

ALASTAIR SAWDAY'S SPECIAL PLACES TO STAY

GREECE

All the sparkle and magic of Greece, from the tiniest Cycladic isle to the highest Macedonian mountain.

EDITED BY MICHAEL CULLEN



Melenos Lindos

85107 Lindos, Rhodes

Bougainvillea fans out across a whitewashed wall, Turkish lanterns illuminate the rooftop restaurant. Michalis's pleasure dome took 12 years to build, but his pursuit for perfection will delight card-carrying luxury-seekers. You're on the side of a hill at the end of the town. Behind, the Acropolis rises above olive trees. Beneath, the bay shimmers; follow the path down (a three-minute walk) and dive into clear blue water. Back at Melenos, cushioned sofas deck the shaded bar, huge terracotta pots erupt with colour and flowers float in stone bowls. Everywhere something wonderful catches the eye, be it beds of rosemary, bowls of lemons, hand-painted tiles, cascading vines. Delicious bedrooms are either big or huge. The style is contemporary, the influence is traditional, and ornate latticed woodwork and colourful wall hangings give a Moorish feel. You get wooden panka beds, Frette linen, cymbal-sized showers and the comfiest mattresses on the island. All rooms open onto their own terrace or balcony, most have sea views. The food is exceptional, as is just about everything.

rooms 12 suites: 3 for 2, 8 for 2-3, 1 for 4.

price €180-€390.

meals Light lunch/dinner €15-€50.

closed November-March.

directions Lindos is 50km south of Rhodes
Town. The centre is car-free; staff
meet you in the square & carry bags
up. Follow main alleyway up to
Acropolis; hotel by water trough.



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