

Moments of Crete

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Greek lessons

Hello!	Γειά!	Gia
Good morning.	Καλημέρα.	Kalimera.
Good evening.	Καλησπέρα.	Kalispera.
What's your name?	Πώς σε λένε?	Pos se lene?
Where do you come from?	Από πού κατάγεσαι?	Apo pou katagese?
How are you?	Τι κάνεις?	Ti kanis?
Fine, thanks and you?	Καλά, ευχαριστώ, εσύ?	Kala, efharisto, esy?
Do you speak English?	Μιλάς αγγλικά?	Milasagglika?
How do I get to..	Πώς θα πάω στο....	Pos tha pao sto...
Where do I find..	Πού θα βρω.....	Pouthavro.....
How much does this cost?	Πόσο κοστίζει αυτό?	Posokostiziafto?
Pleased to meet you.	Χάρηκα που σε γνώρισα.	Harika pou se gnorisa.
Thank you.	Σ'ευχαριστώ.	Se efharisto.
You are welcome.	Παρακαλώ.	Parakalo.
Excuse me.	Συγγνώμη.	Sygnomi
I do not understand.	Δεν καταλαβαίνω.	Den katalaveno.
Please, speak slowly.	Σε παρακαλώ, μίλα πιο αργά..	Se parakalo, milapioarga..

Emergency phone numbers

European Emergency number

112 from mobile or fixed phones for all emergency services

Greece : 0030

Heraklion: 2810

Police: 100

Fire brigade: 199

Ambulance: 166

Tourist Police: 2810- 283 190

Traffic Police: 2810- 282 031

Airport of Iraklion:**Nikos Kazantzakis**:2810 397800, 2810 337211, 2810 330072.

Hospitals.

Venizeleio General Hospital.281 3 408000

University General Hospital.281 039 2111

Taxis.

Candia Taxi A.E.

281 036 1363

Heraklion Taxi

281 400 3084

RadiotaxiKnossos

281 021 0102

Bus station(Port)

+30 281 024 6530

Phone numbers of the teachers involved 0030-

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FasoulakiMarianthi	6975933656
Strataki Rania	69406673450
PolychronakiAimilia	6936906717
Papageorgiou Christina	6937314680
FanourakisGiorgos	6977418430

Our place



Heraklion is the largest urban centre in Crete with approximately 150,000 people, the capital of the region and the economic centre of the island. The town enjoys of a dynamic and imaginative combination of natural beauty climate, strategic position, cultural heritage and scientific background what has created an appropriate environment to suport a particular mechanism with which to in add value to the broader entrepreneurial activity in the region and stimulate the local economy. Today Heraklion is the top choice for tourist destinations in the Mediterranean thanks to strategic geopolitical position connecting three continents and many different cultures, furthermore the city is also the commercial and scientific centre of the island.

From January 1, 2011, pursuant to Law 3852/2010, the Municipality of Heraklion comprises the municipalities of a. Heraklion b. Gorgolaini c. Temenous d. Palianis and e. New Alikarnassos (see the [map](#)).

Population: 173.993 residents (2011 census).

Surface: 245 sqm.

Climate: Soft Mediterranean.

Geography: Capital of Crete, in the centre of the northern coast of the island.

History: Birthplace of the first European civilization; the Minoan period beginning around 3000 BC, with its capital at Knossos.

Economy: Key sectors are Tourism, Agriculture and Trade.

Crops: Olive trees, vines, oranges, legumes.

Diet: Cretan foods with olive oil, legumes, vegetables, fruits, wine.

Flora: Unique aromatic plants.

Museums: [Archaeological Museum](#) , [Historical Museum](#) , [Natural History Museum](#) , [Museum Of Battle of Crete](#) .

Academic Institutions: [University of Crete](#) , Faculty of Medicine, [Technological Institution](#), [Foundation of Research and Technology](#) (FORTH), [Technological Park](#) (STEPc).

Airport: Second International Airport of Greece, first in charter flights. [Itineraries](#)

Harbour: Important passenger, commercial and cruise. [Itineraries](#)

Hotels: Numerous of luxury, A", B" and C" category Hotels and rented rooms. [Accomodation](#)

Road Network: National road connects Heraklion with the other main cities of Crete.

Hospitals: Regional Academic (PAGNI), Venizeleio General.

Tourist Period: From April to November.

Information: [National Tourism Organization](#) .



Venetian Walls

Admired as one of the most inspired and best-designed examples of fortification in the entire Mediterranean basin, the 16th and 17th century enceinte surrounding Venetian Candia has survived the ravages of time.

Triangular in shape, with its base at the sea, the mighty enceinte has a perimeter of about 5.5 kilometres. The hallmark of the defensive layout are the bastions, linked by curtain walls decorated at many points by escutcheons and the lion of St. Mark, symbol of Venetian omnipotence. The gates in the enceinte, which served to link the town to the countryside, still stand as important architectural monuments.

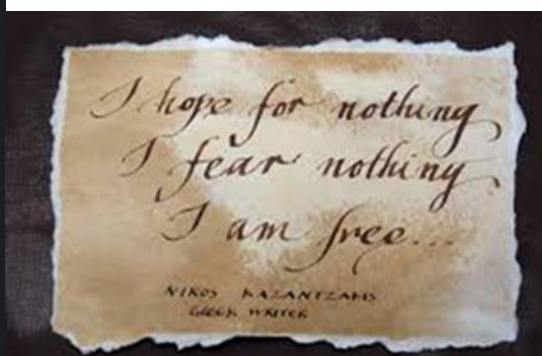
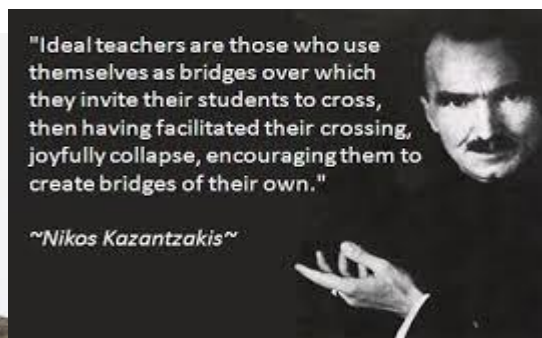
To this day, the walls that withstood the Ottoman siege in the mid-17th century mark out the boundary of the old town.



Tomb of Kazantzakis



The **Martinengobattlements** rise from the south part of the wall, where the celebrated Nikos Kazantzakis, author of *Zorbas* and the *Odyssey*, was buried. South of here is the Old Gate called 'Hanioporta'. Lots of old churches and battlements still decorate Heraklion, which in addition to having a rich cultural heritage is very lively during the day and night.



Jesus Gate



The Jesus Gate, also known as the New Gate, led to the southern provinces, marking the end of the main north-south road in the city (now Evans Street).

Designed by Michele Sanmicheli, it is one of the finest examples of Renaissance architecture in the entire city, not least on account of the city side facade, which features finely hewn rectangular stones set in three symmetrical arches. Further openings on either side of the main gates served as windows and secondary entrances to ancillary areas, magazines and guardrooms.

In contrast to the city facade, the external one was markedly spartan in appearance.



Fontana Bembo



The Fontana Bembo dominates what is now Cornarou Square, next to a Turkish charity fountain of later date. It was built between 1552 and 1554 by capetano Gianmatteo Bembo, the first person to succeed in conveying spring water to the town via an aqueduct.

The fountain is decorated with renaissance and gothic architectural features and coats of arms, such as that of Alvise Gritti, Duke of the time, and of his advisors Giovanni Tiepolo, Georgio Emo and Petro Marino. The spout bears vegetal decoration in relief. The marble basin where water collected must initially have been a Roman sarcophagus. The fountain also had a pediment, though unfortunately this was later removed. A large headless statue dating from Roman times was brought from Ierapetra to form the centrepiece.

The entire construction was originally immured into a storage cistern, which was removed in 1938 to make room for the square.

The Market



Walk slowly through the Agora, the Market Street that runs alongside a shopping boulevard called 1866, after a Cretan uprising.

From top to bottom, with some shaded sideways exits, this old Market Street is still a place for 'Herakliotes' to come every day to find socks, shirts, herbs, fish and fresh meat. It's a good place to find thyme honey, raki (the Cretan clear spirit) from among shops selling everything from selections of Cretan music to the finest cheese. This market has a long history, always a place to meet and make plans. Walk the side-streets and you will smell good Cretan food and feel the buzz around you.

Cafés here do not distinguish much between Greeks and foreigners, neither do the inexpensive eating houses that serve good food to all who enter. There are some tourist traps, but all are friendly and offer good quality. At the top end, at the last turn, find the fish market and some great little fish ouzeries (smaller and less formal than a taverna) that fill up at night and provide excellent, simple, seafood.



Fontana Morosini



The Fontana Morosini ('Lions') is the best-known fountain in Heraklion, serving as a landmark for locals and visitors alike. Following recent restoration work, it is now one of the city's finest monuments. The eight-lobed basin rests on an ornate three-stepped pedestal. It is adorned with reliefs of scenes from mythology and marine life, such as Tritons and dolphins, together with coats of arms. Above the basin are four lions from whose mouth water flowed. The fountain was originally crowned with an outsize statue of Poseidon, which was later destroyed, probably in an earthquake.

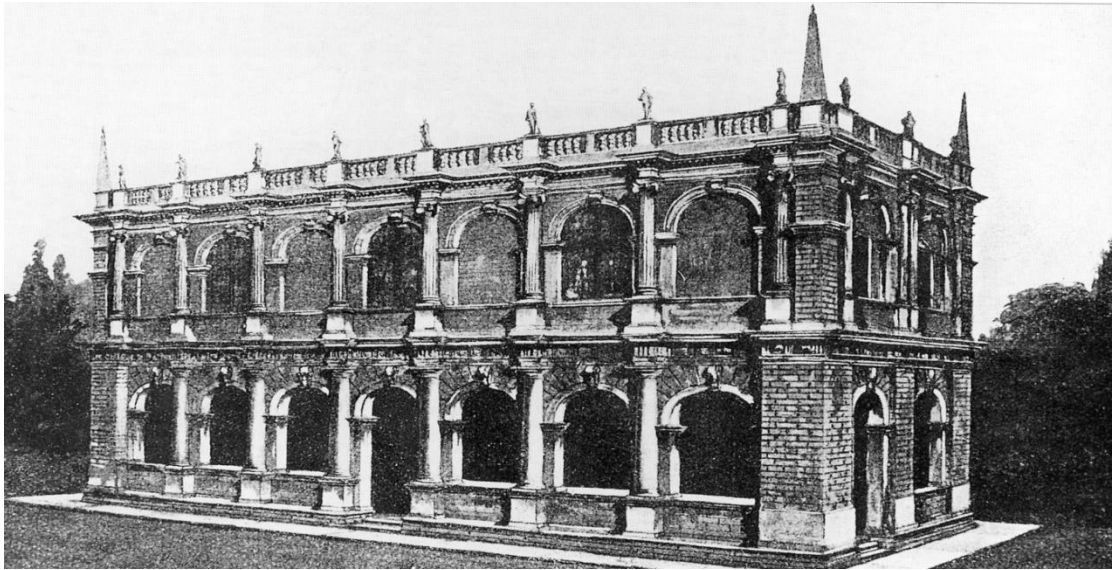
Saint Mark of the Venetians



The cathedral church of St. Mark of the Venetians, now home to the Municipal Art Gallery, lies at a prominent position on 25th August St in the historic town centre, opposite the Fontana Morosini (Lions' Fountain).

One of the Venetian colonists' first concerns was to erect a church dedicated to St. Mark, their patron saint. Built opposite the Palazzo Ducale, it played an important role in society throughout the period of Venetian rule. This was the place where all dignitaries and officials were ceremoniously sworn into office, and where commoners sought the saint's protection. The Dukes of Crete and members of the aristocracy were interred on the same site, in sarcophagi adorned with bas-reliefs. Two such tombs are still visible in the east end of the church.

Loggia



Every city in Venetian hands had a public building where the nobles and officials could gather and while away their time, discussing matters financial, mercantile and political of local concern.

The Loggia in Candia is regarded as one of the finest architectural monuments of the Venetian period. The structure preserved today was the fourth club of its kind in the town, and was built circa 1628 by Provveditor General Francesco Morosini.

The Loggia is situated on Kallergon Square, in the centre of what was historically the core of the town, at the top of 25th August St., which was the RugaMaistra of Venetian times. Following major restoration works completed in 1987, it now houses the town hall.

Saint Titus



During the second Byzantine period, as the largest and prime official church in the city of Chandax, St. Titus became the seat of the new Orthodox Diocese of Crete. The Venetians later installed a Catholic archbishop and converted the church into a Catholic cathedral.

The church is on 25th August St., next to the Venetian arsenal (Armeria) and the Nobles' Club (Loggia).

Over the course of its long history the church was repeatedly destroyed by earthquakes and fires. Nevertheless, the rulers of the time would immediately set to restoring it, for it was the town's most significant monument. In 1925, following the population exchange, the church came within the jurisdiction of the Church of Crete.

Cathedral of Saint Minas

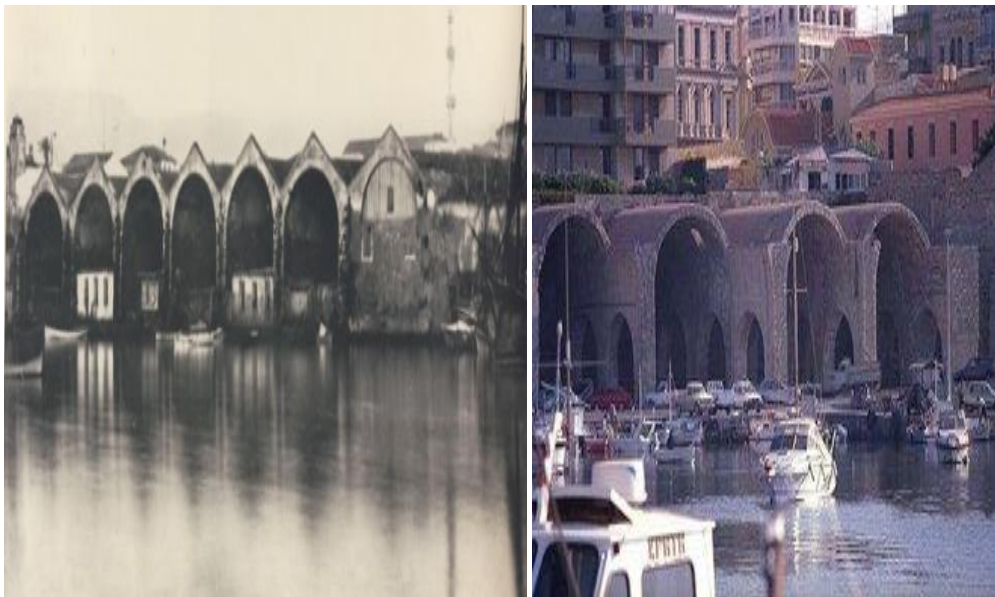


The new cathedral was built next to the small church dedicated to St. Minas and the Presentation of Christ (now known as "Small Saint Minas"). It too was consecrated to Saint Minas, patron saint and protector of MegaloKastro, thus combining legend with tradition and the town's history.

Work on the church began in 1862, but was not completed until 1895.

To this day, the new cathedral is one of the grandest and most imposing churches in Greece. In architectural terms it is an inscribed cruciform church with dome resting on a high pedestal, while the interior bears some features of a three-nave basilica. It has two bell towers on the northeast and southwest corners.

SHIPYARDS (ARSENALI)



The shipyards were large oblong buildings with barrel-vaulted roofs, capable of housing ships in need of protection or repair. They were also used for the construction of new vessels. Three separate shipyard complexes were built at different periods.

Castello del Molo (Koules)



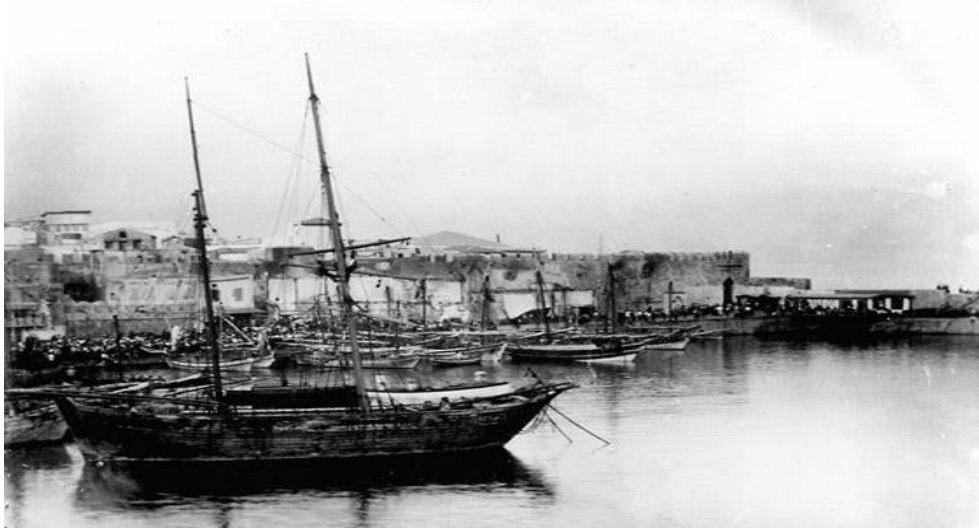
The fortress dominating the entrance to the Venetian harbour has been variously referred to as the Castello del Molo, the Rocca a Mare and the Koules.

It predates the second Venetian fortifications around the city, and was built so as to protect the area enclosed by the mole. The Venetian Castello acquired its final form over the period 1523-1540, in replacement of an older fortress destroyed by earthquakes and other phenomena.

The fortress is first attested in the early 13th century the earliest depiction we have is that by the Florentine monk Cristoforo Buondelmonti in 1429.

The devastating force of the sea was such that the walls and foundations were in constant need of repair.

The Port



The Venetian port acquired its final form in the 16th or 17th century. Then as now, the entrance was dominated by the formidable sea fortress commonly known by the Greek form of its Turkish name Kule ("tower"), which bears out the significance of the area in terms of defence. To the south and west lay the shipyards (arsenali), where the Venetians built and equipped ships for use in war and trade.

Once walled in, the harbour had to be linked to the town - this was achieved mainly by means of two gates, the Porta del Molo (Harbour Gate) and the Gate of the Arsenal (Shipyard Gate), neither of which has survived.

St. George Gate

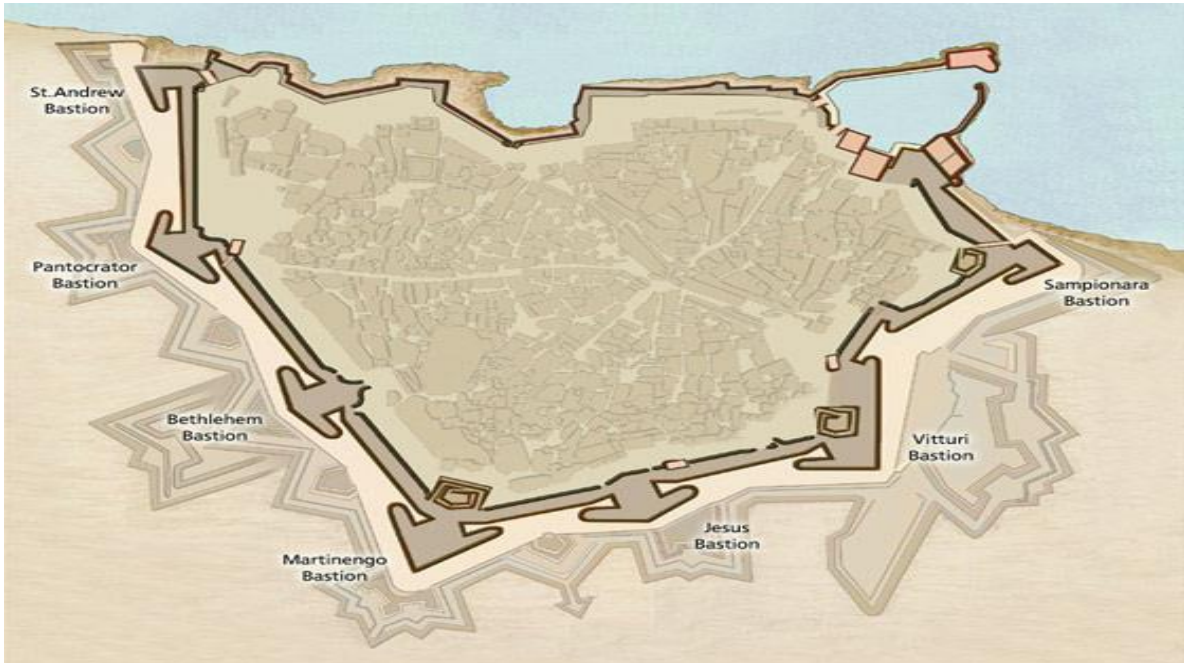


The St. George Gate, also known as the Maroulas or Lazaretto Gate, led to the eastern provinces, the suburb of Maroulas and the lazaretto or pest-house. Designed by Giulio Savorgnan and dedicated to St. George, the monumental city side facade featured a relief medallion of the warrior saint on horseback, set directly above the finely carved stones that formed the main portal. This and the two smaller side gates were demolished in 1917 to make room for Dimokratias Avenue. The only part of the gate still standing is the exit towards Ikarou Avenue, a decidedly less ornate structure located below the north oreillon of the Vitturi Bastion.

The gate has recently been restored and sensitively redesigned to link up the interior with Eleftherias Square. Beyond its purely utilitarian function as a pedestrian entrance to the city, it now also serves as an exhibition venue.



The bastions



The Chandax enceinte consists of 7 imposing, sturdily built bastions connected by curtain walls. Most of the bastions took their names from neighbouring churches (St. Andrew, Pantocrator, Bethlehem, Jesus), while two were named after a Provedditor and an official active in contemporary Candia (Martinengo, Vitturi) and one after a physical feature of the surrounding area (Sampionara, meaning the "Sand" bastion). A characteristic element of the new fortified enclosure was the bastions that were 7 in all, from east to west: the bastion of Sabbionara (of the sand), of Vitturi, of Jesus, of Martinengo, of Bethlehem, of Pantocratoras and of St. Andreas. The bastions were joined together with straight lines (parts) and in the place of their joining there were formed two «low squares», lower than the level of the bastion and higher than the ditch. In these open areas there were built special places for the canons that defended the ditch underneath and the opposite bastion. In these "low squares" there existed two openings with galleries (long corridors), one of which was leading into the city and the other in the ditch.



Thrapsano village



Thrapsano village is located in the province of Pediada, Heraklion prefecture, Crete roughly 30 km south-eastern from Heraklion and is built in an altitude of 340m.

on the island of Crete- well known and particularly to seniors because of the Ventema.

The village is - at least

Ventema was the summer campaign and temporary installation in the various places of Crete until mid September, of Thrapsano potters, in teams, where they manufactured big jars called "pitharia" and other earthen vessels.

Thrapsano is identified with pottery and particularly with the manufacture of "pitharia", as its residents are considered descendants of the Minoan potters. Traditionally therefore the Thrapsano resident "Thrapsaniotis" is identified even today with the potter and in particular with the name of "pitharas".

In

the old times until the end of 40's most residents in the summertime had pottery as their main occupation and they practiced it in the form of Ventema. The percentage of residents that dealt with ventema decreased constantly while ventema stopped in the end of 60's. Afterwards we have the creation of permanent "kilns" (pottery workshops) around the village while in the last decades pottery has been developed still more and constitutes the basic occupation for many residents.

Today we can say that pottery, with the creation of modern workshops and the huge production that they carry out, constitutes one of the main economic factors of the village growth, maintaining at the same time its tradition and its historical identity.

At any case the bigger percentage of residents are occupied with agriculture and more specifically with the cultivation of olive trees and vineyards (soutani, rosaki and wine grapes) while flower growing (mostly carnations, in greenhouses and in open fields) has its share in the general development of cultivations in the village.



Knossos 3500 BC - 900 BC

Knossos is the largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete and has been called Europe's oldest city. Settled as early as the Neolithic period, the name Knossos survives from ancient Greek references to the major city of Crete. Wikipedia

Location: Heraklion, Crete, Greece

Founded: First settlement about 7000 BC. First palace dates to 1900 BC

Abandoned: Some time in Late Minoan IIIC, 1380–1100 BC

Associated with: Middle Minoan: people of unknown ethnicity termed Minoans Late Minoan: Mycenaean Greeks

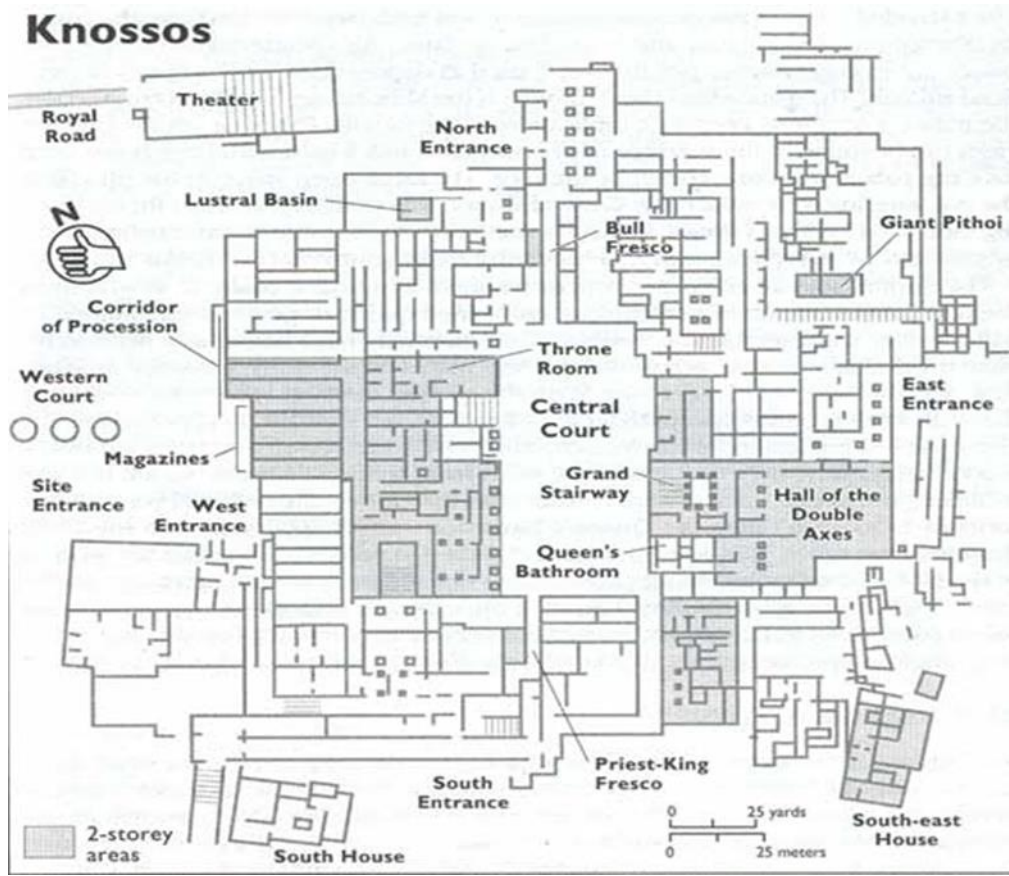
Periods: Neolithic to Late Bronze Age. First palace built in the Middle Minoan IA period

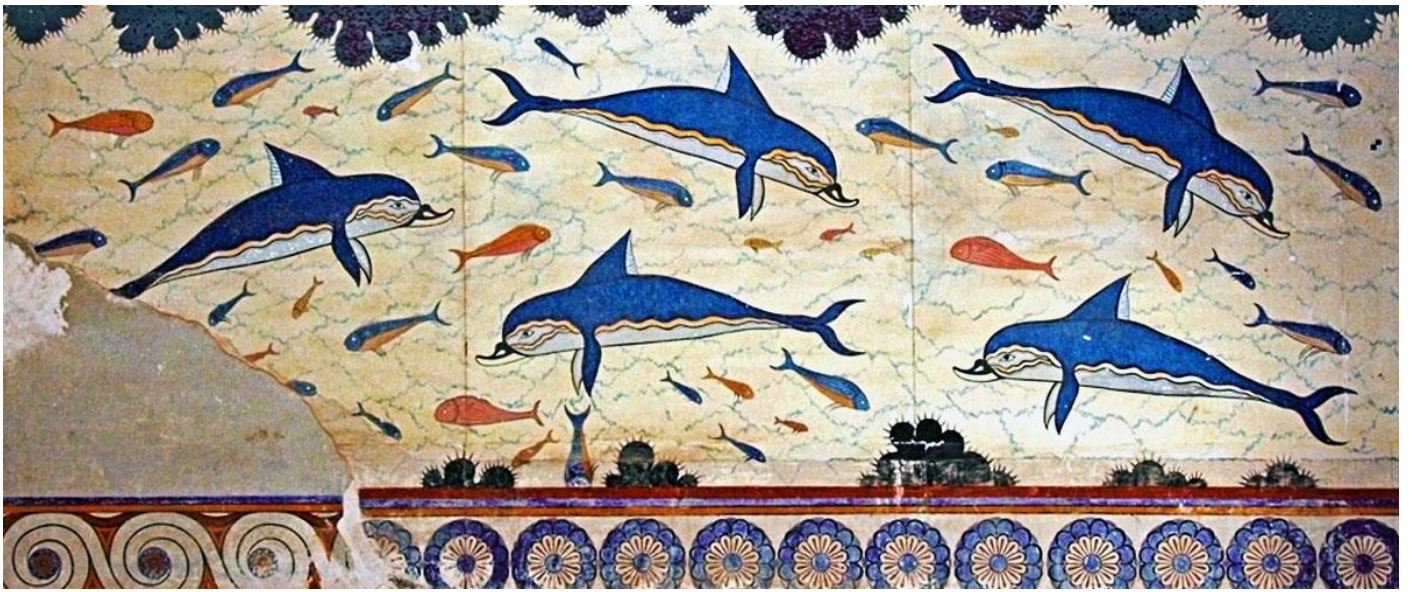
The centre of Minoan civilisation and capital of Minoan Crete lay 5km south of Heraklion.

Knossos flourished for approximately two thousand years. It had large palace buildings, extensive workshop installations and luxurious rock-cut cave and tholos tombs. As a major centre of trade and the economy, Knossos maintained ties with the majority of cities in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Wealth accumulation and the advancement of an urban lifestyle were the hallmarks of this zenith, which began circa 2000 BC and was typified by magnificent monumental buildings and a complex social structure.







THE UNIVERSITY OF CRETE.



About the University

The University of Crete is a young public educational institution committed to excellence in research and teaching.

Established in 1973, the University accepted its first students in 1977-78. It now has 16 Departments in 5 Schools (**Philosophy, Education, Social, Economic & Political Sciences, Sciences & Engineering, and Medicine**) as well as a number of **affiliated research-oriented institutions, including the Skinakas Observatory, the Natural History Museum, and the University General Hospital**. Currently, over 16,000 undergraduates and 2500 postgraduate students are registered here. They are educated by an outward looking academic faculty of around 500 members, supported by adjunct lecturers, post-doctoral researchers, laboratory support staff and instructors, as well as around 300 technical and administrative support staff.

The international orientation of the University is reflected in its track record of collaborations with many of the leading research and educational institutions in Europe and worldwide as well as active promotion of mobility and exchange programmes. Research and research training at all levels benefits also from the close collaboration between many of the University's research groups with the Institutes of the Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH) and the Institute of Marine Biology, Biotechnology and Aquaculture (IMBBC)

Reflecting its research activity and associated initiatives, the University of Crete is the first Greek University to have signed the EU Charter and the Code for the recruitment of researchers, and forms part of the Euraxess European network for the mobility of researchers. The University fully participates in quality assurance mechanisms both for its academic and administrative structures, and it is a strategic choice of the University that there will be an ongoing effort to meet quality in all its structures.

Located at campuses in Heraklion and Rethymnon on the island of Crete, a site rich in ancient and modern Mediterranean cultures, the University offers a vibrant social and intellectual environment for research and education. As such, whether your contact with the University is brief or long-term, we trust it will be rewarding.



Technological Educational Institute of Crete



The T.E.I. of Crete is a Public Educational Institute. It was founded in 1983.

The Institute is a part of the higher education system of Greece and it provides undergraduate and postgraduate education services. It offers 15 Bachelor degrees and postgraduate studies leading to Master of Science degrees. It focuses on research and innovation as well as lifelong learning and it offers technological and consultancy services of high quality.

Departments:School of Management and Economics,School of Health and Welfare Services,School of Applied Sciences,School Of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition,School of Engineering.

The T.E.I. of Crete employs around 400 qualified academic and technical staff and serves more than 14.500 students. T.E.I. of Crete has campuses in all major cities of Crete: Chania, Rethymno, Ierapetra, AgioNikolao and Sitia.

Its' aim is to make sure study programs are well structured and efficient, that there are successful graduate placements and that student services such as accommodation and restaurant facilities.

There are limitless opportunities for active student participation in research and development projects (TEI Crete has the top success rate and recognition in research among its peers), for student exchanges with over 100 foreign universities and for paid work at the Institute laboratories. Graduates can also continue with Postgraduate Studies at the Institute or at cooperating Universities in Greece and abroad, with the active support of TEI Crete professor.

Spiritual, artistic and entertainment activities in and around the Institute are varied and shared by students and staff, with the financial support of TEI Crete. Personal care and advice is provided to new incoming students by the International Office and skilled staff at the Schools.



Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas



The Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas (FORTH), established in 1983, is one of the largest research centers in Greece with well organized facilities, highly qualified personnel and a reputation as a top-level research foundation worldwide. FORTH reports to the General Secretariat for Research and Technology of the Hellenic Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs. The Foundation, with headquarters in Heraklion, includes six Research Institutes in different parts of the country:

In Heraklion

Institute of Electronic Structure and Laser (IESL)

Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (IMBB)

Institute of Computer Science (ICS)

Institute of Applied and Computational Mathematics (IACM)

In Rethymnon

Institute for Mediterranean Studies (IMS)

In Patras

The Institute of Chemical Engineering Sciences (ICE-HT)

Also, in Ioannina operates the **Department of Biomedical Research under the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (IMBB)**. FORTH's activities are complemented by Crete University Press (CUP), the Skinakas Observatory, the Science and Technology Park of Crete (STEP-C) and PRAXI Network.

The research and technological directions of FORTH focus on areas of major scientific, social, and economic interest, such as: Microelectronics, Lasers, Materials, Molecular Biology and Genetics, Biotechnology, Computer Sciences, Bioinformatics, Robotics, Telecommunications, Computational Mathematics, Chemical Engineering, Human and Social Sciences, Cultural Studies,



Réthymnon



(GR: Ρέθυμνον) is the capital of the Prefecture of the same name and it is built between two other large cities of Crete. In the east is Iraklion (80 km) and to the west is Hania (60 km).

It lies along the north coast, having to the east one of the largest sand beaches in Crete (12 km) and to the west a rocky coastline that ends up to another large sand beach after 10 km.

It is the administrative, communications and commercial center of the Prefecture with approximately 25.000 inhabitants.

This region as a whole is rich with ancient history, most notably through the Minoan civilisation centred at Kydonia east of Rethymno.[2] Rethymno itself began a period of growth when the Venetian conquerors of the island decided to put an intermediate commercial station between Heraklion and Chania, acquiring its own bishop and nobility in the process. Today's old town (paliapoli) is almost entirely built by the Republic of Venice. It is one of the best-preserved old towns in Crete.

Today the city's main income is from tourism, many new facilities having been built in the past 20 years. Agriculture is also notable, especially for olive oil and other Mediterranean products. It is also the base of the Philosophical School and the University Library of the University of Crete and the School of Social and Political Sciences having 8.000 students on its university campus "Galos".



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Arkadi Monastery



The Arkadi Monastery (in Greek: / MoníArkadhíou) is an Eastern Orthodox monastery, situated on a fertile plateau 23 km (14 mi) to the southeast of Rethymnon on the island of Crete in Greece.

The history of the monastery goes back to Byzantine times, when a monk, possibly named Arkadios, founded the monastery which in turn was named after him.

Already in the 16th century the monastery played an important role in the cultural life of Crete. There were many copyist monks, a rich library and a school.

The Turkish invasion reduced its cultural activities for a while, but the Arkadi Monastery was able to recover promptly and received a unique privilege among Greek monasteries: **the Turks allowed the ringing of its bells.**

The monastery proved to be not only a remarkable cultural centre, but also played an all-important role in the fight against the Turks: when the Turkish Army (15,000 men) surrounded the monastery in November 1866, 300 fighting men and 600 hundred women and children had taken refuge in it.

When the walls came tumbling down and the Turks began the massacre, one of the rebels, Kostis Giamboudakis, blew up the powder magazine and the sky-high explosion reduced the monastery to a pile of rubble. This heroic feat is considered one of the greatest in Cretan history and has turned the Arkadi Monastery into one of Europe's Monuments to Freedom. There's a museum in the monastery with many impressive relics of the 1866 Holocaust and some beautiful icons.

Many efforts have been made for the restoration of the monastery in the last years.

Two monks live there.



Museum of Ancient Eleutherna



The Museum of Ancient Eleutherna displays exhibits from the site of Eleutherna (Greek: Ἐλεύθερνα), a city-state in Crete, Greece which flourished from the Greek Dark Ages until Byzantine times.

The Museum of Ancient Eleutherna was inaugurated on 19 June 2016[2] and is the fourth museum in Greece exclusively focusing on a single archaeological site, after the museums of Olympia, Delphi and Vergina. The exhibits span a period of three and a half millennia (3000 BC to 1300 AD) and include objects of art and everyday life from Prehistoric, Geometric, Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine years. **The excavations at the site of Eleutherna began in the mid 1980s under the supervision of the University of Crete and continue to the present day directed by Prof. Nikolaos Stampolidis.**



MELIDONI CAVE



MELIDONI CAVE (alternatively referred to as Gerospelios or Gerondospelios), is situated 4 km to the NW. Aside from the speleological interest it presents (it contains stalagmites, stalactites and columns), the cave was reportedly a place of worship of the mythical bronze figure of Talos (crafted by Hephaestus), who was revered as the indefatigable warden of laws in Minoan times. Later, in the Roman era, the cave was given over to the worship of god Hermes. In recent times, its name became associated with one of the most horrific events recorded in the history of Crete. In 1824, hundreds of Cretans from the surrounding villages died tragically inside Gerondospelios where they had sought shelter since 1822 in an attempt to escape the troops of Hassan Pasha. The latter's successor, Hussein Pasha, discovered their hide-out and tried to talk them into surrendering in peace, but to no avail. After they denied doing so, he blocked the entrance of the cave and set it on fire. 340 women and children and 30 armed men died in the cave from suffocation.