




# SIMPLY PROPERTY

by Julia Zaltzman



# Mythological majesty

Boasting 3,000 years of Olympic history, the Greek Peloponnese are an underestimated jewel of the Mediterranean. Once the heart of Greek theatre, literature and sport, it is now the beating centre of Aman Resorts' latest venture—the stunning Amanzoe Villas.

The Peloponnese are renowned for many reasons, primarily as being the site for the first Olympic Games with its ancient ruins of the Temple of Zeus, but so too for being awash with crumbling castles, mountainous walks, wide-gaping caves and a string of hidden, sandy coves. In short, it is both majestic and magical, and is one of the crown jewels in Greece's destination armoury. Adding another string to its already impressive bow are the Amanzoe Villas, an exclusive collection of hilltop residences on the coast of these prized location.

Nestled on the highest point of the hilltops of Porto Heli, the villas are surrounded by 93 hectares of undulating olive groves and offer spectacular and unparalleled views of the Argo-Saronic Gulf and surrounding countryside.

Both available to rent and for sale, the villas offer the opportunity to all clients to work with the developer to personalise the interior design to suit their own tastes and needs. Part of the Porto Heli Collection, the development is overseen by Dolphin Capital and designed by American architect Ed Tuttle—a long-term collaborator with Aman Resorts—to transform the region into one of the most sought-after chic destinations in South East Europe.

In keeping with the calibre of designers already enlisted on the residences, artist James Turrell has also cemented his mark by way of a unique art installation. The immersive light installation, known as a Skyspace, takes the form of a six-metre by six-metre cubic building with a large ceiling aperture, open to the Peloponnese sky above Amanzoe. For over fifty years, James Turrell has drawn inspiration from nature, astronomy, architecture, physics and theology. Using light as his material, Turrell works on and affects the medium of perception.

'Without light, there is no life. Amanzoe means "peaceful life" and I hope those who experience this work will feel a peaceful sense of the power of the light,' says James Turrell. 'We are creatures of the light, especially sunlight. I use light to explore perception but I did not create the light. This work is about sharing the light.'





The Skyspace is installed at Villa 31 of Amanzoe, located on the western ridge of the resort offering unobstructed views over the surrounding landscape and the Aegean Sea, with spectacular sunsets. It is available to guests taking residence in Villa 31, allowing them to enjoy the artwork entitled SkyPlain at their leisure throughout their stay. Subject to availability, guests of Amanzoe will also be able to enjoy Sky Plain as part of a unique dining experience, culminating in a private immersion in this rare setting.

With its classically inspired architecture, a contemporary interpretation of ancient Greek temples, Amanzoe's Villas and Pavilions are designed to continue the experience of the outdoors in the sunlight-filled interiors. The resort's expansive reflection pools cast dappled light onto the pale concrete columns and warm marble making up the walkways through the herb-scented grounds. The Peloponnese is brought indoors in the open-air yoga studio and the expansive spa rooms where clients can enjoy Watsu treatments and holistic therapies.

Surrounded by unspoilt nature and an historical landscape, the Amanzoe Villas evoke a feeling of peace and belonging, perched on a hilltop with sweeping panoramas of the Peloponnese countryside, silvery olive groves and the glittering Aegean Sea. They are currently one of the most exclusive residential developments in Greece, with one to six-bedroom villas available to purchase, starting from €3.2 million.

Amanzoe Villas are developed by Dolphin Capital Investors, creators of luxury resorts worldwide, with a wide portfolio of developments that includes Nikki Beach Resort & Spa in Greece, Amanera in the Dominican Republic, Pearl Island in Panama, and the recently announced One&Only Kea Island in the Cyclades, Greece. All Amanzoe Villas have private swimming pools and spacious living and dining areas, and residents of the villas can enjoy exclusive access to the beach club and its fantastic amenities including a high-end restaurant, two luxurious spa treatment rooms, a state-of-the-art gym, tennis courts and a billiards and games room, as well as access to an array of motorsports in the nearby beautiful island of Spetses.

