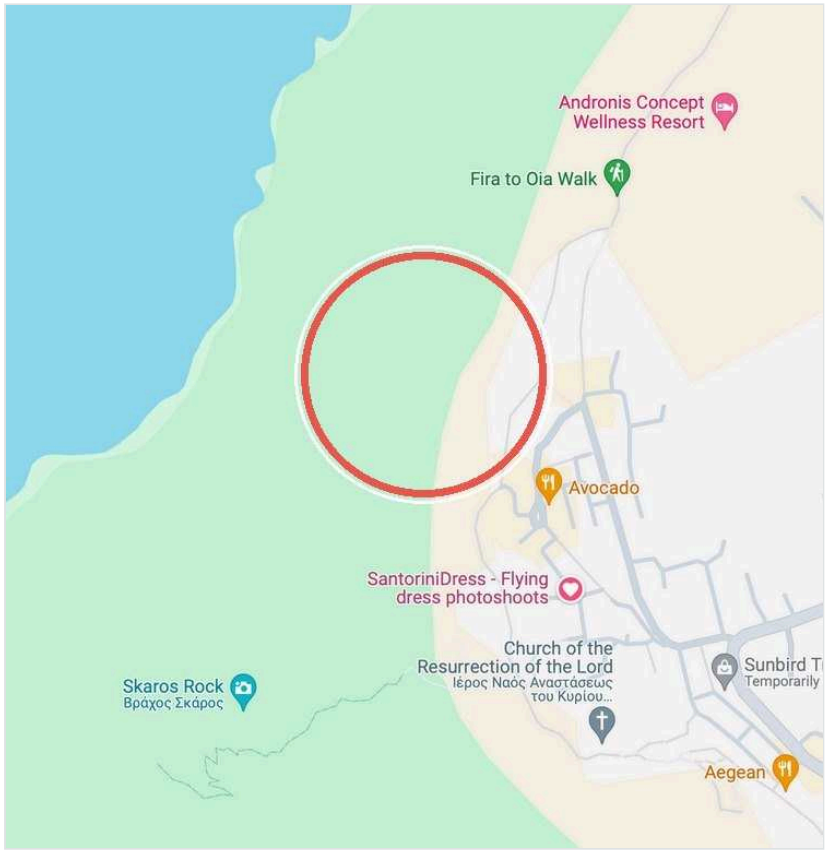
Our team shot here constantly for years: the clean white roofs everyone wants, the sea, and the volcano sitting in the middle of the view. We shot here for years.

These days photographing here really depends on being a guest at the hotel, or on a quiet day and a bit of luck. We are keeping it on the list because the path itself is beautiful to walk and because sometimes the luck goes your way.

COORDINATES

36.43506, 25.42129

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CALDERA VIEWS ALONG THE PATH

Morning light, not evening.











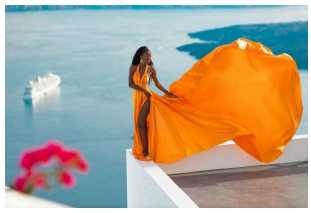














CALDERA VIEWS ALONG THE PATH

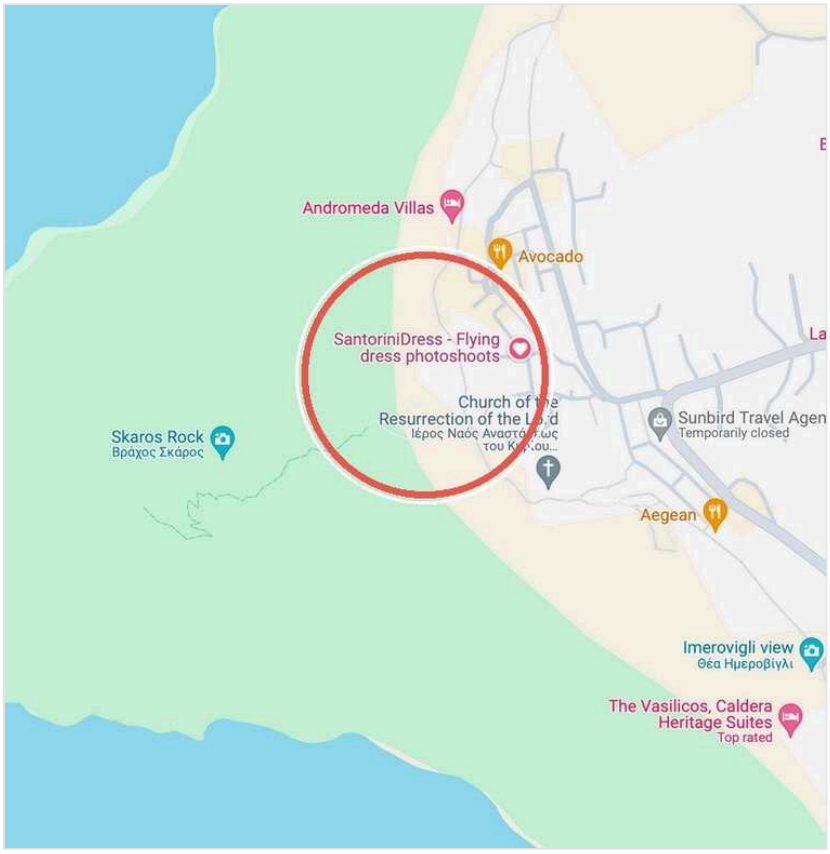
Follow the pedestrian path between the villages and it hands you one panoramic view after another, with enough width in most places for the dress to open properly.

The thing to know is the light. This whole stretch is lit beautifully in the morning and falls into shade almost everywhere before sunset, so it is a morning walk if you want the frames to look like these.

COORDINATES

36.431912, 25.422924

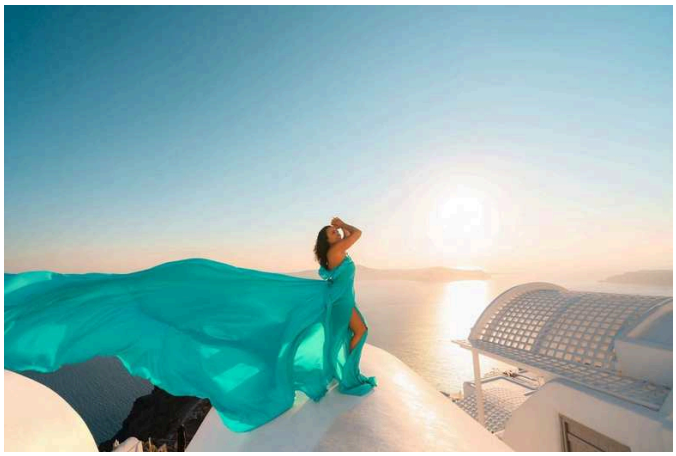
Open in Google Maps · 1 Open in Google Maps · 2

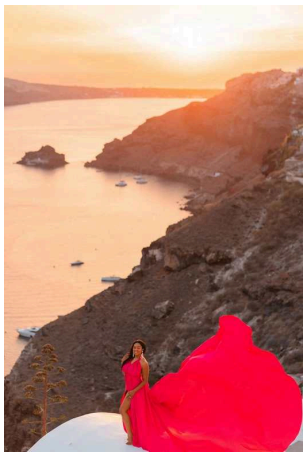
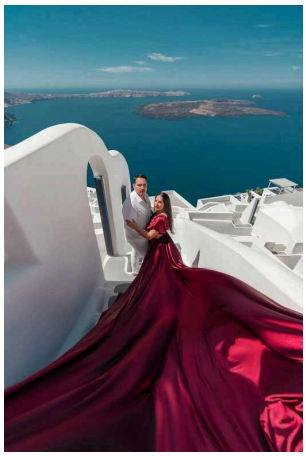


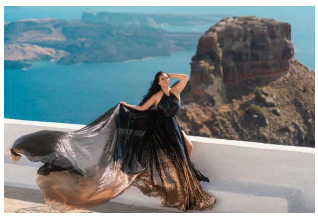
MORE OF IMEROVIGLI

Our favourite village on the island.








Still looking

MORE OF IMEROVIGLI

Imerovigli is our favourite village on the island to photograph, and the list above is only the part that is easy to name. The same corner can look like three different places depending on where you stand and what time you are standing there, which is most of the skill in shooting here.

If there is a specific frame you have seen and want, send it over and we will tell you where it is and whether it is still possible this season. Some of these spots change from one year to the next, as the pages you have just read make fairly clear.

ASK US DIRECTLY

Instagram DM **WhatsApp**

RED BEACH

Unique, and closed more often than people expect.









RED BEACH

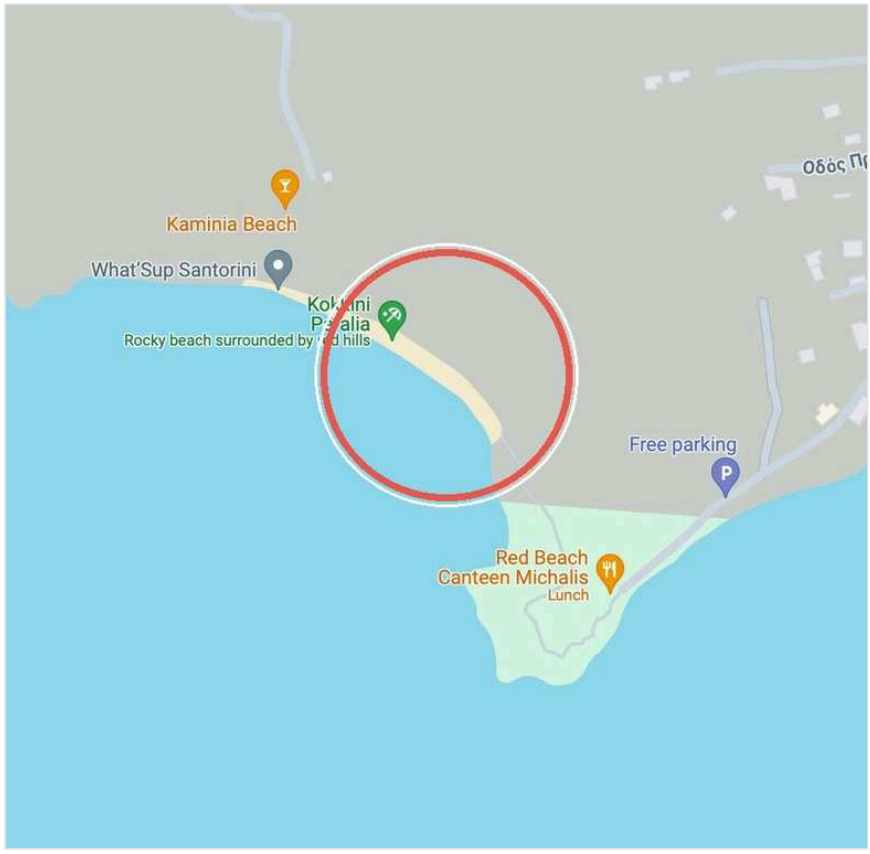
Red Beach earns its name from volcanic cliffs in a colour you will not find anywhere else on the island. We rarely bring our own dresses here, but it is a favourite among wedding photographers working on Santorini and it may well appeal to you for the same reasons.

Check before you go. The beach closes periodically because of rockfalls, and those closures are not always announced far in advance.

COORDINATES

36.34854, 25.39469

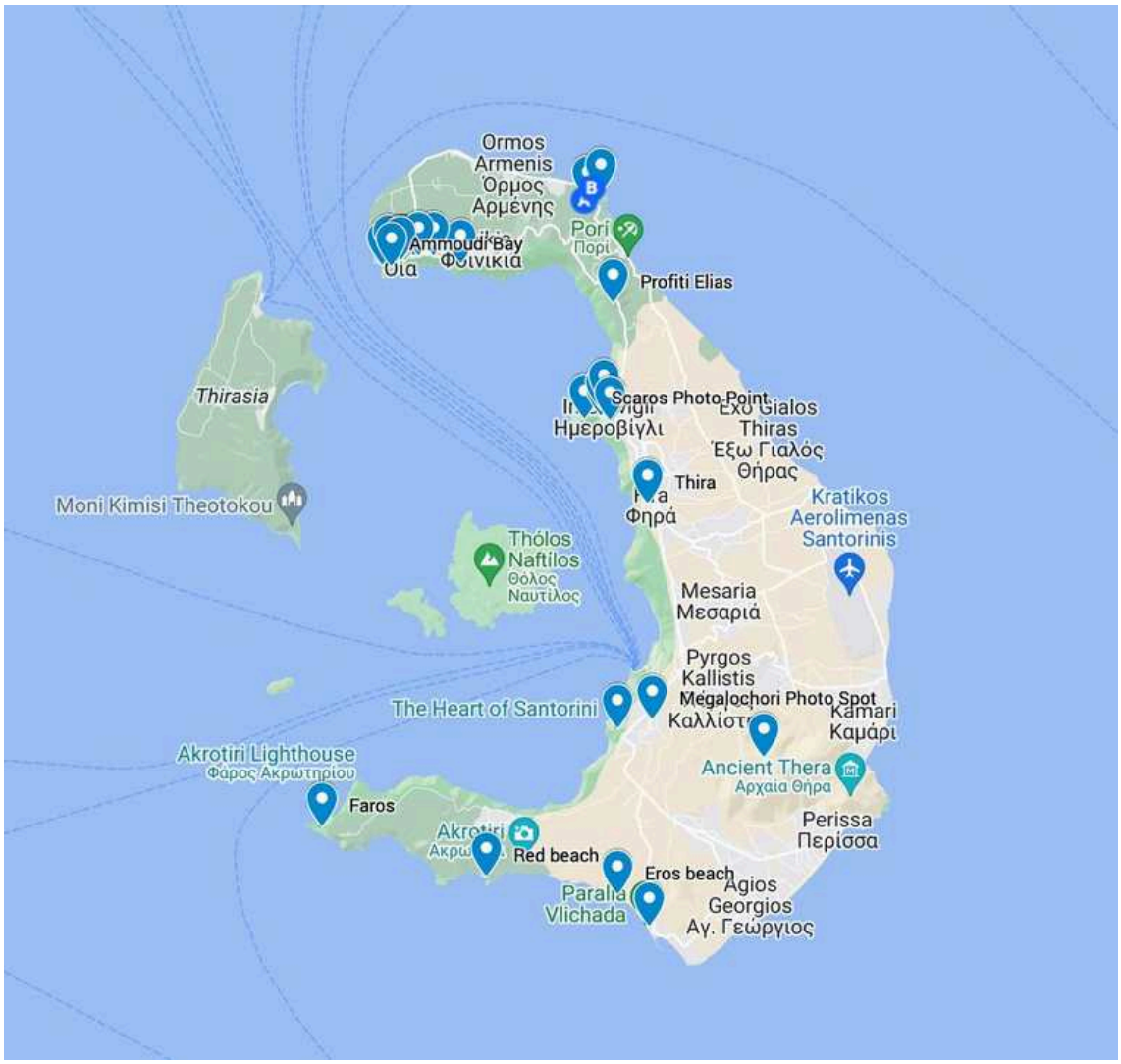
Open in Google Maps



Next step

TELL US YOUR DATES AND WE'LL BUILD THE ROUTE

That is every key location we shoot on Santorini. Send us the days you are on the island and the spots you care about most, and we will come back with an order that works with the light and the crowds, plus an honest note on anything that is not accessible right now.



Open the full map of all locations

TALK TO US

santorinidress.com @santorinidress Instagram DM WhatsApp

info@santorinidress.com