

SKIATHOS HINTS AND TIPS

Restaurants

Giardino Segreto – One of my colleagues' favourite restaurant in Skiathos. Amazing food, fabulous service and beautiful setting. A perfect summer garden restaurant. Great food choice and wines galore. It's a family-run restaurant offering Mediterranean food. They have an indoor seating area for cooler evenings and a Secret Garden outdoor area which is welcome in the hot summer months. Michalis will greet you and Deni and his mother do all the cooking, whilst dad washes the pots! It's a lovely atmosphere and would recommend booking in the main summer months and weekends as it does get busy. Michalis will recommend wines to pair with your meal - usually all from Greece and even Skiathos. Favourite starters are the duck spring rolls and also fresh grilled prawns. Delicious desserts made by mum - her baklava is amazing but also the creme brulee!

Mesogia Tavern - There are many amazing restaurants in Skiathos Town, this is one of the best Greek restaurants. It's in one of the many winding back streets at the back of the town, not the easiest to find, so just pop it in Google Maps on your phone and it will take you there. It's been family run since 1923. This restaurant gets extremely busy, so I would recommend booking a table either via Messenger, or Reception will book it for you, if not, there will be a wait for a table if you just turn up in the peak months. One last tip, The Baked Feta is the best in Skiathos Town!

Scala restaurant – my colleague ate here twice and said this was her favourite - the service was amazing both times and the food too - very reasonable - house wine 15 euros, and it was great! Food was a bit more gourmet and beautifully presented.

Marmita – two colleagues have mentioned this one - lovely setting in a pretty courtyard garden, right in the centre of town. The service is attentive and the food is typically Greek, and beautifully presented with some lovely twists.

Bakaliko was a bit more Greek but good Greek, and if you book they put you on a table at the water's edge - service was good and the food excellent.

Crazy Cow - The hotel restaurant is fabulous and the setting is beautiful, the tables are set around the pool and have a lovely ambience. They have a large wine cellar and pride themselves on their wines mainly from across Greece so be sure to ask for a recommendation. It is a la carte dining with Mediterranean fusion and often has fresh fish specials on the menu. It can get busy in high season so recommend booking. The bar staff are always friendly and they can make any cocktails and have a wide variety of spirits. You can enjoy a drink in the bar after your meal. They do have live entertainment on certain nights.

LoAndLa (Italian) - I would recommend booking. It's worth asking for a table close to the balcony overlooking the old port, great at sunset. The pasta is all freshly made. Great wine list and fabulous service. To find it, head to the top of the steps at Rock n Roll, face the church, turn left and walk up the narrow walkway between the restaurants to the top and arrive at LoAndLa before walking up next steps.

No Name Gyros – a gyros and beer costs less than 10 euros (apparently frequented by Kurt Russell and Goldie Hawn!).

The Windmill Restaurant is another place we recommend booking, as it offers a beautiful, romantic view of the town and the new port. We suggest booking around 7:00 pm to enjoy the sunset. The menu is more à la carte and the food is amazing and worth the extra expense.

Paraxenos Restaurant (Greek) - Lovely restaurant just off the main Papadiamanti Street. Opens out into an open air garden.

Gravisi Skiathos (Italian) – very pretty location, good pizza and a nice atmosphere.

Akre Skiathos (Greek and Mediterranean) - opened in 2024. Beautiful views over looking Skiathos town. If you're walking, it's up a fairly steep hill so try and avoid in the heat. Maybe worth getting a taxi up and walking back down - it's near the roundabout at the top of Skiathos Town - bus stop 4. Walk up opposite the way to town, towards Blue Horizon.

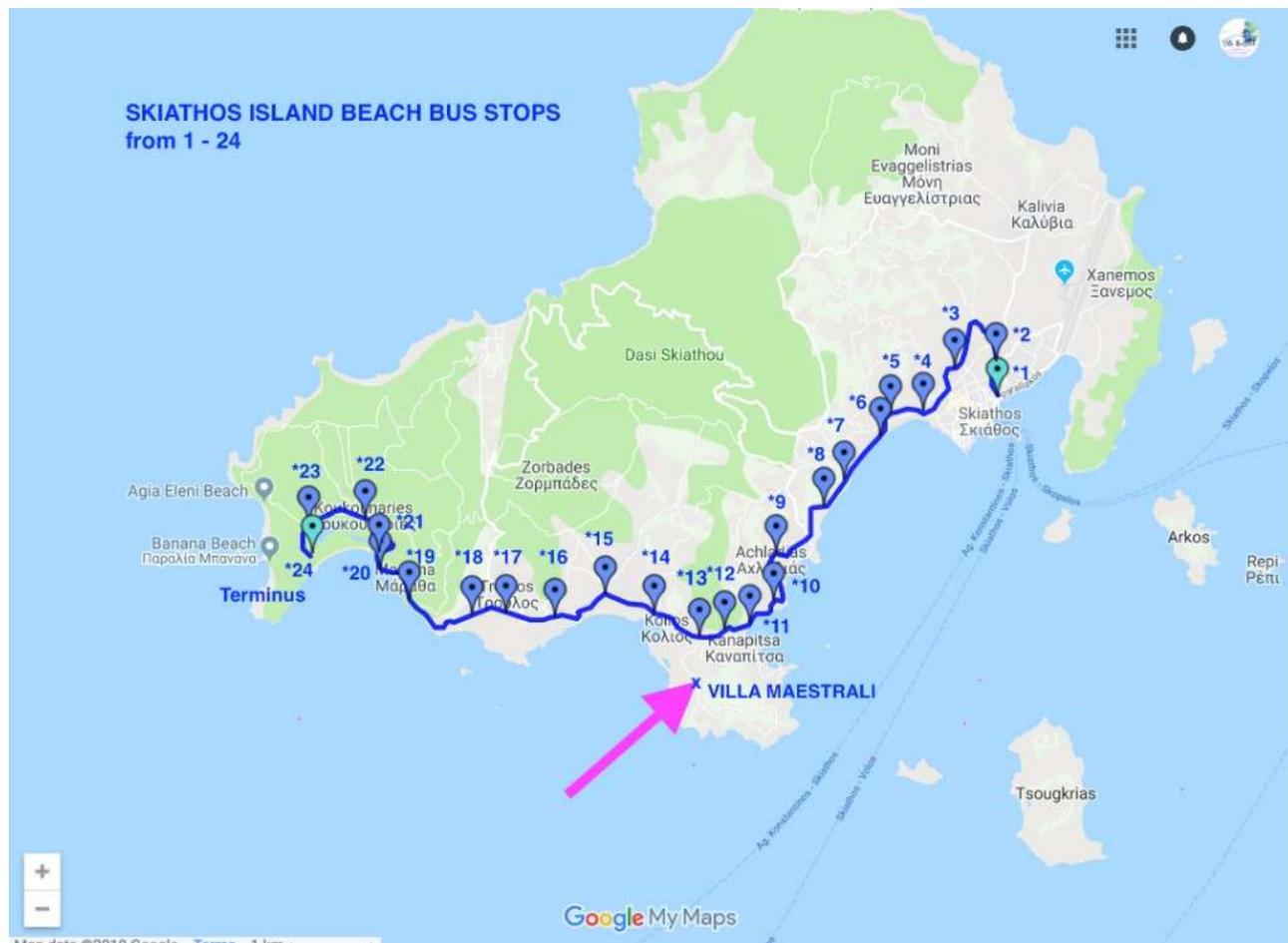
Maria's Pizzas - Another gorgeous restaurant in the back streets of Skiathos Town. Maria's Pizzas is great for a Pizza and garlic bread fix, plus they do great pasta dishes too!

Dolce (Crepes and Waffles) - if you have a sweet tooth, you have to try this place! You could even have a Gyros first at the famous 'No Name' takeaway opposite then move over to Dolce, the charm and authenticity of where this is positioned in the back streets of Skiathos Town is just simply beautiful and charming! They sell Crepes, Waffles, Ice cream, snacks, and the coffees are yummy!

Pinamothiki Meeting Point - in the gorgeous authentic back streets of Skiathos Town you can find this little gem. A mix of Greek and Mediterranean food.

Transport

Bus - The island is only small (7 miles long) and has one main road that runs from the airport down to the bottom end at Koukounaries. There are 26 stops on the bus from town to Koukounaries, and there is a different beach more or less at each stop. The bus service is excellent and runs regularly, but again, in high season, this can get busy. It costs about 2 Euros each way. This is a map of the stops:



Water Taxi - The other way to get around is by water taxi, which runs from the old port to some of the beaches and hotels. If you're not staying in town, you may have access to the water taxi, which is a lovely way to travel, especially in the summer evenings. They usually run until around 11-11:30 pm.

The main ones are:

- Skiathos Town to Koukounaries Beach - This is a high-speed water taxi and runs throughout the day.
- Skiathos Town to Achladies Beach, this water taxi can be used for anyone staying in or near to the resort of Achladies.
- Skiathos Town to Vassilias Beach (The main hotel this water taxi services is The Cassandra Bay Resort and Suites).
- Skiathos Town to Portos Nostos and Kanapitsa. This water taxi is great for those staying in the Kanapitsa area, it is also great for those staying in town that want to try Kanapitsa or Portos Nostos Beach.

The timetable is from 2023:



Taxi - There are also numerous taxis for you to catch (although you may end up sharing with other people). There is a main taxi pick-up in the new port, which can get busy again in high season, especially after a night on the town getting back to other resorts.

Activities

Evangelistria Monastery - A Spiritual and Historical Gem of Skiathos Perched on a hillside overlooking the Aegean. Founded in 1794 by a group of Kollyvades monks fleeing Mount Athos, the monastery played a pivotal role in Greek history. It was here in 1807 that the first Greek flag was blessed, marking the monastery as a symbol of the Greek War of Independence. The monks still produce and sell wine, olive oil, and honey made on the premises, perfect authentic souvenirs. The location offers panoramic views of the island's landscape and coast — a great spot for photos. There is also a beautiful cafe with the most stunning views! Tip: Wear modest clothing when visiting, as it is an active place of worship. A small donation is appreciated to support the upkeep of the monastery.

Walking - If you enjoy walking, there is a website called Skiathos Routes which received EU funding to develop the site. Lots of great walks that you can download from around 5km to 13km all over the island. Some use the bus to get you to the start, and some can be combined to make longer routes.

Baracoa is a beach club / bar at Porto Nostas beach. The water taxi goes from town and also Koukounaries. Great for beach days but recommend booking in advance in high season. Laid back music and some days they have a DJ and now they are also offering a great evening restaurant vibe. There is waiter service to sunbeds and a great snack menu as well as a fabulous restaurant. There is a large car park if you have a quad or car. Water sports to the right of the beach. You can catch the bus and then there is about a 10-15 minute walk.

The Beach House – a beach club located in Kolios. You can get the bus and it's around 10 minutes from the main road. Shallow waters in a bay and water sports if you desire (great for paddle boarding). The sunbeds are super comfy with an umbrella and have a bracelet lockable security box for valuables. Depending on the time of year prices start from 20 euros for 2 beds & an umbrella.

The food in the restaurant is amazing and very delicious. It's advised to always book here as it gets busy both for sunbeds and the restaurant for lunch. They have waiter service on the beach for drinks to keep you hydrated during the day and an extensive cocktail menu and of course a cold Mythos or Alpha! *You can also use the water sports people for a water taxi to another secluded beach that is only accessible by boat called Diamanti Beach.

Boat trips - there is an abundance of boats in the new harbour offering trips to different islands, around Skiathos, or over to Skopelos for the famous Mamma Mia boat trip. You can visit the church and beaches from the film, as well as playing the songs to get you in the mood. They are a fun day out. Here are some companies offering trips:

- Kalypso Boat Skiathos - kalypsoboatskiathos@gmail.com
- <https://elisabetcruises.net/>
- <https://www.skiathoscruises.gr/en/>

Tsougrias - from the Old Port in Skiathos Town, you can get a boat to a small island, opposite Skiathos called Tsougrias. There is a lovely beach there with sunbeds, it does get busy in the summer months. There is also a small taverna serving drinks and food. There is nothing else on this island, but its a great beach day, made even better by the lovely boat trip there and back. You can reserve tickets and sunbeds by calling 0030 698 0670690. Times of the boat are:

- From Skiathos Old Port: 09.30, 10.30, 11.30, 12.30, 13.30, 14.30
- Back from Tsougrias to Skiathos Old Port: 13.00, 14.00, 17.00, 18.00, 19.00, 20.00

**Note - Times can vary, so always check on arrival.

The Airport (!) - one must-see attraction is to visit the airport and watch the planes taking off and landing. There is a charming little restaurant called Milos where you can sit and enjoy the view of the planes arriving or leaving safely. If you're feeling more adventurous, there is a car park just opposite the runway, but be cautious of the thrust on takeoffs as it can be quite strong. There is also a small bar on the right-hand side of this car park.

Sunsets - if you're looking for a beautiful sunset, the beaches on the opposite side of the island offer some of the most stunning views. Aghia Eleni or Mandraki are both great options, even if you just go in the late afternoon for a drink and to watch the sunset.

Cinema - there is a Cinema in town showing recent movies but also shows Mama Mia and is an experience not to be missed! It has a bar inside but is open-air.

Beaches - A couple of our favourite places to visit on a boat trip are Tsougria and Arkos which are both beautiful beaches where you can stay all day and the water taxis come and go throughout the day to take you back when you are ready. Lalaria is a beach that can only be accessed by boat and is often part of the island boat trips.

Skiathos Dog Shelter - There is a dog shelter in Skiathos run by an English couple as a charitable organisation. Each day between 9am and 1pm you can take the dogs for a walk, if you get tempted you can adopt and organise for them to be flown to the UK for a small charge. There is also a puppy pen! Donations are welcome, whether that's monetary donations or bringing supplies to help the dogs, i.e., collars, leads, blankets, etc. Follow their Facebook page for more information.

Bars

Ginfish in the old harbour offers a happy hour 6-9 pm with some fabulous cocktails.

Rock & Roll on the Steps also has a happy hour.

Anderson's Bar in the back street off Papdiamantis is good for unusual cocktails.

Phedrock Bar for sports lovers, has several TVs and has most sporting events.

Old Port House – the English pub offering Guinness and cocktails run by an English couple is very popular.