

## MARELLA CRUISES

# Explore Ashore

# Thira, Santorini

#### Port Information

The local currency is the euro.

Foreign exchange is available from reception on deck 5.

Major credit cards are accepted in most shops, cafes and

Language

The language spoken in Santorini is Greek. English is understood but not always spoken.

restaurants.

## **Getting Around**

Distance to town centre

The best way to reach the centre is by cable-car. This is €6,00 each way per adult and €2.50 each way per child. They run

every 20 minutes.

Alternatively, there is a tough hike of 580 steps.

You will find donkey rides offered - We do not recommend this

due to animal cruelty.

Taxis

Taxis are situated at the top of the cable car ride at the top of the cliff. They are only necessary if you wish to make your way further afield. If the ride is not metered, we suggest that you

agree a price with the driver before entering the taxi.

Local buses

Local buses are infrequent and are not recommended.

Useful phrases

English Good morning Hello/Goodbye Please or

Greek Καλημέρα Γειά Σας

You're welcome Παρακαλώ Ευχαριστώ Pronunciation Ka-li-me-ra

Yia-sas

Pa-ra-ka-loh Ef-ha-ri-stoh

Tender operation

We drop anchor in Thira, so we tender to shore. If you're booked on one of our excursion we ask you to meet us in the Broadway Show Lounge, Deck 4, 30 minutes prior to the departure time on your ticket. If you are heading ashore independently, please check your Cruise News for further information.

Thank you

Did you know?

Santorini's Cable Car serves 1200 persons per hour.

Main highlights

Don't miss Akrotiri, probably the most important archaeological site in the Cyclades. The city was one of the Aegean Sea's most significant before earthquakes and a volcanic eruption destroyed it in the 17th century BC. The volcanic material preserved the buildings and their content. You'll need a taxi to get

Oia is the ultimate Greek Island village, with white houses and domed churches tumbling over the lip of the caldera. The town must be one of the most magnificent settings, with its converted peasant houses on the very edge of the crater and spectacular sunsets that draw coach parties from across the

There are many Boat Tours available from Thira that travel around the beautiful island of Santorini or to neighbouring islands.

Nea Kameni island (reached by ferry from Thira), in the middle of the flooded caldera, is one of the most violent volcanoes on the planet. It is also one of the contested sites for the lost city of Atlantis. The eruption that destroyed most of Santorini 3,600 years ago produced tsunamis that reached as far as Turkey and probably wiped out maritime Minoan civilisation. The new craters that appeared in the following centuries are currently snoozing, although they are under constant surveillance by scientists at Fira's volcanology institute. Tour the volcano by boat, or go for a walk around the crater to see it up close.

The ruins of Ancient Thira are located on a headland called Mesa Vouna between the two popular beaches of Kamari and Perissa. In addition to its ancient ruins the site offers spectacular views over cliffs that drop into the sea on three sides.

### **Essential Information**

Tourist information

There are two tourist information centres in Thira situated in

Internet access

Wi-Fi is available in the local restaurants, bars and cafes.

Nearest beaches

Red Beach is one of the most beautiful and famous beaches of Santorini. It has black and red volcanic pebbles and hot water. This is located 12km away from Thira.

Vourvoulos is a beautiful beach only 4km away from Thira. However, strong winds blow frequently and make it uncomfortable and not recommended for swimming.

Shopping

PLEASE NOTE: As with all cities.

always ensure you keep a close eye on your valuables.

Thira offers much in the way of shopping opportunities. You'll be amazed at the sheer number of jewellery shops around the centre of the town. Interspersed with these there are also a number of expensive boutiques. In both these types of shops be prepared for some excellent salesmen and assurances that whatever you're looking at is 'the best on the island'. The Hondos Centre is located right in the heart of Thira town in one of the busiest cobblestone streets of the island. In this department store you'll find anything you need concerning your beauty, hygiene and personal style.