

REAL LESVOS

Greece's best-kept secret

Directions to Villa Molyvos Views

Mytilene



(photo 1)

Go north out of the airport towards Mytilene (turn left out of the airport as you face the sea). After 5km (3 miles) you will come to Mytilene, which is a bustling port town and the capital of the island. Mytilene is a great place for a day trip to see the castle, amphitheatre, historic churches and do some shopping.

It's about a 3km (2 mile) drive through town. At first, follow the signs for "Kentro" or "Centre", passing a marina on your right. At the first junction follow the sweep of the road left (photo 1). .

After 50m turn left and then immediately right (see photo 2 & 3), still following signs for "Kentro" or "Centre".



(photo 2)



(photo 3)



(photo 4)



(photo 5)

Keeping in the left lane and going straight on through a set of traffic lights, you will see the port/harbour area in front of you at the next junction after 100m - turn left and keep in the right hand lane (see photo 4 above).

At the next junction (after about 100m) go straight ahead as indicated in photo 5 above.

After another 100m, bear right and go up the hill, as indicated in photo 6. Then after 50m turn sharp left. This narrow road will continue between houses and shops for about 1km before going uphill as you come out of Mytilene town.



(photo 6)

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Mytilene to Kalloni

Once out of Mytilene, carry on the same road for nearly 40km, or around 25 mins. The road takes you up high into the natural mediterranean pine and oak forests that cover the centre of Lesvos. This is a beautiful place and one of the many varied landscapes on Lesvos.

After you descend from the high forest you will reach the flat area before Kalloni. This is a marsh and salt plain, which is home to migratory birds including flamingos. Watch out for flamingos on the left-hand-side of the road, wading in the marshy pools (see photo 7 to the right).

Before you reach the village of Kalloni, you will arrive at a roundabout. Be cautious at the roundabout as it was only recently that 3 roundabouts have appeared on the roads of Lesvos (you will use all 3 on this route) – so some locals are not yet used to giving way to vehicles coming from the left already on the roundabout! Take the first exit (right) at this roundabout, signposted for Molyvos, Sigri and Eressos.

Kalloni to Petra

After the roundabout, you are on a new road bypassing the village of Kalloni. After around 1.5km, you will see a right turn, signposted for Molyvos and Petra (see photo 8 to the right).

You then follow this road, which is very picturesque, through the mountains to Petra. In addition to more pristine oak and pine forest and olive groves, this area is home to traditional mountain villages and monasteries.

Petra/Molyvos

As you come down into Petra, you will see the spectacular church on the rock. It's the venue for an annual religious pilgrimage by Greeks far and wide in mid- to late August. Bear right as you get to the centre of Petra, heading towards Molyvos along the seafront at Petra.

As you follow the road from Petra, after a couple of km you'll round a couple of right-hand bends where the stunning Byzantine castle of Molyvos comes into view. This is one of the most famous views in Greece, so feel free to stop at one of the viewpoints to take photos of the 360-degree panoramas of sea, mountains, islands, castle and village.

As the road drops down towards Molyvos village, after about 800m there is a right-hand turn signposted Argenos / Lepetimnos / Sykaminea / Mandamados (see photo 9). Turn right here and continue for 1.25km up the road until just before the Marilena Hotel on the right-hand-side, there is a small road leading up to Villa Molyvos Views (see photo 10).



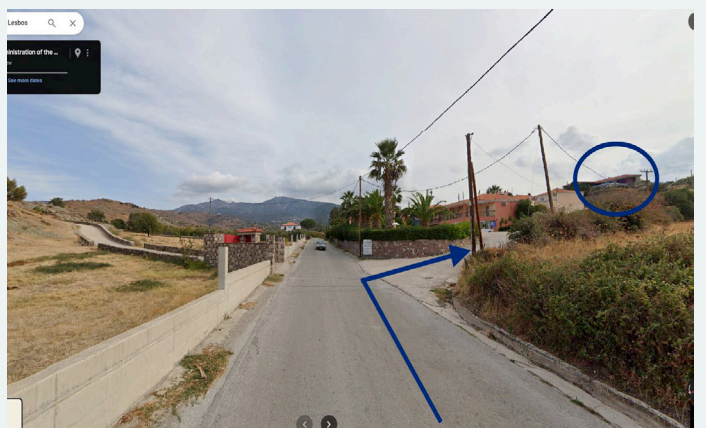
(photo 7 - Flamingos at Kalloni)



(photo 8 - Right turn to Molyvos/Petra at Kalloni)



(photo 9 - turn right before reaching Molyvos village)



(photo 10 - turn right before Marilena Hotel to Villa Molyvos Views)

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