Conference Venue

The conference will take place at the El Greco Resort

Address:Fira, 84700, PO Box 91, Santorini – Greece
Tel. +30 22860 24946, Fax: +30 22860 24945
Email: info@elgreco.com.gr
Web: http://www.elgreco.com.gr

El Greco resort hotel in Santorini welcomes you in a place that combines simplicity with beauty and make your stay in a resort hotel a truly unforgettable experience. With a renovation (2010) that really changed everything El Greco resort hotel set new standards in the term of luxury accommodation and became one of the most prestigious Santorini resort hotels in Fira and the whole island of Santorini. Find yourself with your friends or your family in a beautiful resort hotel in the heart of the island of Santorini. El Greco resort hotel is located minutes away from the centre of the magnificent capital of Santorini, Fira a vibrant place full of life and excitement.
History of Santorini

Santorini, and officially Thira is an island in the southern Aegean Sea, about 200 km southeast of Greece's mainland. It is the largest island of a small, circular archipelago which bears the same name and is the remnant of a volcanic caldera. It forms the southernmost member of the Cyclades group of islands, with an area of approximately 73 km² and a 2011 census population of 15,550. The municipality of Santorini comprises the inhabited islands of Santorini and Therasia and the uninhabited islands of Nea Kameni, Palaia Kameni, Aspronisi, and Christiana. The total land area is 90.623 km². Santorini is essentially what remains after an enormous volcanic eruption that destroyed the earliest settlements on a formerly single island, and created the current geological caldera. A giant central, rectangular lagoon, which measures about 12 by 7 km is surrounded by 300m high, steep cliffs on three sides. The main island slopes downward to the Aegean Sea. On the fourth side, the lagoon is separated from the sea by another much smaller island called Therasia; the lagoon is connected to the sea in two places, in the northwest and southwest. The depth of the caldera, at 400m, makes it possible for all but the largest ships to anchor anywhere in the protected bay; there is also a newly built marina at Vlychada, on the southwestern coast. The island's principal port is Athinias. The capital, Fira, clings to the top of the cliff looking down on the lagoon. The volcanic rocks present from the prior eruptions feature olivine and have a small presence of hornblende. It is the most active volcanic centre in the South Aegean Volcanic Arc, though what remains today is chiefly a water-filled caldera. The volcanic arc is approximately 500 km long and 20 to 40 km wide. The region first became volcanically active around 3–4 million years ago, though volcanism on Thera began around 2 million years ago with the extrusion of dacitic lavas from vents around the Akrotiri. The island is the site of one of the largest volcanic eruptions in recorded history: the Minoan eruption, which occurred some 3600 years ago at the height of the Minoan civilization. The eruption left a large caldera surrounded by volcanic ash deposits hundreds of metres deep and may have led indirectly to the collapse of the Minoan civilization on the island of Crete, 110 km to the south, through a gigantic tsunami. Another popular theory holds that the Thera eruption is the source of the legend of Atlantis.

Read more: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santorini
What is near the port-Map

1. Towards: Pergas, Perissa, Perivolos, Megalochori & Athinios Port
2. Towards: Karteros, Monolithos, Mazzara, Kamar & Monolithos Airport
3. Towards: Firostefani, Imerovigli & Oia
4. Towards: Cable Car
5. Towards: Youroupolis
How to get to Santorini

By plane

From Eleftherios Venizelos airport in Athens, you may fly to Santorini. The flight should last about 45 minutes approximately. The airport of Santorini is about 3km outside Fira (main town of the island of Santorini)

By ship from Pireaus or Rafina

To get to Pireaus, you can take the X96 bus which departs every 20-40min from the airport. Allow about 60-90 minutes for the trip to the port.

Every day there are ferries connecting Piraeus to Santorini.

Sea Jet, tel. +30 210 4121001
Blue Star Ferries, tel. +30 210 8919800
Hellenic Seaways, tel. +30 210 4199000
GA Ferries, tel. +30 210 4582640

To get to Rafina you can catch the bus from the designate area opposite the Sofitel Hotel, which is just 200m from the arrivals exit. The trip takes around 50 minutes. You can buy the ticket from the bus driver when entering the bus.

The departure hours are as follows (Monday-Sunday):

- From Rafina to Athens Airport: 05:15, 06:05, 06:45, 08:00, 09:40, 11:20, 12:25, 13:00, 14:40, 16:00, 17:20, 18:40, 20:00, 21:15.

A point for the return journey - the bus stop adjacent to the square in Rafina is only served by the Athens buses. If you want the airport bus you must descend the steps to the port road at the other (seaside) end of the square and the bus stop next to a little newspaper shop is where the airport bus picks you up as it leaves the port.

The ticket cost 5.00€. Children under 6 years can travel free. Half price ticket at 2.50€ is available for student, and people of age 18- and 65+

You can also take a Taxi to go to the Port of Pireaus or to the Port of Rafina.
If you take a taxi it is a good idea to let the driver know that your destination is Santorini, so that he takes you in the port area where are the ferries to Santorini.
Once you reach the port, there are a lot of travel agencies from where you can buy your ticket.
Keep in mind that there are more or less 3 types of ferries that can take you to Santorini.
- The first one is a normal ferry (cheapest but also slowest option). In this case the trip takes about 9-10 hours.
- The second case is the so-called Blue-Star ferries (relatively fast and not too expensive). The trip in this case should last about 7 hours.
- And the final, fastest and most expensive option is the so-called High-Speed ferries. With a High-Speed ferry it should only take you about 5 hours to get to Santorini.

Transportation in Santorini – How to get to the hotel

You can take a bus from the airport to Fira or one of the taxis outside the airport. Alternatively, you may call your own Taxi by calling +30 22860-22555.
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| 11:20 | 11:30 |
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| 19:30 | 19:40 |

| ΜΠΑΛΑΚΙΔΕΣ |
| PALAIKIDE |
| FROM FIRA | FROM KALAFATI |
| 6:50 | 7:20 |
| 12:40 | 13:00 |
| 14:00 | 14:00 |

| ΒΟΥΡΙΟΥΛΟ | 
| VOIRONI |
| FROM FIRA | FROM VOIRONI |
| 7:30 | 7:45 |
| 10:40 | 10:50 |
| 14:00 | 14:10 |

| ΜΟΥΡΙΝΟ | 
| MOURINO |
| FROM FIRA | FROM MOURINO |
| 7:10 | 7:25 |
| 14:00 | 14:15 |

| ΒΑΥΤΑΛΑ | 
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Places to visit

Archaeological Museum- It was built in 1960 by the Ministry of Public Works in order to replace the old museum (built in 1902), that had collapsed during the earthquake of 1956.

Fira Santorini, P.C 847 00, Greece
Opening: 8:30 – 15:00 (Mon closed)
Tel. +30 22860 22217

Museum of Prehistoric Thira

The Museum of Prehistoric Thira houses finds from the excavations at Akrotiri, conducted under the auspices of the Archaeological Society at Athens, the earlier excavations at Potamos made by members of the German Archaeological Institute at Athens, and rescue excavations at various other sites on the island, which were carried out by the 21st Ephorate of Antiquities for the Cyclades and Samos.

Fira Santorini 847 00 Greece
8.30 - 15.00 (Monday closed)
Tel. +30 22860 23217

For more information: http://www.santonet.gr/museums/prehistoric_museum.htm
Beaches

Red Beach (Kokkini Paralia)

Red beach is the most impressive of all beaches in Santorini; the definition of a volcano beach. Its name reveals its colour. Everything here is red creating together with the rocks a scenery you cannot possibly find anywhere else. Although it’s a rather busy beach, younger ages seem to prevail.

Tip: You should be equipped with hats, suntan lotion and shoes for walking along the path. The temperature here seems to be twice as high as on the rest of the island.

How to get there: You can park in the road right below the archaeological site Rahidi and take the boat for the Red Beach, that runs every half an hour and costs 5€. Otherwise, when reaching the archaeological site, turn on the right, park in front of the chapel of Agios Nikolaos and continue on foot. In case you choose to go by car, you should be aware that there is a distance of about 5-10min that is quite rough.

Monolithos

If you have a family with small children, the Monolithos beach is your ideal destination. As a result of its shallow waters, big waves do not reach the beach. There is also an organized playground keeping kids busy until 7 o’clock in the evening. For teenagers or adults, there are beach volleyball and basketball courts, as well as a soccer field. How to get there: By car or by bus, which runs frequently. It is located 9kms far from Fira.

Vlyhada

The volcano white rocks in Vlyhada remind us of a moon landscape. It is one of the most beautiful and best organized beaches in Santorini. No water sports available here.

Tip: You should spend some time at the beach bar Theros, which is in perfect harmony with the scenery.
How to get there: From Fira you take the road to Akrotiri. When you are there you will see a sign to Vlyhada. There are no buses running and this discourages big crowds of tourists and elderly people from coming to this beach.

Agios Georgios - Perivolos

Black sand and crystal clear waters; the ideal beach for safe diving and long sunbathing lying in comfortable deckchairs while listening to summer music. Mind the rocks because at some spots it is slippery! There is a lifeguard on the beach. Tip: The place-to-be for the celebrities of the island is the famous Seaside by Notos at the very beginning of the beach, offering the best beach service ever. Anemos is another top beach bar, situated in the yard of an old tomato factory.

How to get there: From Fira take the road towards Emporio and continue towards Perivolos.
**Perissa**
The natural “extension” of Perivolos, awarded with the E.U. blue flag, stretching up to the imposing white rock at the end of the beach. The more adventurous can dive from the rocks at the end of the beach (the area is called Kolada).

**Activities:** Mediterranean Dive, Santorini Dive Center and Wave Sport Club offer you everything -from jet skis, canoes and bananas to wind surfing. There is also a Water Park. The charming chapel of Agia Irini (dating back to 16th century) is located near Perissa. Additionaly, you can walk to the Ancient Thera. The boat to Kamari sets off also from this point (every half an hour until 18.00, 5-7€).

**How to get there:** It is less than 15kms far from Thera. Bus service is available throughout the day.

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**Kamari**
A beach awarded with two E.U. blue flags, well-organised, with a lifeguard and plenty of room for lying free on the sand. In the northern part of the beach, the sea has slippery slabs. For the more adventurous and risky ones, the best place for diving is at Kamari towards the hill of Prophitis Ilias. But always with great caution!

**Tips:** The best thing to do in Kamari is inquire at Ancient Thera Tours and follow an organised sightseeing tour to Ancient Thera. Also note that walking up the hill of Profitis Ilias for 20’ and following the path, you will reach the chapel of Zoodohos Pigi, where there is a spring with running water. Here you are very close to the location of Ancient Thera. For Scuba Diving contact the Kamari Dive Center or Aegean Divers. Regarding food, for delicious traditional Santorinean recipes visit ‘Kyra Irini’s’ Taverna at the entrance of the village. Mrs Irini herself is waiting for you there to offer you her traditional dishes. It is worth also visiting Nihteri restaurant which offers top quality local food.

**How to get there:** By car and bus.
Exo Gialos

The closest beach to Fira and the smallest beach with amenities on the island: black sand, quite deep waters, only a few beach chairs for couples and visitors seeking calmness and tranquility. At the Aegialos restaurant you will find whatever you need from traditional dishes to local cocktails.

**Tip:** Great parties with famous guest djs are organized throughout summer – the absolute place for having a blast at beach parties and enjoying the sunrise view at the seaside!

**How to get there:** Follow the signs leading to the beach or if you are an athletic type try reaching the beach on foot as it is only 2km far from Fira.

**For more information:**

Routes & Trips

Visit the islands of Santorini

To pass across, you take the boat from Oia or the Athinios harbour. It is worth seeing Potamos and Manolas settlements. The visit to Palia and Nea Kameni (known as the volcano) is a special experience. You will admire the hot springs and you will swim in the deep green waters. Walking on the edge of the biggest crater, Dafni, you will be impressed with the colorful rocks.

Bus Travel: Pyrgos, tel. +30 22860 30136
Santorini – Sea - Excursions: tel. +30 22860 24355
Walks

It is imperative to do at least once the amazing itinerary from Fira to Oia. Only in this way will you have experienced the absolute grandeur of the island. In Fira you should ask for the old path leading to Oia. Make sure you set off early in the morning to avoid the big heat or in the evening so that you reach Oia in time for the sunset. It will take you about two hours to get there. You will pass by Katholika of Fira with the beautiful mansions. Walking down to the caldera you will meet the Catholic Cathedral. Going on towards Firostefani-Imerovigli, you will see Agios Nikolaos and get to Skaros. Walk up to Theoskepasti, a picturesque little church. When getting to the asphalted road, there is an uphill leading to the Profitis Elias chapel. From here you have the best view. Walk along the stone path starting from the ‘Krifo Sholio’ in Pyrgos up to the monastery of Profitis Ilias. At this spot you will get overwhelmed with the view, the height, the landscape, the sea horizon of the other side of Santorini. It takes about half an hour to get here.

http://www.santorini-islandguide.com/activities/walks

Greek cuisine – what you should taste

Pastichio: Commonly known as Greek Lasagna, Pastichio is a base layer of pasta and ground beef with tomato sauce, topped with a creamy cheese Bechamel Sauce, cooked to a golden brown. This is a delicious meal and a staple of the Greek cuisine.
Spanakopita: Spinach Pie. You may not have liked spinach as a kid, but this delicate Filo filled appatizer is a classic and favorite Greek snack. Both healthy and delicious, you'll want to come back for more. A variation is Tiropita, or Cheese Pie, where no spinach is used in the filling. The pies either made in a pan, as shown, or shaped as triangles, for design.

Greek Salad: Village Salad, also known as the classic Greek Salad. Tomatoes, Kalamata Olives, Feta cheese, and a vinaigrette dressing define this traditional favorite. Enjoy with you meal, or by itself.

Feta Cheese: Feta is delicious crumbled over salads (the Classic Greek Salad), or together with sliced tomatoes, sprinkled with olive oil and fresh herbs. It is also used as a filling for puff pastry.
Souvlaki with pita: Greek Shis-Ka-Bob. Pork marinated in a lemon and olive oil sauce, seasoned with oregano and garlic. A perfect grilled meat, succulence in every bite.

Where to eat souvlaki and gyros

**Lucky's Souvlakis**

Fresh and juicy souvlaki in Lucky's Souvlakis, a classic and favorite snack stop in the heart of Fira.

tel. +30 2286022003

**Pies & Bakery Creations**

Sandwiches on the beach On your way from Fira to Karterados, you will find Erotokritos, a Cretan bakery with a tempting and inviting shopwindow. You should taste the delicious zapata sandwiches sprinkled as well as its pizza.

**Fanari**

Fanari Restaurant, located on a cliff side overlooking the sea boasts some splendid views of Santorini caldera and the sunset. The menu includes original Greek specialties prepared from locally available ingredients.

**Ampelos**

Located next to the main church of Fira with a magnificent view of the caldera, Restaurant Ampelos has a closed dining hall as well as an open terrace surrounded by a profusion of bougainvillea, geraniums and hibiscus. The guests can choose their dishes from a varied menu that combines both Mediterranean and Californian cuisines.

Tel. +30 22860 25554
Archipelagos

Housed in a refurbished 19th century captain's home, that has been carved out of the volcanic cliff, the restaurant offers panoramic views of the island, the magical sunset and the Aegean Sea. The evenings, in particular, are truly romantic, when the sun dips into the blue sea and the Aegean sky takes on a magnificent shade of red.
Tel. +30 22860 24509, +30 22860 23673

Kapari Taverna

Kapari Restaurant is located on the main road of Fira, on the road leading to Firostefani. Owned by Dora and Costas, a husband-wife team, Kapari’s foremost theme has been careful attention to detail, and the owners have successfully created a fine ambience inside and an equally tasteful exterior to match it. The aesthetically landscaped entrance of the restaurant is just a prelude to the classic dining area and has a profusion of greenery.
Tel. +30 22860 27086

www.greeka.com
Tabasco Restaurant & Pizzeria

The Tabasco Restaurant & Pizzeria for 12 years is located both in the center of Fira, right in the main square, and just outside the village of Karterados in the area hosting the main shopping center of the island, on the road to Fira. The menu in both restaurants offers high quality products at affordable prices. Among the specialties you can taste appetizers, soups, risotto, pasta, crepes, salads, grilled fish and meat, and a very good pizza!
Tel. +30 22860 23604 - Mobile: +30 6982 470038

http://www.in-santorini.com/santorini_restaurants.html
Useful telephone numbers:

Police station at Fira: +30 22860 22649
Hospital at Fira: +30 22860 22237
Pharmacy: +30 22860 24501
Airport: +30 22860 31666
Taxis: +30 22860 22555 and +30 22860 23951

Car hire

ARCHEA THIRA TOURS
Fira, tel. +30 22860 31334,
Kamari, tel. +30 22860 32474
HERTZ
Fira, tel. +30 22860 22221
SANTOSUN TRAVEL AND CAR RENTAL
Perissa, tel. +30 22860 81456
SPIRIDAKOS
Fira, tel. +30 22860 23755
VAZEOS CAR-MOTO RENTAL
Oia, tel. +30 22860 71200

Banks

Alpha Bank, tel. +30 22860 23801
Eurobank, tel. +30 22860 25851
National Bank, tel. +30 22860 21052
Piraeus Bank, tel. +30 22860 25408

Post office

Fira, tel. +30 22860 22238
Emporio, tel. +30 22860 81120
Oia, tel. +30 22860 71444

Medical services

Ambulance tel. +30 22863 60300 - 4 Health Center
Central Clinic of Santorini Fira, tel. +30 22860 21728
Radiology Center Fira, tel. +30 22860 25855, mob. +30 6976 681327
Santorini Renal Nephrology Holiday dialysis centre,
tel. +30 22860 27107, +30 22860 27108,
fax +30 22860 25618
Sources:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santorini
http://www.santorini-islandguide.com/activities/walks
www.greeka.com
http://www.santorini-islandguide.com/beaches
http://www.elgreco.com.gr
http://www.archipelagos-santorini.com/