Naxos—Life, the Greek way

Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox churches along massive Venetian castles and Hellenic cult sites tell of the island’s multicultural history. Greeks, Persians, Italians, and Turks long fought for dominance in the Aegean, and only since 1822 has the island been part of Greece.

The old landlady is waving to visitors from afar. In Lionas Bay, however, no further invitation is needed to indulge in dolmades and satsaki, followed by a serving of grilled fish. During the off season, the remote beach strip in the northern part of Naxos is only inhabited by a dozen people, all making their living at the local taverns. The few tourists, who stray from the main roads and wander down the narrow, dusty path, are treated to a delicious meal and home-made wine bottled in plastic water bottles—one of the many provisional arrangements you are certain to fall in love with.

Upon exploring the Hellenic civilization, the famous German writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe remarked: “Of all peoples, the Greeks have dreamt the dream of life. Even the Pythagoreans dreamed of immortality, but the Greeks thought of it.”

The old landlady is sure to be expecting you already.

The film was received with much controversy at the Berlin Film Festival in February. It will be shown at other festivals before it is released in cinemas worldwide.

CINEMA

FOOD, INC. is the latest documentary to hit the screens—and it is a powerful one. With the use of clever animations and compelling graphics, the filmmakers—Producer-Director Robert Kenner and investigative authors Eric Schlosser (Fast Food Nation) and Michael Pollan (The Omnivore’s Dilemma)—expose how highly mechanised today’s food industry is. They furthermore reveal how a handful of corporations control the food supply, while scientists manipulate the very DNA of the animals we eat so that they grow faster, feed more efficiently and even taste different.

The Geneva Sound Home Theater comes in black or white and can be yours for US $3,999.

www.genevalab.com

TECHNOLOGY

The Geneva Sound Home Theater from Geneva Lab in the US is a hybrid of high-quality furniture and high-fidelity electronics. It’s also the latest in iPod/iPhone accessories and a post TV stand. The stereo system features 2.1 surround sound with Embracing Sound DSP technology, an all-digital 700 W amplifier, seven speakers, as well as a rocking 12-inch subwoofer. An integrated dock lets you store your iPod or iPhone. There’s also extra interior space for components such as a cable box, DVD/Blu-ray player, game console or Apple TV.

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DINING

The Italian restaurant Isola Bar and Grill at the waterfront of IFC Mall in Hong Kong offers spectacular views over the Victoria harbour. Opened in 2004, it was voted Hong Kong’s ‘Best new restaurant’ by readers of HK magazine. Fortunately, the restaurant does not rely only on its scenic location but also offers simple and authentic cuisine. Chef Gianni Caprioli says he uses “common ingredients cooked uncommonly well” as evidenced in his baked breaded buffalo mozzarella or stone-baked whole sea bass with tomato, asparagus and black olives.

www.isolabarandgrill.com

Design

The Stop Playing with Your@concept piece by designers Schamburg + Alvisse from Sydney in Australia is a new furniture concept based on a classic wooden puzzle. The foam elements can be arranged in a way that lets you decide whether you want them to be a sofa, chair, table, or even a bed in your living room or practice. The pieces are available in pink and grey. The retail price per piece is AUS$395 (US$209).

www.schamburgalvisse.com.au