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THANK THE GODS_
The Santa Marina Resort & Villas, Mykonos

Connect with your inner Greek god/goddess on the sunkissed island of Mykonos, in the middle of the glimmering Aegean. The Santa Marina Resort & Villas has recently undergone a total refurbishment under new owner Christiana Papageotgiou, since the passing of her father, Elias – and oh boy, what a delight this family-run ridiculously pretty haven is to experience. Determined to make Santa Marina unique, distinguishing it from the blue-white hues so famed throughout Greece, she hired interior designer and frequent guest of 15 years, Silvina Macipe Krontire, to work her magic. The result? A charming aesthetic of elegant tones, natural materials and kick-back-chic. All rooms and suites come in airy white and cream interiors and face the fabulously invigorating indigo water – which is hypnotic in its beauty, one could simply lay about all day staring out at the sultry scene of blue canvas, or, if it succeeds in beckoning you in, go for breezy boat rides and discover hidden coves.

The Resort boasts two infinity pools, watersports, tennis court with resident tennis coach, gym, sauna and Jacuzzi, Lotus spa (where fabulous spa treatments can be found: organic facials, aroma massages – they're all here), and for families, a children's club and pool. Couples need not worry, however, as the resort's design offers secluded areas that are blissfully child-free, so you can enjoy the outdoor pool in peace and quiet. It has its very own beach and a well-stocked bar of exotic cocktails and

power smoothies is considerably located on the sand for sun worshippers in need of a hydration boost – the tentative staff ensuring your glass is never empty. For sightseers who don't stay at the resort, you can make use of the yacht servicing facilities, moor your vessel in the sheltered Ornos Bay, and swim in for lunch or dinner at Santa Marina's restaurant, Bayview, which includes a new sushi bar. Foodies rejoice! Octopus carpaccio, king crab mesclum, oysters, black cod, roasted leg of goat, huge feta and olive salads, desserts of lime and ginger crème brule and the sublime honey balls – the food is ambrosial and melts on the tongue. And for after-dinner entertainment, for anyone who likes to party until sunrise, a visit to Mykonos Town calls.

"Mykonos is for lifestylers. They keep coming back, there's something about it. It really leaves an impression, it's a very special place," says Christiana Papageotgiou. "My dad always looked ahead, he picked the best place on the island. He made the beach sandy and that was it – it caught people's attention. It's glamorous and bohemian all together. Our motto is 'live your lifestyle'. This property defined what lifestyle is for the island."

In the words of Homer, "A guest never forgets the host who has treated him kindly".

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