



Photo: Mila Atkovska/Shutterstock.com



The largest of the Cyclades islands, Naxos stands out thanks to its unusually crisp white beaches and an exceptionally lush, fertile terrain. With none of the pretence of Mykonos or the ferocious partying of Kos, the island is a destination for those who enjoy a good hike and low-key evening entertainment. Naxos is also home to a fair share of ancient sites, off-lying mountain villages, and excellent family-run taverns.

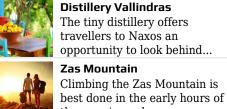
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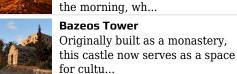


Justin Black/Shutterstock.com

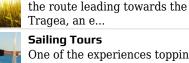


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Featured

One of the experiences topping the must-do list when on Naxos is joining one...



Top 5

known as the T...

#### Kastro

The Venetian-built Naxos Castle, or Kastro, stands as a sentinel over Chora,...

Portara — the Temple of Apollo

Perhaps the most scenic spot on the island, the Portara (also



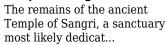


The Naxos Archaeological Museum contains an impressive collection of Cycladi...

Archaeological Museum

**Eggares Olive Press Museum** The Olive Press Museum is a curious local attraction, where visitors are gra...

#### Temple of Sangri





## THE ISLAND



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Life on Naxos centres around Hora, also known as Chora or Naxos Town, where most the its taverns, restaurants and shopping spots are concentrated. Travellers will need to venture out south of town to find some the finest Naxian beaches, Settlements most revered by tourists include waterside Agios Prokopios and Agia Anna, as well as the long stretch of sandy Plaka Beach. The windy beaches of the northwest are reserved for water sports enthusiasts, while the inland mount Zas and tucked away village of Halki attracts adventure-seeking hikers.

Naxos isn't one to rely solely on tourism, however. Its fertile soil produces ample olives, citrus, potatoes, and a variety of other fruits and vegetables, which allows for the existence of so many organic-only eateries. Most local businesses are family-run, passing on knowledge and experience to the younger generations — it is not unusual to see a cafe or small store managed by father and son only. The island is also home to its very own "Kitron" citrus liquor distillery and an old olive press manufactory both open to visitors and offering guided tours.

### BEACHES



Korpithas/Shutterstock.com

Naxos is especially well-known for its uncharacteristically beautiful beaches, the most attractive of which are concentrated along the island's southwestern coast. During the summer months, the larger beaches truly come alive. Holidaymakers rush to the seaside and seasonal taverns and beach bars come back into operation.

#### Plaka Beach



One of the finest on Naxos, Plaka is a long, attractive sandy beach which really comes alive in summer. Numerous taverns and cafes line the

waterfront (most operate May to October), and holidaymakers swim in the turquoise waters and play beach games and water sports from dusk till dawn.

Photo: lukaszimilena/Shutterstock.com Address: Plaka Beach, Naxos Internet: www.naxos.gr/plaka-beach/?lang=en

### **Agios Prokopios Beach**



Boasting some of the best infrastructure on the island, the sandy beach of Agios Prokopios is well-connected to the Hora via public buses.

The water is clear, and sunbeds are available for hire in abundance. The beach teams with taverns and cafes, and is home to a reputable diving company (Blue Fin Divers).

Photo: lukaszimilena/Shutterstock.com Address: Agios Prokopios, Naxos Internet: www.naxos.gr/agios-prokopios-beach/?lang=en

### Agia Anna Beach



A stone's throw away from the popular Agios Prokopios is Agia Anna, a sheltered, quiet sandy beach perfect for families. The shallow,

clear water makes it perfectly safe for children, and the general tranquil atmosphere attracts couples and older visitors. Sunbeds are available for hire.

Photo: experiencecollector/Shutterstock.com Address: Agia Anna, Naxos Internet: www.naxos.gr/agia-anna-beach/?lang=en

## Mikri Vigla Beach



A compact, sheltered cove where the tiny paradise beach of Mikri Vigla is located used to only be visited by a handful of travellers

in-the-know, but has become increasingly popular with holidaymakers over the past years. There is a single (very popular) tavern here, ideal for a refreshing retreat.

Photo: LandscaperY/Shutterstock.com Address: Mikri Vigla, Naxos Internet: www.naxos.gr/mikri-vigla-parthena-limanaki/?lang=en

### Agios Georgios Beach



To stay close to the centre of it all, Saint George would probably be the best pick when it comes to beaches on Naxos. Located in very

close proximity to the island's Hora, it is, perhaps, what one would refer to as the "city beach". The water here is shallow, which is perfect for families with children.

Photo: Morrowind/Shutterstock.com Address: Agios Georgios Beach, Chora, Naxos Internet: www.naxos.gr/agios-georgios-beach/?lang=en

#### Kastraki Beach



Those looking to experience the quieter side of Naxos will certainly appreciate the tranquility of Kastraki Beach — a long stretch of

sand, perfect for long walks along the water. The beach is less developed and never gets crowded, but several taverns do operate in the area.

Photo: alexandros petrakis/Shutterstock.com Address: Kastraki, Naxos Internet: www.naxos.gr/kastraki-beach/?lang=en

#### **Ammitis Beach**



In the island's northwest, far from the tourist-favoured beaches of the western coast, lies Ammitis — a beach exposed to all winds,

which makes it a perfect spot for water sports enthusiasts. The beach is best fit for surfers and kite-surfers, rather than swimmers.

Photo: Pavel1964/Shutterstock.com Address: Ammitis Beach, Naxos Internet: www.naxos.gr/ammitis-beach/?lang=en

## DO & SEE



Aetherial Images/Shutterstock.com

Whether it is beach relaxation, active pursuits, ancient ruins, or even museums that you're looking for — Naxos has it all. Sites of particular interest include the gate-shaped Portara, Venetian Kastro, the beautiful hiking trails inland (towards the village of Halki, containing the historic Vallindras citrus distillery), and the island's sparse (yet present) archaeological sites.

#### Kastro



The Venetian-built Naxos Castle, or Kastro, stands as a sentinel over Chora, boasting a unique round design and four levels. Built with materials from the ruins of an ancient acropolis, the castle once served as both a fortress and a hub for education, politics, and religion. Today, visitors can ascend via an elevator to Avaton Cafe for sweeping views. The castle's historical charm is further enhanced by the surviving Glezos Tower, that houses the Byzantine Museum of Naxos. Explore shops, cafes, and historically significant buildings within its walls, and lose yourself in the labyrinthine streets.

Photo: Manfred Werner (Tsui)/cc by-sa 4.0/wikimedia(image cropped)

Address: Chora, Naxos

Internet: www.naxos.gr/a-tour-of-the-kastro-castle-district-in-the-old-town/?lang=en

#### Portara — the Temple of Apollo



Perhaps the most scenic spot on the island, the Portara (also known as the Temple of Apollo) is where locals and visitors flock at sundown to take

in the splendid golden sunsets. Walk along a causeway and up towards the ancient gate-like structure perched atop the hill for some of the best views.

Photo: Lisa Boonaerts/unsplash Address: Chora, Naxos Internet: www.naxos.gr/the-temple-of-apollo-portara/?lang=en

## Archaeological Museum



The Naxos Archaeological Museum contains an impressive collection of Cycladic art and sculpture, one that reportedly even rivals the

compilation of artefacts in the Greek capital city of Athens.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com Address: Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Tue-Sat 8:30am-3pm Phone: +30 2285 022725 Internet: www.gtp.gr/TDirectoryDetails.asp?ID=1116

### **Eggares Olive Press Museum**



The Olive Press Museum is a curious local attraction, where visitors are granted insight into the behind-the-scenes makings of olive oil and

other olive-derived products. At the end of the tour, guests are invited to take part in a sampling of the high-quality items and foods on sale.

Photo: marco mayer/Shutterstock.com Address: Eggares, Naxos Opening hours: April through September: daily 9am-6pm Phone: +30 22850 24180 Internet: www.olivemuseum.com

## Temple of Sangri



The remains of the ancient Temple of Sangri, a sanctuary most likely dedicated to Demeter, reportedly date back to as early as the 6th century

BC. Little remains of the temple's former glory days, but some pillars and walls do stand as reminder of the island's historic heritage. This is one of the attractions best seen as a part of a guided tour.

Photo: cla78/Shutterstock.com Address: Sagriou, Naxos

#### **Cedar Forest of Alyko**



Alyko in the island's southwest is known for its lush cedar trees stretching along acres upon acres of land.

Photo: Solomiya Trylovska/Shutterstock.com Address: Alyko, Naxos

#### Sailing Tours



One of the experiences topping the must-do list when on Naxos is joining one of the many sail boat tours offered by local companies. Tour

programs vary, but very often include swimming in secluded coves, visiting nearby islands (such as the whitewashed Paros) and beaches, snorkelling, and stopping for lunch at a scenic waterside location somewhere in or around Naxos.

Captain Panos Sailing Day Tours +30 697 353 7424 www.captainpanos.com

Naxos Sailing Tours +30 694 435 5717 www.naxossailing.com

Photo: Aaron Amat/Shutterstock.com

#### Zas Mountain



Climbing the Zas Mountain is best done in the early hours of the morning, when the sun is yet to release its burning midday rays. There are several departure points (starting from Filoti, for example) and route directions are displayed along the way. From the hilltop, stunning views over the valleys and sea below unfold.

Photo: Dudarev Mikhail/Shutterstock.com Address: Zas Mountain, Naxos

#### Diving



The waters around Naxos hold a plethora of marine treasures: from the eerie remains of sunken ships to colourful fish and curious underwater

creatures swimming an arm's length away. Several companies offer professional training courses and necessary guidance through local waters to experienced divers.

Photo: UnderTheSea/Shutterstock.com Address: Blue Fin Divers, Agios Prokopios, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 042629 Internet: www.bluefindivers.gr

### Hiking



Naxos is a hikers' paradise — try the route leading towards the Tragea, an elevated land area in the heart of the island dominated by olive

groves. Some of the best stops for a hiking itinerary are the scenic settlements of Halki with its attractive town square, Aperathou (a village overlooking the island's southeastern coast), and the mountainside village of Koronos.

Photo: Dudarev Mikhail/Shutterstock.com

#### **Distillery Vallindras**



The tiny distillery offers travellers to Naxos an opportunity to look behind the scenes of how the island's very own kind of liquor — "kitron" — is

made. A tasting of citrus liquors is offered at the end of the tour, and visitors are welcome to purchase kitron-themed souvenirs at the adjacent shop.

Photo: MNStudio/Shutterstock.com Address: Main Road, Chalkio, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 031220 Internet: www.naxos.gr/vallindras-distillery/?lang=en

#### **Bazeos Tower**



Originally built as a monastery, this castle now serves as a space for cultural activities. It is best-visited in July and August, when it hosts the

annual Naxos Festival and becomes the site for multiple musical and theatrical performances, readings, exhibitions, and more. The building itself dates back to the 17th century, and has been recently refurbished.

Photo: Mario Vazaios/cc by-sa 4.0/wikimedia (cropped)(image cropped) Address: 2km west of Sangri Village, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 031402 Internet: www.bazeostower.com

### DINING



evantravels/Shutterstock.com

Perhaps surprisingly for an island, Naxian cuisine is known more for its meat than seafood: grass-fed beef, lamb, goat meat and poultry often feature as primary dish ingredients on the island restaurants' menus. Try the Naxian specialty Easter dish called "patoudo" — stuffed lamb meat with herbs, often served with the celebrated regional potatoes. Meals often start with a round of small plates called "meze". These are made with seafood, meat, and vegetables. The island is also known for locally-produced wines and cheeses like gruyer, arseniko, xynomizithra, xynotyro and mizithra.

### Delfinaki (Lionas)



Delfinaki offers a warm welcome and excellent local cuisine largely made with home-grown ingredients and fresh fish. A meal will be

normally followed by a complimentary drink and/or dessert, the hospitable owners often insisting that guests bring some house delights along with them upon departure.

Photo: ORLIO/Shutterstock.com Address: Lionas, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 051290

#### **Rotonda (Apeiranthos)**



No establishment on Naxos is quite like Rotonda — a unique restaurant set on the hilltop, with panoramic (360-degree) views

unfolding before diners' very eyes. The view alone would be worth the trip, but the Restaurant has excellent contemporary Greek and Mediterranean cuisine to show for its fame.

Photo: Andrey Bayda/Shutterstock.com Address: Agios Ioannis, Apeiranthos Opening hours: Daily 10am-12-30am Phone: +30 2285 061254 Internet: rotondanaxos.gr

#### Ostria (Moutsouna)



The on-site restaurant of Ostria Inn is one of Naxos' hidden gems. The establishment offers sea-view dining on a charming, airy outdoor

terrace. Some of the menu highlights include the vegetable mille-feuille, octopus carpaccio and feta topped with honey and sesame seeds for dessert.

Photo: Oxana Denezhkina/Shutterstock.com Address: Moutsouna, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 8:30am-midnight Phone: +30 2285068235 Internet: www.ostria.com

#### Antamoma DeliCuisine (Naxos Town)



The longstanding family restaurant (now run and recently reinvented by the family's son) showcases local ingredients at their finest. Meat, seafood and vegetables are all locally-sourced and cooked the Naxian way with an elegant modern twist. Dine with direct view of the majestic sunset.

Photo: hlphoto/Shutterstock.com Address: City Hall, Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Daily noon-1am Phone: +30 22850 24324 Internet: www.instagram.com/antamoma delicuisine

## Nostimon Hellas (Naxos Town)



The concise menu of Nostimon Hellas offers substantial variety, with a selection of grilled meats, fish and seafood dishes, pasta and risotto, as well

as a rather extensive list of hot and cold appetizers. The ingredients are mostly locally-sourced. The house wine comes highly recommended.

Photo: ORLIO/Shutterstock.com Address: Tripodon, Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 6pm-midnight Phone: +30 2285025811 Internet: restaurantguru.com/Nostimon-Hellas-Naxos

## Sarris Tavern (Naxos Town)



The excellent value Greek tavern is located only a stone's throw away from the Naxos' waterfront, smack in the middle of a busy touristy street.

Despite the prime location, the tavern charges vary fair prices for the generous portions of authentic Greek food served.

Photo: Karl Allgaeuer/Shutterstock.com Address: Pantanassis, Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 10am-12:30am Phone: +30 2285 027086 Internet: sarris-restaurant.business.site

## Taverna Axiotissa (Kastraki)



Beyond any doubt one of the finest on the island, Axiotissa is known first and foremost for its organic dish ingredients and wines, all grown and

produced by the owners. Naxian fish, meat, and vegetables are all cooked to perfection (do try the daily specials). Booking essential for evening dining.

Photo: ORLIO/Shutterstock.com Address: Aliko, Kastraki Opening hours: Daily 2pm-10:30pm Phone: +30 2285 075107 Internet: tavernaaxiotissa.blogspot.com

### Sto Ladoxarto (Naxos Town)



A carnivore's paradise, Sto Ladoxarto is a restaurant specializing in meats — primarily the grilled variety. Orders normally come with a side

of potato wedges and a salad, and meals are often followed by a complimentary chocolate "kormos" dessert. Offers views over the harbour (among other perks).

Photo: nito/Shutterstock.com Address: Protopapdaki, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 22850 22178 Internet: www.instagram.com/sto ladoxarto

## Giannis Tavern (Halki)



Take a seat in the shaded leafy square in the very heart of Naxos and tuck into an authentic Greek culinary creation. Meat and chicken are the focal

points; these are accompanied by a variety of sides and traditional layered dough spinach and cheese pies.

Photo: Jeff Wasserman/Shutterstock.com Address: Hallki, Naxos Phone: +30 22850 31214 Internet: restaurantguru.com/Giannis-Tavern-Filoti

## Metaxi mas (Naxos Town)



Located in one of the tiny town alleys (do sit outside if the weather allows), Metaxi mas offers some of the best-value local meals in the old market

area. Try one of the saganaki varieties, the melt-in-your-mouth veal with vegetables, or any of the dishes, with a complimentary dessert afterwards.

Photo: Karl Allgaeuer/Shutterstock.com Address: Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285026425 Internet: www.metaximas-naxos.gr

## Matina & Stavros Tavern (Kronos)



The family-run tavern's pleasant garden invites guests to a casual lunch or dinner. Select from the concise menu consisting primarily of varying

dishes of the day (lamb is often on the menu), pairing your choice with a very decent house rose wine. Photo: orhan senol/Shutterstock.com

Address: MATINA - ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ, Kronos Village, Naxos Phone: +30 22850 51243

#### O Giorgis (Melanes)



The standout establishment in east-of-the-Hora village of Melanes, O Giorgis serves very decent home-made Greek cuisine to those

who happen to pass through the settlement on a hiking route. Try one of the pot stews, or — at the weekends — savour a piece of whole-roasted pig.

Photo: Liliya Kandrashevich/Shutterstock.com Address: Melanes Village, Naxos Opening hours: Daily noon-midnight Phone: +30228506 2180 Internet: restaurantguru.com/O-Giorgis-Melanes

### Akrogiali (Agia Anna)



One of the go-to venues for dining and beach relaxation in Agia Anna, the Akrogiali grill tavern features a changing variety of spit-roasted

meat on a daily basis. As the sun goes down, its waterfront sunbeds are replaced by exceptionally inviting dining tables.

Photo: Rawpixel.com/Shutterstock.com Address: Agia Anna, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 042726 Internet: www.akrogiali-naxos.gr

### Meze 2 (Naxos Town/Plaka)



Sea view doesn't come at the expense of quality at this waterside restaurant, serving delicious local meze. Seafood is the true star of the show: try

octopus, mussels, and, of course, fish caught that same day as part of small plates cooked Naxianand Cretan-style.

Photo: juliannedev/Shutterstock.com

Address: Paralia Chora, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 026401 More Info: Further location operates on Plaka Beach in summer

# CAFES



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Cafes are omnipresent in Naxos, many doubling as bars in the after-hours. Quite a few beach bars offer complimentary use of sunbeds and umbrellas to customers. In the way of traditional desserts, Naxos is an island known for its walnut pie made with locally-produced citrus liquor. Do try the so-called "spoon sweets" as well — nuts, fruit pieces, and even some vegetables boiled in sugary syrup and served throughout the year.

#### Pizzadelia (Naxos Town)



Have it your way at Pizzadelia, a Naxian eatery where pizzas are tailored to your liking whether thin or thick crust, white or

wholewheat flour, regular or gluten-free — all guests' wishes are readily fulfilled. Salads and pasta are good alternatives.

Photo: Denizo71/Shutterstock.com Address: Protodikeiou Square, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285022191 Internet: www.instagram.com/pizzadelia

## Avaton 1739 — Coffee & Wine Roof (Naxos Town)



The cafe's well-deserved pride is its beautiful terrace overlooking the water and offering a splendid panoramic view over the whitewashed

Naxos Town. Coffees are strong and enjoy a good reputation, but other drinks are available as well. The cafe is located at the top of the town castle.

Photo: Romain B/unsplash Address: Kastro, Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 8am-3:30pm Phone: +30 2285 023160 Internet: avaton1739.com More Info: Located on the Kastro of Naxos

## Gyro Gyro Grill House (Naxos Town)



Gyro Gyro does fast food the Greek way, serving excellent value pita gyros at very reasonable prices. Grills are extremely appetizing — add fresh vegetables and tzatziki to your liking. Seating available outdoors. The spot is great for those travelling on a budget.

Photo: baldovina/Shutterstock.com Address: Court Square, Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 12:15pm-2am Phone: +30 22850 24847 Internet: www.souvlakia-naxos.gr

#### Bossa Cafe (Naxos Town)



The elegant cafe with a rather sophisticated vibe offers front-row seating to the spectacular Naxian sunset, pairing the offer with a pleasant selection

of food and drink. Excellent for breakfasts on an airy outdoor terrace by the water, overlooking the town harbour.

Photo: Elena Veselova/Shutterstock.com Address: Marina, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 6942444581 Internet: www.instagram.com/bossacafenaxos More Info: Southern end

### Rendez Vous (Naxos Town)



Rendez Vous is the go-to place for dessert in Naxos Town. The selection of treats is extensive, with a whole variety of local and international desserts

present. Try the local "baklava" paired with a strong cup of traditional Greek coffee, or — for a more substantial snack — the Greek honey donuts.

Photo: AS Food studio/Shutterstock.com Address: Waterfront, Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 7am-2:30am Phone: +30 2285023858 Internet: rendezvouscafe.gr

### Milkato Gelateria (Naxos Town)



At Milkato Gelateria, the chilling dessert comes in many delicious varieties (e.g. parfait) and flavours. Apart from plain ice cream, guests are

welcome to order freshly-made waffles topped with a selection of mouthwatering extras. Outdoor seating available overlooking the waterfront promenade.

Photo: AnjelikaGr/Shutterstock.com Address: Protopappadaki, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285022548 Internet: www.milkato.com

#### Cafe Lotto (Naxos Town)



The port-side cafe offers a selection of scrumptious dishes (a typical meal includes a variety of meat of your choice served with a side of french fries

and vegetables), and breakfasts that are rumoured to be some of the best value in town food and drink refills are complimentary.

Photo: Lolostock/Shutterstock.com Address: Paralia, Naxos Town Phone: +30 2285023386 Internet: www.instagram.com/lotto\_restaurant.cafe

## Flisvos Sportclub Beach Cafe (Agios Georgios Beach)



The traditionally whitewashed yet very trendy beach cafe invites vacationers to an evening cocktail or even a full-blown meal on the

waterfront veranda — try the "surf and turf" mixed grill plate, or go with one of the lighter snacks abundant on the menu. In the evenings, various events are hosted.

Photo: Thoom/Shutterstock.com Address: Agios Georgios Beach, Aristidi Protopapadaki, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 025123 Internet: www.flisvos-sportclub.com/eat-drink

## Del Mar Cafe (Agios Prokopios)



The pleasant cafe is simply not to be missed by those staying in Agios Prokopios — it offers sea-view seating and is run by a lovely Italian

couple, who have added distinct Italian flavor to the cafe's menu: from pizzas to high-quality Italian coffee.

Photo: Sara Winter/Shutterstock.com Address: Agios Prokopios, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 044142 Internet: restaurantguru.com/DEL-MAR-CAFE-Agios-Prokopios

## Golden Beach Cafe (Agios Prokopios)



The pleasant waterside cafe offers great value breakfasts, with international breakfast classics such as omelettes, fried eggs,

bacon, and freshly squeezed orange juice. Multiple pastry varieties are on offer. Repeat customers are welcomed with exceptional warmth.

Photo: margouillat photo/Shutterstock.com Address: Beach Road, Agios Prokopios, Naxos Internet: restaurantguru.com/Golden-Beach-Maragkas

### Cedar Cafe (Plaka Beach)



The beach bar's thatched roof provides much-needed shade on one of the island's most beloved beaches, inviting guests to stop by for a

relaxing break with seats offering direct views over the water. Select a dish from the cafe's extensive menu or enjoy one of the many refreshing drinks.

Photo: Budimir Jevtic/Shutterstock.com Address: Plaka Beach, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 9am-2am Phone: +30 2285041005 Internet: cedarnaxos.gr

## Banana Beach Bar (Agia Anna)



Attractive both day and night, the waterfront Banana Beach Bar is a great spot in Agia Anna that offers complimentary beach sunbeds to

customers. The food and drink menus are varied, with a wide selection of dishes and cocktail creations available.

Photo: Navistock/Shutterstock.com Address: Agia Anna Beach, Naxos Phone: +30 6978733402 Internet: www.instagram.com/bananabeachbar

# **BARS & NIGHTLIFE**



Cor Meenderinck/Shutterstock.com

Nightlife in Naxos is relatively low-key, with only a handful of dance venues in operation. Most establishments are concentrated in and around the island's Hora and along the "Paralia" (waterfront), with a couple bars present in the majority of larger Naxian coastal settlements. The most popular format for whiling away an evening is savouring a drink at one of the many bars with a view — whether up on the Kastro or down by the water.

The island also hosts two cultural festivals: the Naxos Festival (runs from the middle of July till September) and Domus Cultural Festival (from June to October), both featuring concerts, film screenings, and various art projects.

## La Vigne Wine Bar (Naxos Town)



Apart from its broad collection of local and international wines (organic wines and French champagne imports, for example), the

La Vigne offers first-class dining on Greek, French, Asian and Caribbean cuisine-inspired dishes in an intimate and welcoming atmosphere. Address: Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 7:15pm-11:45pm Phone: +30 2285 027199 Internet: www.naxos.gr/la-vigne/?lang=en

## Kitron Cafe Naxos (Naxos Town)



The waterside establishment with a view specializes in "kitron" - a citrus-derived drink produced at a nearby distillery (Valindras in

Halki). Guests are invited to sample multiple varieties of the island's signature drink and other citrus-based products crafted there, such as candy.

Photo: Jacob Lund/Shutterstock.com Address: Protopapadaki Beach, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 22850 27055 Internet: www.instagram.com/kitron 1896

## Naxos On The Rocks Bar (Naxos Town)



A lively venue with a massive display of liquor behind the bar, On The Rocks serves quality drinks and frequently hosts karaoke nights

where patrons sing their hearts out in multiple European languages. The bar is one of the rare spots on the island that offer shisha service. Broadcasts football.

Photo: thanosquest/Shutterstock.com Address: Perioxi Pigadakia, Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Sun-Thu 6pm-3am, Fri & Sat 6pm-5am Phone: +30 2285 029224 Internet: ontherocksbar-bar.business.site

### The Ocean Club (Naxos Town)



One of the island's go-to nightlife venues, The Ocean Club boasts an airy outdoor terrace for low-key evening cocktails and an indoor dancing

area that comes alive every weekend during the high season. In the winter, the venue remains open hosting (less frequent) concerts and guest DJs.

Photo: sad444/Shutterstock.com Address: Ariadnis, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285027034 Internet: www.instagram.com/oceanclubnaxos

### Dome Bar (Naxos Town)



A venue that frequently hosts DJs (often from the Greek mainland) and theme parties, Dome is a stylish bar with nightclub character. The danceable

tunes bring the floor alive, and quality drinks keep the party going well into the wee hours. Open nightly May through September.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com Address: Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 9:30am-3am Phone: +30 697 482 7516 Internet: restaurantguru.com/DaCosta-Naxos More Info: Behind the Port Police building

### Jazz & Blues (Naxos Town)



Jazz & Blues caters to a mature audience, putting on regular live music performances in the evenings. Offers seating in an intimate, dimly-lit

outdoor area. A selection of drinks is served

(wines, beers, cocktails and spirits). Prices tend to be lower than in most waterfront bars.

Photo: Geoff Goldswain/Shutterstock.com Address: Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 22850 27394 Internet: restaurantguru.com/JazzandBlues-Naxos

#### 520 Bar (Naxos Town)



Housed inside one of the delectable whitewashed Cycladic houses, the 520 Bar offers some of the best views among evening establishments in

Naxos Town, its terrace directly overlooking the port sunset. Cocktails are artisan, containing some quintessentially Greek ingredients (e.g. mastiha liquor).

Photo: Yellowj/Shutterstock.com Address: Waterfront, Chora, Naxos Internet: 520naxos.gr

### Banana Beach Bar (Agia Anna)



One of the standouts in Agia Anna, Banana Beach Bar is where sun-kissed vacationers come to while away an evening to the sound of waves rustling

(or live music tunes - with relative frequency). Serves delightful cocktails and a wide array of meat and seafood dishes.

Photo: nd3000/Shutterstock.com Address: Agia Anna Beach, Naxos Phone: +30 6978733402 Internet: www.instagram.com/bananabeachbar

## SHOPPING



Albert Nowicki/Shutterstock.com

The place to go for some of the best shopping on Naxos is, of course, the island's Hora. Items typical of Naxos are olive-derived products, local sweets and candy, organic foods such as cheeses and herbs, wines, and "kitron" (citrus liquor). When it comes to souvenirs, explore the variety of Naxian handicrafts: from hand-woven fabrics to ceramic pieces to hand-made artisan jewellery.

The larger villages of Halki, Apiranthos, and Filoti offer further shopping opportunities. For everyday needs, several vendors' stalls and mini-markets are usually in operation on and around the large beaches.

#### Kastro (Naxos Town)



Hora's old quarter known as Kastro is the island's shopping hot spot - its windy streets are packed with tiny stores and boutiques selling all

manner of things, from clothing and beach paraphernalia to local delicacies and souvenirs, including Naxian foods and ceramics.

Photo: Milan Gonda/Shutterstock.com Address: Kastro, Chora, Naxos

#### Fish & Olive (Halki)



Those who venture out on a hike to to the scenic Halki will be duly rewarded by a chance to marvel at the masterful ceramics and exquisite

jewellery by the well-regarded local Fish & Olive brand. The boutique also stocks a fabled extra-virgin olive oil produced by the Mercouri family.

Photo: Arnon.PT/Shutterstock.com Address: Platia Halki, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 031771 Internet: fisholive.com

#### Naxia Sweet Home (Naxos Town)



The tiny family-run Naxian boutique specializes in artisan candy, made with quintessentially local flavors such as sage,

citrus, mastic, and even ouzo. Candy is made directly before the eyes of the visitors, who are welcome to sample several varieties before taking a pick.

Photo: Ruth Black/Shutterstock.com Address: 45 Exarxopoulou, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 22850 22529 Internet: www.instagram.com/naxiasweethome

#### Limpertas Manolis Pottery (Naxos Town)



This artisan pottery shop is where the talented host invites visitors to watch as the one-of-a-kind creations emerge from under his hands. The

tucked away studio offers a selection of exquisite creations that make perfect souvenirs to bring

home with you. Ask for directions to find your way.

Photo: v.s.anandhakrishna/Shutterstock.com Address: Damalas, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285032820

## Melissinos Jewellery (Naxos Town)



This family-run jewellery shop offers unbeatable, personal customer service and a selection of unique, artisan items designed locally as well

as by well-established Greek designers (Stella Deligianni, Margoni and Sarina, among others). Conveniently located in Naxos Town's Court Square.

Photo: Luba V Nel/Shutterstock.com Address: Court Square, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 22850 26613 Internet: www.melissinos-art.com

## Pagonis Greek Sandals (Naxos Town)



The Pagonis leather store specializes in hand-made shoes and sandals, and sells all manner of natural leather goods from bags to belts - for men and

women. The family-run enterprise aims to represent local Greek producers, and has been in business since 1940.

Photo: Anastasios71/Shutterstock.com Address: Paparigopoulou, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 024501 Internet: www.greek-sandals.com

#### Papyrus (Naxos Town)



What once was a small used book shop has now turned into a store with a rather impressive selection of literature in a variety of European

languages - an estimate of 15 000 editions altogether. A special book-swap system is in place, allowing customers to exchange books at a very moderate fee.

Photo: luminaimages/Shutterstock.com Address: Chora, Naxos Internet:

ww.greeka.com/cyclades/naxos/shopping/books/town/papyrus More Info: North of the port, behind Meze 2 restaurant

## Tziblakis (Naxos Town)



Naxians themselves frequent Kiriakos Tziblakis - a longstanding local store, that packs an assortment of authentic cheeses (made by the

managing family), wines and raki, honey, a variety of spices and so-called "spoon sweets", rare teas, and even a few ceramic pieces and handicrafts.

Photo: Cylonphoto/Shutterstock.com Address: Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 22850 22230 Internet: tziblakis-local-products-of-naxos.business.site

## Flisvos Sports Gear (Naxos Town)



For water sports enthusiasts (or those inspired by Naxian waters on-the-spot), Flisvos Sports Gear offers a ready-made solution,

packing its small space to the brim with water

sports attire and all sorts of equipment for windand kite-surfing.

Photo: Steve Heap/Shutterstock.com Address: Agios Georgios Beach, Naxos Phone: +30 22850 22935 Internet: www.flisvos-sportclub.com More Info: South of St.George Beach

### Prompona's Citrus (Naxos Town)



The store is a good place to stock up on the citrus liquor ("kitron") indigenous to the island, as well as browse through a nice selection of locally

produced wines and sweets ("spoon sweets" fruit and vegetables preserved in a thick syrup without artificial additives).

Photo: Markus Mainka/Shutterstock.com Address: 1 Dimitris Prombona, Chora, Naxos Opening hours: Daily 8:30am-11pm Phone: +30 22850 22258 Internet: promponaskitro.com

## Techni (Naxos Town)



If you're in the market for some exquisite authentic embroidery, rugs, bed linens, and other home decor items made of fabric, look no further -

Techni stocks an incredible selection of artisan pieces, both old and new, many being one-off examples of hand-made Naxian art.

Photo: Dimitrios/Shutterstock.com Address: Old Market, Chora, Naxos Phone: +30 2285024767 Internet: naxos-art.gr More Info: Located in the Old Market

#### EL ArtGallery (Halki)



A Naxian local, who had spent a good three decades living abroad in New York, has returned home only to start this exquisite gallery-cum-art

store, packed with artisan items inspired by the verdant island. Olive tree motives dominate the art work: from home decor pieces to jewellery.

Photo: ConstantinosZ/Shutterstock.com

Address: Eparchiaki Odos Chalkiou-Keramotis, Drimalia, Naxos Phone: +30 698 832 7674 Internet: eldecorart.com Email: info@eldecorart.com

### Penelope (Halki)



The artisan crafts shop in Halki village is run by its talented namesake Penelope, who puts the knowledge passed down to her through

generations to practice and creates unique traditional designs of bed linens, table cloths, items of clothing, and other souvenir-perfect pieces.

Photo: Orxan Rzayev/Shutterstock.com Address: Halki, Naxos Phone: +30 2285032988

## **TOURIST INFORMATION**



Yiannis Papadimitriou/Shutterstock.com

#### Naxos Airport Apollon (JNX)



Naxos National Airport is located a mere four of kilometres outside Naxos town centre. At the moment, the airport only connects to the capital

city of Athens.

In the summer, there is a bus service to the beaches of Agios Prokopos, Agia Anna and Plaka. Buses run at half-hour intervals from the bus stop just outside the airport. Further destination on the island may be reached from the main bus station in Naxos Town.

Taxis are available for hire at the airport's taxi stand.

Photo: Juan Garces Address: Naxos Island National Airport Phone: +30 2285 024816 Internet: www.naxos-airport.com

#### Ferry



You can get to Naxos by ferry from Athens (port Piraeus), passing through Santorini on the way perfect for those looking to island-hop! In the

summer, multiple ferries connect Naxos to other islands in the area, such as Paros, Crete, Mykonos and others.

Photo: ArrivalGuides

Internet: www.naxos.gr/how-to-get-to-the-islands-of-the-small -cyclades/?lang=en

### **Public Transport**



There is a well-developed bus network on the island, so reaching nearly any settlement (especially during high season) shouldn't present much

difficulty. Tickets must be bought prior to boarding and are always sold at bus stations and/or ticket machines.

In Naxos Town, the bus station is located right by the port.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair Address: Naxos Public Bus (KTEL of Naxos) Internet: naxosbuses.com

### Taxi



For travelling short distances, taxis may be a good option. Cabs are often concentrated around the port area and popular tourist spots.

Photo: ArrivalGuides Address: Radiotaxi Naxos

Phone: +30 22850 22444

#### Post



Stamps may be purchased at many local vendors and small stores. Yellow post boxes can be

found in most settlements around the island. The

main post office is located in Naxos Town, behind the City Hall.

#### Photo: Andy Fuchs

Address: Hellenic Post (Elta), Agiou Georgiou, Naxos Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7:30am-2:45pm, Sat & Sun closed Phone: +30 2285 026057 Internet: elta.gr/en

#### Pharmacy



Small pharmacies can be found in every major settlement on Naxos. Don't count on long opening hours, and pack a basic first aid kid before

you travel. Don't forget the sunscreen!

Photo: Gemma Garner Address: Dellaroka's Pharmacy, Petrou, Protopapadaki, Naxos Phone: +30 2285 022241

## Telephone



Country code: +30 Area code: 22850

### Electricity



230 V, 50 Hz Power outlets type C and F the usual European ones.

Photo: Stirling Tschan

**Population** Approximately 19,000

**Currency** 1 Euro = 100 cents

#### **Opening hours**

Opening hours vary by season, with longer hours in the summer. Some business targeted primarily at tourists do not operate during low season.

**Internet** www.naxos.gr

**Newspapers** Aegean News — aegeanews.gr Kathimerini — www.ekathimerini.com

**Emergency numbers** Emergency: 112 Tourist police: 171

Photo: Jardson Almeida