Rhode Island - a picturesque landscape like in a fairy tale By Olivia Folgosa (23 Oct 2023 (written on the beach after a strenuous day galivanting around the island and typed out back home in Germany)



1 Found on the Mitsis Rodos Village Beach

Rhodes, the sunny island of Greece, offers breathtaking beaches, historical sites and delicious Greek cuisine. Visit the old town of Rhodes, which is surrounded by an imposing medieval city wall. Here you can stroll through the narrow streets and feel like you've stepped back in time.

A fun anecdote from the history of Rhodes: did you know that the famous Colossus of Rhodes, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, stood on this island? Although it no longer exists today, you can visit the site where it once stood.

Enjoy the picturesque villages, take a donkey ride, relax on the beaches and explore the historical treasures Rhodes has to offer. It's a holiday destination that has something to offer not only for sun worshippers but also for history buffs! Plan your next holiday on the beautiful island of Rhodes - the sunny jewel of the Aegean! Rhodes really is a delightful island with a fascinating history and a relaxed atmosphere that makes it a great holiday destination.



2 Donkey Cruise pamphlet

Here is some information about the places which I went to see: the island Halki, the ancient city of Lindos and the enchanting Valley of the Butterflies:

Halki (Greek: X $\dot{\alpha}\lambda\kappa\eta$; alternatively Chalce or Chalki) is a small island near Rhodes and a perfect place to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life. The island is famous for its picturesque villages, crystal clear waters and relaxed atmosphere. The capital, Chorio, is a charming village with colourful houses and narrow streets. Visitors can relax at the small harbour and enjoy the tranquillity. Halki is also a great place to sample traditional Greek cuisine and experience the hospitality of the locals.

Quite impressive, this island is actually a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This distinction was awarded in 1983 as part of the "Small Aegean Islands" group. The old town of Halki is characterized by its well-preserved 19th and 20th century architecture, including pastel-coloured houses, narrow streets and charming squares.

UNESCO recognizes the old town of Halki as an example of the traditional architecture of the Dodecanese islands and for its historical significance. The designation as a World Heritage Site underlines the efforts to preserve and protect this unique cultural environment.



3/4 Taken after having a delicious lunch at charming Nick's Taverna at Pondamos Beach Bay, Halki

The ancient city of **Lindos**, located on the east coast of Rhodes, is a historical treasure. It is known for its impressive acropolis, which is perched on a hill and offers a breathtaking view of the Aegean Sea. The Acropolis of Lindos is an impressive example of ancient architecture and is home to relics from different eras, including a temple of Athena from the 4th century BC and the castle of the Knights of St John from the Middle Ages. The narrow streets of Lindos are lined with whitewashed houses and offer a picturesque scene and numerous shops where you can buy handicrafts and souvenirs.



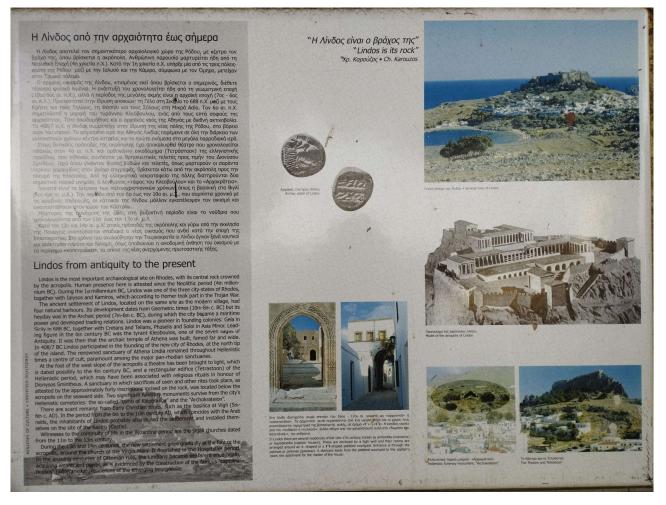


8 Lindos Beach seen from the bastion on top of the hill

9 The bastion seen from the entrance to Lindos



10 Map of Lindos at the town's entrance (red spot)





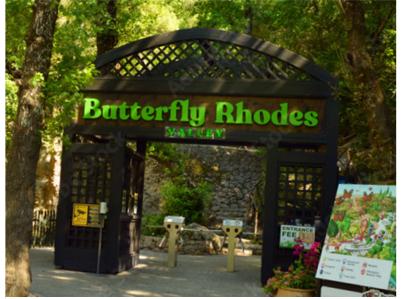
12 Probably the last butterfly left in this season

The **Valley of the Butterflies**, also known as "Petaloudes", is a unique nature reserve on Rhodes. It is particularly impressive in early summer and late summer, when thousands of butterflies, mainly the species "Panaxia quadripunctaria", fly into the valley. The butterflies find ideal conditions for breeding here, including lush vegetation and cool streams. Visitors can walk along paths through the valley and enjoy the beautiful natural scenery while observing the butterflies in their natural habitat. It is a magical place that shows nature and wildlife in all their splendour.

Rhodes offers not only beautiful beaches, but also a rich history and breathtaking natural wonders. A visit to the island is an opportunity to experience and enjoy all these different aspects.

Photos taken by Olivia Folgosa

Book recommendation: *MARCO POLO Reiseführer Rhodos - Reisen mit Insider-Tipps. Klaus Bötig, Ostfildern, MAIRDUMONT, 2023.*



13 The magnificent entrance to the valley