

Santa Barbara

MAGAZINE

HOME + GARDEN
SPECIAL ISSUE

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GETAWAY

The central pool at
Kalesma Mykonos.

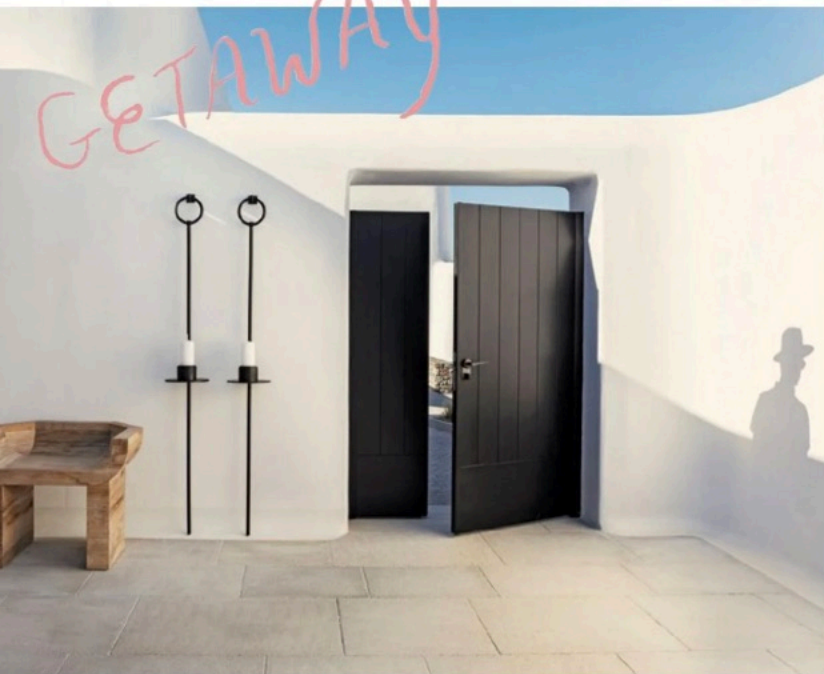


44 A Greek Invitation

Mykonos is known internationally as one of the best nightlife hotspots in the world. But cultivating a global reputation as an epic party town doesn't mean that's all this Greek island has to offer. Cue one of the isle's newer resorts, **KALESMA** (which translates loosely to "inviting"), a property that opened in 2021 on the northwest side of the island and continues to expand to meet a growing demand for a calm, cool, and collected haven in the midst of this wonderfully frenetic destination.

Greek design and architecture are the driving force behind the sleek, whitewashed look of the hotel, with interior styling and design from Vangelis

GETAWAY



Bonios—who worked on Bulgari hotels and the Valentino boutique early in his career—and his Studio Bonarchi agency. It would seem Bonios is still well-connected in the fashion world, because Kalesma is currently the only hotel in the world that features furniture from Rick Owens. Pieces like his Double Bubble sofa, in plywood and black leather, or the Curial chair, produced in elm wood, evoke an ancient simplicity and provide a stark contrast to the natural creams, tans, and browns of the hotel interiors. Each room has its own heated plunge pool, outdoor shower, and ocean-view terrace, making the ordeal of heading out to a noisy, crowded club less appealing.

The hotel's positioning on the Aleomandra peninsula offers breathtaking 360-degree views overlooking Ornos Bay from almost every vantage point. The resort layout mimics a traditional island village by establishing shared social spaces at the top of the property and private social spaces set further downhill. Currently, Kalesma has 19 rooms, 12 suites, and 15 villas, but within the next year it will debut 19 more rooms and add significantly to the pool and restaurant offerings. The on-site restaurant, Pere Ubu, serves elevated Greek cuisine and will soon be supplemented by an all-day Greek taverna—think saganaki cheese and tomato-and-feta *dakos* salad. Close enough to town for a jaunt if guests are so inclined, Kalesma has built a reputation as the stylish enclave on Mykonos for those who prefer a little serenity.

KALESMA MYKONOS.COM.

FROM TOP: One of Kalesma's white-washed structures; Studio Bonarchi and K-Studio collaborated on the interiors; a panoramic view; accommodations have a Cycladic aesthetic.

