

Advertisement feature



BACK TO THE FUTURE

SAVOUR A TASTE OF GREECE'S PAST AND PRESENT AT THE LUXURIOUS NAFPLIA HOTEL AND VILLAS

Fancy a dose of ultra-modern creature comfort in a setting that's steeped in history? The Nafplia Palace Hotel & Villas resort is a paradise straight from the pages of *Wallpaper* magazine, with its feet firmly in Ancient Greece.

Overlooking the history-heavy Bay of Argolis, in Nafplion, the 33 villas are a sophisticated mix of plasma screens, touch technology and witty '70s detailing open year-round. Each is entirely unique, so you could find yourself basking in your steam room, gazing into your own aquarium or reclining in a private home cinema. Most have their own private pools overlooking the tiled roofs of Greece's first-ever capital, but you might prefer a dip in the hotel's infinity pool – it seemingly melts into the glittering Aegean.

Polished wood, acres of glossy marble and nods to Corbusier and Starck are the obvious draws for city types longing for a dose of the heat and beauty of the Greek countryside. Pad down to Arvanitia beach, with its own restaurant and bar, or settle for a sunset Bellini overlooking one of the prettiest views in the world – across the bay and into the sea – from the beautifully designed Lobby Bar.

Futuristic detailing may make the hotel feel like a luxurious set from *Logan's Run*, but you don't have

to go far to recover your sense of history. The Nafplia Palace is the only hotel in Europe to be set inside an ancient site – the fortress of Akronafplia, which is 2,000 years old and incorporates stone from Mycenaean times. Since then, it's been a fortress and a political prison, before a 1970s government gave the go-ahead for a modernist building to go up on site and a unique melding of cultures began.

Beyond the fortress walls, the old town of Nafplion is a heady mishmash of Roman and Byzantium, Venetian and Ottoman buildings, all covered in fuchsia bougainvillea and punctuated by little bars and restaurants. Further afield, the World Heritage sites of Epidauros, Olympia and Mycenae are scattered across the Argolic Plain and the splendours of Athens are an hour and a half's drive away.

Whether you decide to go exploring or just stay within the luxurious comfort of your private villa and hotel, you're guaranteed a journey that'll relax you well into the foreseeable future. And well into Greece's fascinating past, too.

For more information or to book, contact the Nafplia Palace Hotel & Villas on 00 30 275 207 0800, www.nafliapalace.gr.




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