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Hotel Review: St Nicolas Bay, Crete

By **Jessica Lockett** · JULY 7, 2022

A blissful, boutique hotel that will leave you yearning to go back for more.

Situated on one of the hottest Greek islands, St Nicolas Bay is a secluded oasis of paradise overlooking the breath-taking Mirabello Gulf in the Cerulean sea, within walking distance of Agios Nikolaos town.



From the moment you step off the plane and hop onto your one-hour transfer via private limousine, St.Nicolas will have you captivated. The hotel's legendary Cretan hospitality doesn't go amiss, as they ensure every aspect of your stay is a dream. If you're after a destination that leaves you feeling fully refreshed and rejuvenated then look no further.

St Nicolas Bay hotel review

Rooms & Facilities

The hotel re-opened in February after an elegant renovation across the whole site, and now boasts 110 rooms (22 of which have private pools if you fancy an extra

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and now boasts 115 rooms (33 of which have private pools if you fancy an extra splash of indulgence). Or why not splurge on one of the eight villas on site (enjoyed recently by Andrew Castle, one of a few celebrity guests to have adored a stay here)?



There are also a host of new offerings for summer, including a new teenagers' club, a children's nature area, open air gym, gastronomy experiences and a 25-metre athletic outdoor pool. We recommend booking an early morning yoga session at the new yoga pavilion.



Rooms are bright and modern with classic, calm colours, wooden floors and spacious marble-lined bathrooms.

YOU stayed in a sea-view room with a large king size bed positioned overlooking the private veranda; perfect to catch the sunrise. We gazed at the sun as it peered over the horizon, listening to the sound of the waves crashing below, all from the comfort of our plush white sheets.

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FOOD & DRINK


There are a plethora of restaurants to choose from at St Nicolas Bay hotel. The Club House offers an extensive choice for breakfast, including delicious Cretan pastries, endless bowls of Greek yoghurt with fresh fruit, a juicy fry up, detox and vegetarian dishes – or perhaps a slightly bizarre breakfast choice like smoked chicken may tickle your taste buds. Blue Bay restaurant overlooking the Mirabello bay is perfect for a light lunch; you'll find Mediterranean and Asian dishes plus a selection of fresh fish, sandwiches and hearty salads, where a side of grilled prawns is a MUST (we ordered a second helping!)



In the evening the Blue Bay Jetty bar is transformed into a relaxed cocktail bar by the water's edge. Sip on a sparkling sangria whilst you watch the last of the sun's rays dance away on the waves.

If it's entertainment you fancy, then The Greek Kafenion restaurant is where it's at. With local hospitality, Cretan food and live folklore musicians and dancers every Wednesday they'll be sure to charm you off your feet and have you dancing off that recently devoured mixed grill kebab.





For a more intimate setting head to Minotaure, the resort's exclusive, pool-side, fine dining restaurant with an Asian and International innovative cuisine. With a glass of rose in hand and the golden orange sun setting behind the palm trees, you can lean back and relax to the sound of a live pianist who plays every night. Do not miss the catch of the day for the freshest, meatiest fish we've ever eaten!

Hotel highlights

Most guests like to remain blissfully switched off here – by all means doze away to your heart's content on one of the many sun-loungers. But if you are itching to let out some energy, you can enjoy a selection of excellent watersports suitable for the whole family including water skiing, windsurfing, canoeing and paddle-boarding (we recommend you grab a paddle board first thing to enjoy the calm, early morning waters all to yourself).



There are also daily active trips to explore other parts of the island. Perhaps a trip to the beautiful, historic Spinalonga island, which you can reach by short boat ride and

can book from just €60.00 (this may vary depending on if you would like a private guide and for how many hours).



YOU's top highlight was a glorious hike (just shy of a 3 hour round trip, 4km long) up the Krista Gorge; a spectacular natural feature just outside the stunning town of Krista. With a breath-taking canyon entrance you'll feel truly immersed in it's impressive surroundings. Take plenty of water and be sure to wear sturdy footwear as you'll be quite literally climbing boulders (don't worry it's not too hard). Book from €39.00 pp at reception.

Best for

A romantic getaway or a luxurious family holiday.

Sovereign (sovereign.com) has a seven-night stay at St Nicolas Bay Resort Hotel & Villas priced from £1,350 per person on a half-board basis, including flights from London Gatwick and private transfers.

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