

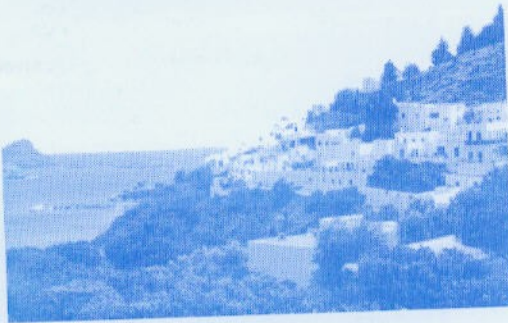
escape completely.

PRINCESS PATTERN

A daily guide to cruise activities 

RHODES • TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 • GRAND PRINCESS
Sunrise 7:06am • Sunset 6:57pm • Tonight's Dress: Smart Casual

Welcome to Rhodes



Blessed with a delightful climate and fertile soil, which produces a variety of the finest fruits, vegetables and red wine, Rhodes is the most important island in the group known as the Dodecanese or South Sporades. It is also the most easterly island of the Aegean Sea. In Greek mythology, Rhodes was created by the sun god and a sea nymph: symbolic testimony indeed to the favor of both sun and sea in this beautiful place. According to Homer, the first colonists were Dorian Greeks, who founded three settlements: Lindos, Kamiros and Ialysos. All three towns grew and prospered, extending their trade contacts as far as Italy and Spain. Once they became involved in the Persian and Peloponesian wars, the settlers saw the need for a fortress. They founded the city of Rhodes at the northern tip of the island, and worked together to build a powerful citadel with a protected harbor. The strength of the fortifications and the Rodian navy made the island even more important as a commercial and military power. It was put under siege many times, but usually resisted successfully.

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FROM THE NAVIGATOR



After departing Mykonos the Grand Princess made easterly courses into the early evening, until we passed Samos Island where we altered to the southeast to pass between Ikaria and Thymainaki Rocky Islands. Once clear we continued on southeasterly courses throughout the night and into the early morning before altering to the east to head toward Rhodes which lies on the north end of the Island of Rodos.

WEATHER:

Wind: North easterly gentle breeze
Temperature: 21°C / 70°F
Sky: Sunny
Sea State: Slight seas

SHIP'S AGENT IN RHODES

Cruise Vessel Operation
ISS Cruise Services
Phone: (0030) 210 4146662
John Efstathiou
Mobile (0030) 6972288008

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

Events and activities not to be missed

ENTERTAINMENT

PRINCESS THEATER

Promenade, Decks 6 & 7 Forward

8:30pm & 10:30pm

VARIETY SHOWTIME

Starring: Virtuoso Violinist

JACQUELINE ROCHE

BACK WITH A BRAND NEW SHOW!
and Dynamic Singer & Entertainer

HELEN JAY

MC: Cruise Director Paul

Music by the Grand Princess Orchestra

Last three rows reserved for passengers with limited mobility

ENTERTAINMENT

VISTA LOUNGE

Promenade Deck 7 Aft

MOVIE NIGHT

8:30pm

YOU, ME AND DUPREE

Starring: Owen Wilson and Kate Hudson

PG-13 • 1hr 48mins

10:30pm

NATIONAL TREASURE

BOOK OF SECRETS

Nicholas Cage and Diane Kruger

PG • 1hr 41mins

FEATURED TODAY...

MIDNIGHT MADNESS ART AUCTION

10:30 p.m Explorers Lounge Deck 7

Join our Guest Artists,

Art Connoisseurs and your

Art Director Gina for an evening to

remember! All artwork up to 50%

below est. retail and gallery

pricing - fast paced, exciting,

educational and fun;

don't miss this special auction!

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In its days of greatest power, Rhodes became famous for impressive sculpture, like the huge bronze Colossus, which stood at the entrance to the harbor. Created to honor the sun god Helios, it was at least 110 feet high and considered one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Contrary to popular belief, it did not straddle the harbor mouth, which is 1,300 feet across. It may have stood, however, on a protective barrier at the entrance, or off to one side of it.

Unfortunately, the Colossus only stood for 56 years before an earthquake toppled it in 224 B.C. But the enormous fragments remained half-submerged—and still awe-inspiring—for another nine centuries. When a

scrap dealer finally carried the pieces away, he needed 900 camels!

The people of Rhodes cooperated with Alexander the Great, and later with the Roman empire, but the period of their greatest commercial success was already past. Rhodes passed successively from Byzantine control to the Saracens to Italian merchants, never regaining its former glory.

But the most glorious episode in Rodian history began in 1309, when the Knights of St. John took control. The Knights were founded during the Crusades as a nursing brotherhood, helping to care for the sick and infirm among the pilgrims to the Holy Land. Their full and proper name was the Knights of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem.

Yet continued fighting in the countryside convinced them that they had to protect travelers as well as heal them. So the Knights evolved into a genuine military order, like the Templars, although they never lost their interest in medicine and healing.

With the fall of Acre in 1291, the Knights and their fellow crusaders were finally expelled from the Holy Land. Although the Knights were temporary “orphans,” they were highly motivated fighting men from the leading families of Europe. The Pope suggested that they use Rhodes as a base from which to harass Turkish communications, and pave the way for the next campaign.

No further Crusade took place, but the Knights rebuilt the town and the fortifications of Rhodes with furious zeal. Most of the imposing military architecture you see today dates from the 14th century. The Knights’ rule on the island was mild and just, and both the native Greeks and the Italian merchants prospered with an increase



GREECE AT A GLANCE

SIZE: Approximately 50,943 square miles, slightly smaller than Alabama

POPULATION: 10,706,290
(July 2007 est.)

LANGUAGE: Greek 99% (Official),
English, French

CAPITAL: Athens

TYPE OF GOVERNMENT:
Parliamentary Republic

CURRENCY: Euro (EUR)

TIME ZONE: GMT + 2

ABOUT YOUR PORT GUIDE

This is your guide to Rhodes, specially prepared by Princess Cruises. This guide is intended to assist you if you are on a shore excursion, touring independently or doing both.

Please note that the information provided is general in nature and is subject to change.



of commerce. The Knights built galleys, learned naval tactics, and quickly became a serious danger to Moslem shipping in the Aegean for the next two centuries.

After Constantinople was captured in 1453, the Turks felt strong enough to seize Rhodes. Sultan Mehmet II attempted an assault in 1480, but was repulsed with severe losses. A later siege by Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent focused the full and awesome power of the Ottoman Empire on this single effort. Suleyman landed in June of 1522, with 100,000 well-trained troops, an excellent engineer corps and powerful siege artillery.

Constant reinforcements were needed to replace casualties, bringing the total number of Turkish soldiers to 200,000; as many as 90,000 of them would die. To oppose them, there were only 700 Knights, with 6,000 local helpers, and no hope of reinforcement. But they knew every inch of their island, and they defended what was by then the most strongly fortified place on earth.

The siege was conducted with great skill and energy on both sides. Repeated Turkish assaults were repulsed with shocking slaughter. By Christmas, only 180 Knights and 1,500 auxiliaries were still left alive, and most of these were wounded.

Suleyman proposed a truce, since he dreaded the thought of more street fighting. The Knights were allowed to evacuate the island peacefully, with the respect of their besiegers. The fighting was finally over, and Rhodes became Turkish property.

The Knights of St. John fell back to Malta, where they rebuilt their forces. They continued to sail expeditions against the Turkish navy.

When Suleyman attempted to capture Malta 40 years later, he suffered a major defeat, and the "Knights of Malta" continued to hold their new island until Napoleon's time.

Turkish rule on Rhodes was comparatively lenient, allowing much freedom to the local Greeks and Italians. There was a general decline in commercial development, and not much building took place over the next four centuries.

The Italian navy seized Rhodes and the Dodecanese in 1912, following the Italo-Turkish War. Mussolini's architects restored many of the medieval buildings and fortresses in the 1930s. There was some air and naval action near Rhodes during World War II, but little damage was done. The islands were turned over to Greece in 1948.

As it appears today, Rhodes Town retains few relics of its glorious ancient past. Most of the Old Town is medieval, in the image of the Knights of St. John. Only on Monte Smith, west of town, do you find remnants of the ancient Acropolis. The ruins of a Stadium and an Odeon — a small theater — date from the 2nd century B.C. You will also find three columns from the old Temple of Apollo.

The Mountain is named for British Admiral Sidney Smith, who lived here during the Napoleonic Wars. The entrance to the old

harbor of Mandraki is marked today by a buck and a doe in bronze, with no Colossus in sight.

But don't neglect the real treat for a visitor to Rhodes: a walk through the Old Town will transport you back five centuries. Just inside the Amboise Gate is the Palace of the Grand Masters, rich with the memory of the Knights. Nearby is St. John's Lodge, and the area once occupied by St. John's Chapel, their principal place of worship.

From there, the arrow-straight Street of the Knights leads to St. Mary's Church, at the waterfront. Along that thoroughfare are the Arsenal and the impressive Hospital, in line with the initial mission of the Order.

Also near the Street of the Knights you will find a chain of "Inns," or residences, where the Knights lived in communities based on language. The Inns are some of the richest and most impressive buildings in the Old Town. There were eight of these "languages": France, Auvergne, Provence, Aragon, Castille, Italy, England and Germany.

Once you have admired these Inns, you will want to walk around the old ramparts. Each wall section — called a Boulevard — was garrisoned by a different "Language." The names of each one line up neatly on the street signs if you know what to look for. Rhodes and Malta are the only places in the world where cities are built in this manner.

If you can tear yourself away from the Old City, there are more surprises in the ancient towns of Rhodes. Beautiful Lindos may already seem familiar if you saw the movie, "The Guns of Navarone." And as early as the 7th century B.C., colonists from here founded Naples, in southern Italy, and Gela in Sicily.

Although the impressive fortress is the work of the Knights, the ancient Acropolis centers on the temple of Athena Lindia, built in the Doric style. The awesome site of Lindos explains why life on Rhodes began here.

Mount Philerimos hosts Ialysos, the third of the ancient trio of towns. Everyone was here: Phoenicians, Dorians, Byzantines, Genoese, Knights of St. John. During the Great Siege, even Suleyman placed his headquarters here.

Places of Interest

The Colossus of Rhodes, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, is reputed to have once stood guard over the harbor. Today, the bronze statues of a stag and doe top the two columns marking the harbor entrance.

RHODES OLD TOWN

This old, walled medieval city was home to the Knights of St. John. The Knights' Road leads to the Palace of the Grand Masters, a fortress built to defend the town and its harbors.

PALACE OF THE GRAND MASTERS

Begun in the early 14th century by the Knights of St. John, the palace was destroyed in 1856 and rebuilt in 1939. The fortress offers panoramic views of the harbor and town.

LINDOS VILLAGE

A popular haunt with artists and writers, the village features old whitewashed houses and narrow streets lined with shops, galleries and cafés.

THE ACROPOLIS OF LINDOS

Landmarks on this old Doric acropolis include a 4th-century Temple of Athena Lindia, a Byzantine church, and the fortifications of the Knights of St. John, including the remains of the Governor's quarters.

ST. PAUL'S BAY

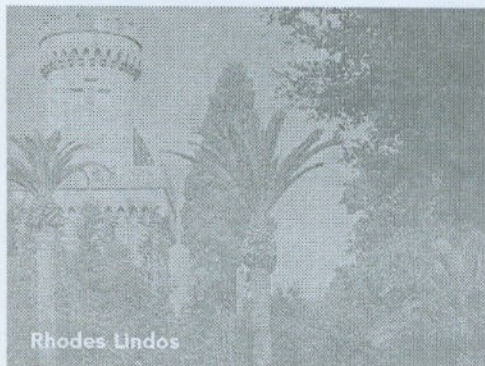
Located at the foot of the Acropolis of Lindos, St. Paul's Bay is where the Apostle is said to have sought shelter during a storm.

MT. PHILERIMOS

Mt. Philerimos is crowned by the Church of Our Lady, which is built over the ruins of a Greek temple and early Christian catacombs. The barrel-vaulted Chapel of St. George dates from the 15th century.

MONTE SMITH

A British admiral lent his name to Rhodes' old Acropolis, home to a rebuilt Roman theater and stadium.



Rhodes Lindos

Practical Information

DOCKING

Your Princess ship will either anchor or dock in Rhodes Commercial Harbour as directed by the Port Authority on that day.

SHORE EXCURSION DEPARTURE

Passengers will meet at a specific location for each shore excursion departure. Please refer to your tour ticket and the Princess Patter for the correct place and time. Your Shore Excursion staff will be at that location to assist you.

TAXIS

Taxis are available outside the port gates and throughout the city. Drivers speak limited English and accept only local currency, U.S. Dollars and British Pound Sterling.

SHOPPING

Many people consider Rhodes one big shopping center. You will find good buys in:

Lindos ware: Fine pottery decorated with green and red floral motifs

Leather: Particularly sandals and bags

Reproductions: Early bronzes, figurines and vase paintings

Jewelry: high quality gold and silver

The best place to shop is on Socrates Street in Old Town.

OPENING AND CLOSING TIMES

Banks: The banks in Cypress Square, National Bank and Alpha Bank, are generally open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Shops: Generally open from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Post Office: Look for the E.L.T.A. signs. Open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

PROPER ATTIRE

Please wear proper attire ashore when planning to visit churches, cathedrals and other sacred places. Shorts for both men and women are considered improper. Women should also cover their bare shoulders and must wear skirts.

LOCAL CUISINE

Food Specialties

Meals in Greece are a time to indulge and enjoy. Some popular foods are:

Tzatziki: Well-known appetizer made with yogurt, cucumbers and garlic

Pastitsio: A baked dish of minced lamb and macaroni

Moussaka: Minced meat and vegetables served with rich cheese

Gemista: Cooked tomatoes or peppers, usually stuffed with ground lamb.

Drink Specialties

Wine is a centerpiece of Greek life. Rhodes has a long tradition in wine-making that dates back to Antiquity. You may prefer the kokkino (red) and aspro (dry white) wines, which are inexpensive and quite satisfying.

Ouzo: a clear licorice-flavor liqueur, is the favorite aperitif. Sip it slowly over a plate of mezedes or appetizers. You also may want to try:

Brandy: Metaxa

Mavrodaphne: A heavy dessert wine

Sparkling Wine: Rhodes is amongst the few places in Greece that produces local sparkling wines.

It is always recommended that you drink bottled water while in port.

TIPPING

Suggested tipping is 15 to 20 percent for good service.

SOME USEFUL WORDS

YesMalista or Ne

NoOchi

PleaseParakalo

Thank youEfharisto

Good morningKalimera

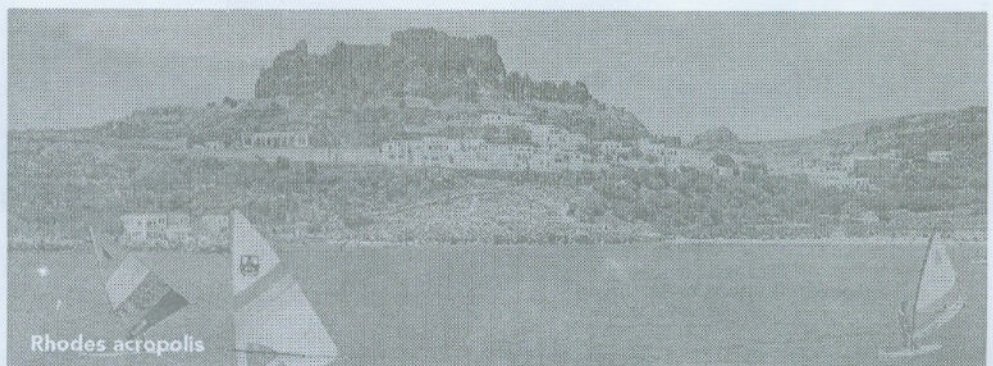
CLIMATE

Rhodes is one of the sunniest destinations in Europe, boasting over 3,000 hours of sunshine annually. There are really only two seasons on the island: a hot summer and a rainy winter. Temperatures may reach over 100 degrees F in the summer months. The coolest months are January and February when temperatures dip between 54 and 64 degrees F.

PRINCESS CRUISES AGENTS

In case of emergency while you are ashore, please contact:

Inchscape Shipping Services
Rhodes
Greece
85100
Telephone: 30 2241027300
Telefax: 30 2 2410 78143



Rhodes acropolis



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 *Map not to scale