

Crete

Crete is a place apart – not just another Greek island, more like a separate country. Crete lies on the same latitude as Tunisia with the same baking hot summers; but here pleasantly tempered by breezes from the sea.



The land is infinitely varied – mountain ranges rise up to 8,000 feet, Europe's deepest gorge winds for twelve miles through rock walls at times 1,000 feet high, and countless beaches lead to a clear blue sea. Add to these high alpine meadows, well watered plains and valleys, a rich archaeology, and flora and fauna as yet largely unthreatened and you have a country worth a visit.

But the most striking aspect of this land is its people. Shaped by centuries of struggle against oppression, they are as rugged as the mountains, fiercely independent, and passionately loyal to Crete and one another. Read 'Zorba the Greek' for a marvellous evocation of the people and the place – or any other of Kazantakis' novels.

It is a good idea to hire a car and explore. You needn't go far, because the holiday trade is confined largely to the four main towns and the coast. Any working village will reward your effort – perhaps with an invitation to a celebration (there's always something to celebrate!) or just to drink raki at the coffee shop, you never know.



Seek out a Minoan palace, a mountain plateau, a Byzantine monastery. Turn southwards into the high, wild hinterland for the essence of an ancient legend-haunted land.

Quite unlike any other island Crete is for travellers as well as for tourists. It is an experience not to be missed.



Samaria Gorge

CRETE INFORMATION

Getting to Crete

Tuesday Day flight Gatwick or Manchester to Chania. Then by coach or taxi – see resort description. For flight details see page 270.

Multi-Centre Options

All areas can be mixed – suggest North with South coast, or Paleochora with Loutro. For multi-centre details see page 8.

Car Hire

See page 268-9 for details.

Representative

Based in Chania area (will visit all NW resort areas) and Paleochora.





Paleochora

Our chosen areas on Crete

North West Coast Chania area, Kalives & Almirida

Transfer time 20-30 mins (Chania), 45 mins (Kalives), 1 hour (Almirida)

Chania is the main town in the west and has a strong Venetian flavour, particularly around its immense harbour, lined with restaurants. Behind, a maze of narrow lanes and crumbling Venetian facades conceal more restaurants, small shops and atmospheric cafés.

A half-hour drive east of Chania, neighbouring Kalives and Almirida are at the entrance to Souda Bay (the largest natural harbour in the Aegean), the White Mountains behind forming a majestic backdrop. Both enjoy fine sandy beaches and beautiful rolling countryside.

Walking in this beautiful region, called Apokoronas, is a major attraction and your Sunvil representative is happy to give advice and hand out walking maps.

Kalives has retained its village atmosphere and boasts two long sandy beaches, one to either side. Centred around a tree-shaded square, housing a couple of cafés and the handsome church, Kalives has a good choice of authentic local tavernas and small shops which cater for most needs.

Life in the thriving small resort of **Almirida** revolves around the beach and the dozen tavernas now here. The area has developed in recent years and the village now has several café-bars, a bakery and a pair of well stocked mini-markets. Almirida now has just the right balance between lazy days on the long curve of sandy beach - there are plenty of sunbeds and beach cafés as well as non-motorised water sports (windsurf, kayak, paddleboard, pedalo) - and a vibrant but not OTT evening atmosphere. For a change of scene why not walk up the hill to the traditional village of Plaka (20 mins.) and enjoy dinner in the square in one of the several fine local tavernas here? From both Almirida and Kalives bicycles can be hired, excursions operate (from late May), there is a bus to Chania and taxis are available.



Kalives

North Coast Georgiopolis & Panormos

Transfer time 1-1½ hours

The seaside village of **Georgiopolis** between Chania and the historic town of Rethymnon offers a relaxed Cretan charm with plenty to do away from its 10 kms. of sandy beach. The village is large enough to satisfy all tastes but not so big it loses its village feeling.

The village hub is its large central square, quite buzzy at night when the cafes and tavernas are full. There are plenty of taverna restaurants elsewhere and a handful of bars. Georgiopolis has good amenities including ATMs, a doctor, pharmacy and several supermarkets. A regular fast bus service runs along the coastal road behind making a trip to Rethymnon quick, easy and affordable (c €4 last year).

With the White Mountains as a majestic backdrop, there are plenty of traditional villages to explore inland by foot, car or road train, and Lake Kournas is only 3 kms away. The Almiros River runs to one side of the village and is home to numbers of geese, frogs and terrapins. Take a pedalo trip to the small lake just upstream, a boat trip to sea caves, or a fishing trip.

20 minutes drive beyond Rethymnon, the atmospheric village of **Panormos** has everything we look for – oodles of laid back charm, two good sandy beaches, a photogenic harbour (with church above and tavernas to each side) and, above all, a true Greek village atmosphere. Yet, remarkably for such a pretty place, foreign tourism here is still low-key and there is only one hotel.

Panormos has everything close to hand, including some ten tavernas and a good selection of local shops in the narrow streets leading down to the harbour and beach. A fun trip is the 'road-train' which runs to villages in the hills. For bright lights Rethymnon can be easily reached by the frequent local bus.



Almirida

South West Coast Paleochora & Loutro

Transfer time 90 minutes (Paleochora) to 2 hours (Loutro)

Transfer time 90 minutes (Paleochora) to 2 hours (Loutro)

The spectacular south-west coast encapsulates the best of Crete – dizzy mountain scenery, a sparkling sea and some fine beaches. In fact a winding drive through the mountains is the only way in to

Paleochora other than by sea.

There are plenty of restaurants and cafés above the sea or in the main street. In the summer evenings there is a positively cosmopolitan atmosphere, as both roads are sealed to traffic.

The main beach is of fine golden sand and stretches for nearly a kilometre – it affords superb swimming. Inland offers wonderful walking – try Agia Irini gorge as an alternative to popular Samaria.

Boats run to the foot of Samaria, to Sougia (another gorge here), remote Elafonissi island, or simply for spotting dolphins. During high summer Paleochora can be windy. In the early season, there is the bonus of countless wild flowers up in the hills.

Unrealistically pretty and quite tiny (pop. 100!), you can only reach **Loutro** on foot or by boat – there are no roads and no cars!

Guarded by steep mountains, half-a-dozen waterfront restaurants serve an amazing variety of dishes. Canoes can be rented to explore nearby sea caves and beaches, and a small boat runs to others. This is superb walking country and the hotel is happy to give further information.

Much of the time Loutro is peaceful, but it does get busy at weekends and in the high season. For a complete break in an idyllic setting, you could do no better.

Paleo and Loutro make an excellent twin centre holiday, using the ferry which runs along the south coast via Roumeli where you change boats. Book Paleo as the first centre to avoid a long wait here.



Paleochora

Serenissima Boutique Hotel Chania Old Town



The Serenissima is a beautiful hotel - a fitting tribute to such an atmospheric town and an ideal luxury base. Located within the narrow alleys of the old Venetian town, the hotel is within a few minutes' walk of the old port.

The building is a monument in itself and has been lovingly restored. Arches from the Venetian period are prevalent throughout. The unique, fully restored Ottoman Hammam (bath) is representative of the hotel's philosophy - serenity, luxury and relaxation.

The hotel has just 7 rooms (19 sq m) and open plan suites (27-48 sq m), each with its own character. Facilities are the same in all and include luxury king-size bedding with pillow menu, room safe, AC, Wifi and high speed internet, complimentary tea-making facilities, smart TV, mini bar, shower room with luxury bathroom amenities and hairdryer. Room service is available 0730-2230.

Views are over the courtyard or of the old town. Due to the age of the building there are no balconies (there is seating in the courtyard to which the Superior double room has direct access) but the two top floor Superior Suites each have a furnished private terrace. One of these is split level, with the bedroom on a gallery above the living area.

The hotel houses an exclusive restaurant and wine bar with some excellent local and imported wines.

The Hotel: [Luxury Boutique Hotel](#)
[Bed & Breakfast](#)
[Air Conditioning](#)
[Free WiFi](#)



Doma Hotel (right hand side)



Doma Hotel breakfast room

Doma Hotel Chania

This most civilised hotel combines comfort with an old-world elegance and has been featured several times in 'The Good Hotel Guide'. It used to be the British Consulate, and stands across the road from the sea 1 km from the centre of town and a 10-15 minute walk from the harbour. A five minute walk brings you to a safe (albeit) narrow sandy beach.

Personally run by the genteel sisters, Rena and Ioanna whose family home this once was, the hotel is full of antiques, family heirlooms and photographs, historical prints and generally fascinating Cretan ephemera collected over many years. It has 20 rooms and 4 suites, all with air-conditioning, ceiling fan, TV, safety deposit box, hairdryer and shower/wc. Those at the front have good sea views but no balcony and are above a busy road; we favour those to the rear which have a balcony overlooking the small attractive garden.

The hotel also has three first floor suites and a very private Penthouse Suite which has a huge roof-terrace to itself and panoramic views to the sea and old town. On the third floor

and served by a lift is a beautifully decorated breakfast room with wonderful views over the sea to the harbour. To the rear of the hotel there is a small 'secret' garden littered with pieces of pottery and sculpture.

Note: Our rooms, unless otherwise requested, will be to the rear of the hotel with balcony and garden view.

The Hotel: [Traditional Hotel \(First Class\)](#)
[Bed & Breakfast](#)
[Air Conditioning](#)
[Free WiFi](#)



Mrs Irini Valiraki and sister Ioanna Koutsoudaki

Casa Veneta Chania Old Town

Casa Veneta is an old 3-storey Venetian house now renovated to house modern apartments just a minute's walk from Chania's harbour front. The studios have double or twin beds, air conditioning, TV, kitchenette, shower room and a sofa-bed for a child. The apartments are open-plan and on three levels linked by wooden stairs, with a kitchen and shower room downstairs, living area in the middle (sofa-bed here) and a twin-bedded sleeping gallery above.

Unlike the studios, the apartments have a narrow balcony over the small street, most with a side sea view.

Simply but comfortably furnished, Casa Veneta enjoys an excellent location from which to explore this historic and atmospheric town. A 15 minute walk to the west brings you to the organised sandy beach of Nea Hora, backed by a row of very authentic local fish tavernas which few visitors find.

The Hotel: Self Catering
Studios for 2/3
Apartments for 2/3
Air Conditioning
Free WiFi



Chania Town



Kalives Beach Hotel Kalives

This popular hotel remains the only one in Kalives village. It enjoys a lovely location, central yet virtually on the beach, and has a small river running to one side, home to a family of friendly ducks!

The hotel has two buildings, separated by a small road leading to the beach, and 100 rooms on its upper floors, served by a lift. Rooms have been refurbished in a most attractive light modern style, all with twin or double (king size) beds, TV, fridge, tea-making facilities, air conditioning (with ceiling fan also), room-safe (€3 per day) and shower room (some have a hipbath too). Sea, river or mountain views are had from the balcony. Some rooms can interconnect and the hotel has family rooms for up to four.

The main building has reception, lounge and restaurant (buffet) – dine on the riverside terrace during the summer months. Half board includes your evening meal but this can be swapped for lunch if advance notice is given to reception in the morning.

The hotel has a pool to the front (c 72 sq m, depth 1m-1.6m - pool towel €1.50) and a bridge over the

river leads to Kalives' central sandy beach with free sunbeds for guests. The second building has its own larger pool (c 160 sq m, depth 0.80m-1.60m).

Other facilities include free Wifi, laptop rental (free for the first 30 mins), a fitness room and, at a local charge, sauna and hydro-massage. You can walk to the main square in 5 minutes.

The very nice rooms, views, friendly atmosphere and excellent location ensure many guests return every year.

Early Booking Offer
Reduction applies if booked by 28/2.
Please enquire or check online availability for a costing.

The Hotel: 4 Stars
Half Board
Air Conditioning
Swimming Pool
Free WiFi

Afrodite Apartments Kalives

These good value and spacious apartments have the benefit of a very nice swimming pool set in the garden to the rear. They are just back from the main road which leads to Kalives, a 10-15 minute walk from the village and only a 3 minute walk from the fine western sandy beach.

They comprise eight 1-bedroom apartments and two studios, either on the upper ground or top floor and all with air-conditioning (local charge). The two studios are twin-bedded with a corner kitchenette (cooking rings, fridge), hairdryer, shower room with wc, and balcony. There is a full sized sofa-bed.

The apartments are of a similar description with the addition of a large separate living room containing the kitchenette and a sofa-bed (an extra folding bed can also be placed here for a child). Both rooms in the apartments have balcony access, with sea, side sea, country or pool views. Some studios and apartments can combine via an inter-connecting door as a Family Unit.

Furnishings throughout Afrodite are traditional, simple and comfortable.

WiFi access is free and safety deposit boxes cost 5 euros a week. There is a well stocked library of holiday reading, an iron and ironing board is available, and use of a washing machine for a nominal charge.

The swimming pool is approximately 60 sq. m. in size (depth 0.80m-2.50m). It has steps in, a children's section and is furnished with sunbeds and umbrellas.

Air-conditioning: Available at a local charge of €5 per day.

Early Booking Offer

Up to £100 off per apartment per week (max discount £200) for bookings made by 31/1. Conditions apply - see page 267.

The Apartments:

Self Catering
Studios for 2/3
Apartments for 2/4
Family Units for up to 6 and 8
Air Conditioning
Swimming Pool
Free WiFi



Beach close to Afrodite Apartments



Mistrali beach restaurant

Mistrali Apartments Kalives

For those who want to be central in Kalives and right beside the main beach, the Mistrali should suit.

The 3 studios are on the ground floor. This is a good thing as they are cool and have direct beach access with no steps. They are spacious and twin-bedded, all with AC, light cooking facilities (2 rings, fridge), shower room, hairdryer, a full-sized sofa bed and patio terrace.

The apartments on the upper levels are built around three sides of a courtyard. These are of a similar description with the addition of a spacious living room containing 2 sofa-beds. Ours have a balcony or patio overlooking the courtyard.

Beach towels are provided at a local charge of €10 for the duration.

The Mistrali has a popular restaurant to the front across the small beach road here. Other restaurants and cafes can be found nearby and it is a 5 minute flat walk to the centre of Kalives.

Air-conditioning: available at a local charge of €6 per day.

The Apartments:

Self Catering
Studio for 2
Apartments for 2 - 4
Air Conditioning
Free WiFi



Kalives

Aeolos Apartments Almirida

This well-liked accommodation has glorious views, especially from its lovely swimming pool area, and peaceful country surroundings.

A little up the hill behind Almirida, it is 500m (6-7 minutes walk) down to the village and beach. The road back up is a steady gradient - steeper for the final 40m - so unsuited to anyone with walking difficulties without car hire.

There are five 1-bedroom apartments here, modern with good quality fixtures and fittings. Interior decor is in attractive cool shades which, together with the marble floors, gives a light airy feel.

Each apartment comprises a small twin bedroom, a spacious living room containing a full sized sofa-bed and a corner kitchenette (mini-oven and rings), and a tiled shower room. All apartments have air-conditioning, free wifi, safety deposit box (€5 per week), a hairdryer, an iron and board, and a spacious front balcony with extensive views over the countryside and Almirida to the sea and the Akrotiri peninsula opposite.

There is also a ground floor studio, open plan and double-bedded with

the same facilities except for the kitchen which has cooking rings, not a mini-oven.

There is a communal washing machine (€3 per wash). The swimming pool measures a generous 80 sq. m., has steps in and a children's section and is furnished with sun loungers and umbrellas.

The Aeolos combines quiet rural surroundings and super views with good standards and tavernas/beach not far away.

Air-conditioning: Available if required at a local charge of €5 per day.

Early Booking Offer

Up to £100 off per apartment per week (max discount £200) for bookings made by 31/1. Applies to apartments only, not the studio. Conditions apply - see page 267.

The Apartments:

Self Catering
Studio for 2/3
Apartments for 2/3
Air Conditioning
Swimming Pool
Free WiFi



Almirida

Almirida Beach Hotel Almirida

This popular hotel had a full renovation in 2014 and offers an excellent modern standard of comfort. It is just back from the main part of Almirida's beach and only a minute's walk from the seaside restaurants here.

It has 66 rooms on the upper two floors, served by a lift. All rooms are very well appointed with twin or double queen sized beds, air conditioning, TV, fridge, safety deposit box, bathroom with bath or shower, and balcony with sea or side sea views. The hotel has some disabled-adapted rooms and Family Rooms for up to 4 (with room divider).

The ground floor has a large open-plan reception, restaurant and lounge. To the front there is a good-sized swimming pool, with adjacent children's pool and a wide sun-terrace with pool-bar. Pool/beach towels are available (€1 per fresh towel) and the hotel has an extensive holiday library and a fitness room.

Guests can use the facilities at the hotel next door which include tennis, bowling, a roof-top a la carte

restaurant, and a mini-spa with treatments (all paid locally).

We have worked with the Almirida Beach since the hotel opened and see many repeat guests, always a good sign. With contemporary standards of comfort, friendly service and an excellent location, we consider the hotel offers great value, especially if you take advantage of our free meals offer.

Half Board: £98 adult; £49 child 2-12 per week.

Note: early and late season bookings (usually April and late October) may be accommodated at the 4 star Almirida Residence next door.

Book early for free Half Board
Pay B&B stay Half Board for all stays if booked by 15/4. Please note: this offer is not redeemable for cash if meals not taken.

The Hotel:

4 Stars
Bed & Breakfast
or Half Board
Air Conditioning
Swimming Pool
Free WiFi



Panormos beach

Iliana Apartments Panormos

These modern apartments are towards the top of the village a three minute walk from Panormos' main square, where you will find cafés and restaurants above the sea. The sandy beach is to one side below.

A mix of studios and apartments, the accommodation is built on two floors around a courtyard swimming pool.

The open-plan studios are twin-bedded, all with a kitchenette (mini-oven, cooking rings, fridge), shower room (some with bath), and balcony or patio with views to the village or over the pool (sea views are limited).

The apartments are similar, with the addition of a separate living room containing one or two full-sized sofa-beds. Most have two balconies, one off each room.

All units possess air conditioning and TV, and are furnished / decorated in a light contemporary style. Safety deposit boxes are available (€10 per week) and Wifi is free of charge from the reception area. A good buffet breakfast is laid out here each morning.

The swimming pool is freshwater and measures some 40 sq m.

Iliana offers comfortable modern standards, a handy location and we think represents fine value for a most comfortable stay in this small village.

Air-conditioning: Available at a local charge of €5 per day.

Breakfast supplement: £42 per week.

The Apartments:	Self Catering Studios for 2 Apartments for 2/4 Air Conditioning Swimming Pool Free WiFi
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Panormos harbour

Romantica Hotel Apartments Georgiopolis

This well-run small hotel is towards the entrance of the village, just a couple of minutes' walk from the square and 300m from the beach.

The 1-bedroom apartments are housed in three buildings comprise a double bedroom, a separate living room with 2 sofa-beds and basic kitchenette (2 rings, fridge), bath and/or shower, and two balconies. Facilities include AC, WiFi, TV (with BBC World), hairdryer and room-safe (local charge). Rooms are attractively and simply furnished.

The main building just up the small road here has reception, lounge, breakfast area and a 60 sq m pool (depth 1m-1.80m) with a children's section.

Romantica makes a welcoming and comfortable base in an excellent location. The owner, Voula, does all she can to ensure happy guests - it works, because the repeat level here is high. .

Air Conditioning: available at a local charge of €6 per day

The Apartments:

Self Catering
Apartments for 2/4
Air Conditioning
Swimming Pool
Free WiFi

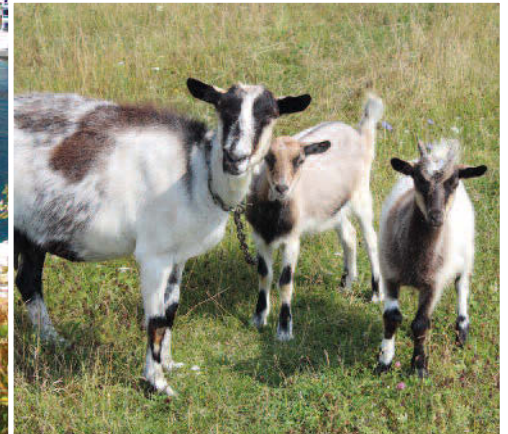


Early Booking Offers

Reductions are given for stays completed by 12/6 and commencing 28/8 onwards for bookings made by 28/2.



Georgiopolis



Porto Loutro Hotel Loutro

The Porto Loutro is one of our favourite spots in Greece. You really could not stay any closer to the sea than this!

Sunvil rooms are in Porto Loutro I ('on the beach') run by Alison Androulakakis. Comfortably furnished with traditional blue and white decor it comprises 18 rooms. All possess air conditioning (which can provide heating for early season), fridge, telephone, room safe, tiled shower room and a balcony with sea views to the front or side. There is a small bar on the first floor where you can take breakfast or enjoy a drink on the terrace above the sea.

On the ground floor are four spacious studios. They are double-bedded and possess a kitchenette with cooking rings and fridge, a

shower/wc, and a small living area to the front containing a sofa-bed. As with the hotel, the studios are furnished in a simple attractive traditional style. They share a large common sun terrace just above the beach. A fifth studio is slightly behind.

WiFi is available free of charge (note: WiFi is provided in rooms and on the beach but use is not permitted on the terrace). Please note that the hotel will not accommodate children under 7 years and does not accept credit cards, although some restaurants and shops in Loutro now do. There is an ATM in Chora Sfakion a short ferry-hop away.

Transfer note: Includes 20 mins. by ferry (unescorted, tickets provided) and there will be a short wait at Chora Sfakion harbour. You will need to carry your



baggage the short distance to the jetty, on/off the boat and to the hotel (1 minute). Loutro combines very well with Paleochora - please see twin-centre holidays note on resort intro. page.



Porto Loutro I



Loutro

Walks around Loutro

This useful book is available locally in Loutro for around 7 euros. The authors, Keith Linton and Danny Staples, describe it as 'a guide to ten thyme-scented walks on ancient limestone paths: graded from an easy evening stroll to a whole day adventure'. The book is 44 pages and includes maps and photographs.

The Hotel:

2 Star Hotel
Bed & Breakfast rooms
Self Catering Studios for 2/3
Air Conditioning
Free WiFi

Libyan Princess Paleochora

Taking its name from the Libyan Sea that laps the shores of south west Crete, Paleo's newest and highest category hotel is at the entrance to the village, a 2-3 minute walk to the pebble beach and the centre and 7 minutes from the sandy beach.

The hotel has a contemporary design and rooms have all mod cons, including a/c, mini-bar, tea/coffee-making facilities, TV, free WiFi and ADSL internet connection, safety deposit box (free), hairdryer and either a hydro-massage shower or a bath with standard shower attachment. There is one Suite for 2/4. Balcony views are over the street and village to the mountains or, at a supplement, over the pool.

Other facilities include pool bar (snacks and light meals available to 8pm), room service, a fitness room, jacuzzi and sauna (free of charge for up to 3 hours use per day), massage treatments and a 120 sq m pool (depth 1.0m-1.60m, heated if necessary early and late season – pool towels can be provided.

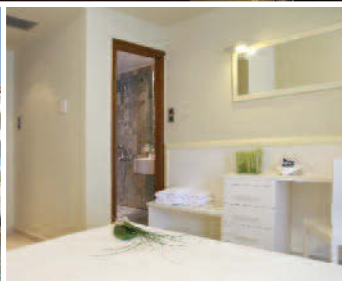
For a hotel of just 33 rooms in a simple village environment, the Libyan Princess offers high comfort levels and good facilities. Because Paleo is on the flat and the hotel has ramps, some disabled rooms and a lift, a stay here is a good choice for those with mobility problems.

Early Booking Offer

Reduction applies for stays completed by 17/7 and commencing 18/9 onwards if booked by 31/3. Please enquire or check online availability for a costing.

The Hotel:

4 Stars
Bed & Breakfast
Air Conditioning
Swimming Pool
Free WiFi



On The Rocks Paleochora

Good name! This smart modern little hotel is indeed almost on the rocks above the sea just to the south of Paleo's jetty, and looks east to the ruggedly beautiful coastline here.

The hotel has 16 rooms on its upper floors, all served by a exterior glass lift. Rooms have a cool contemporary design. All have free Wifi, TV, mini-bar, hairdryer, shower room and balcony with exquisite sea and coastline views.

The ground floor houses reception (safe facilities here), lounge and café-bar.

You will find an array of seafront restaurants starting just a minute's walk away, and the big sandy beach is 5 minutes. Due to the generally flat nature of Paleo and the fact that the hotel has a lift, On The Rocks would be a good choice for those with mobility problems.

The Hotel:

3 Stars
Bed & Breakfast
Air Conditioning
Free WiFi



Manos Studios Paleochora

Next door to our Filoxenia Apartments, Manos Studios have a similarly excellent location in Paleochora, being quietly tucked away from the road yet just 50 metres via footpath from the centre of the magnificent wide sandy beach here.

The studios here are twin bedded and, although typically simply furnished in pine, are very well kept, quite roomy and comfortable. All possess the usual basic 2-ring kitchen unit for light meals and snacks, tiled shower room, air conditioning and a furnished balcony or terrace - most with very

nice views to the mountains at the rear which encircle the village.

The beach is just a minute's walk; tavernas, cafes and a small shop can be found within 2-3 minutes; and the centre of the village, with its many restaurants either in the main street or by the sea, is a 5-8 minute easy stroll away.

A comfortable and wonderfully convenient base from which to make the most of village, beach and sea.

Air-conditioning: Available at a local charge of €5 per day.



Paleochora

Early Booking Offer

Up to £100 off per apartment per week (max discount £200) for bookings made by 31/1. Conditions apply - see page 267.

The Studios: Self Catering Studios for 2/3
Air Conditioning
Free Wifi



Paleochora café

Mimayia Apartments Paleochora

These apartments are centrally located in the village just a minute's walk from the main street and five minutes from the wide sandy beach. They offer simple, comfortable and spacious accommodation for couples or families of up to 4 persons.

There are six apartments in all, either on the upper ground or first floor. All possess a twin bedroom, an air conditioned living room with two full-sized sofa-beds and open-plan fitted kitchen area (2-ring mini-oven, fridge), nicely tiled shower room, safety deposit box (€10 per week) and balcony.

Furniture is of beech wood and décor light and unfussy.

Apartments are either all on one level or open-plan maisonette-style, so split-level with stairs between the living area and bedroom/sleeping area. There is free WiFi. The owner provides use of a washing machine at a local charge (€5) and an iron and ironing board for clients' use, and outside there is a paved communal courtyard with seating.

Air-conditioning: Available at a local charge of €6 per day.

Early Booking Offer

Up to £100 off per apartment per week (max discount £200) for bookings made by 31/1. Conditions apply - see page 267.

The Apartments: Self Catering Apartments for 2/4
Air Conditioning
Free WiFi

George Studios Paleochora

These spotless studios are centrally located in a small road close to both the high street (one minute) and Paleochora's long sandy beach (five minutes).

The studios are housed on three floors. All have open plan twin bedroom, corner kitchenette (cooking rings, fridge), tiled ensuite shower room with wc, hairdryer, and balcony or garden patio. Some can accommodate an extra bed for a child but have a smaller balcony.

All studios are air conditioned, simply furnished in pine and have tiled floors. Studios have TV and a safety deposit box available at a local charge of €15 per week. Wifi is free of charge. Immaculately kept, typically clean and simple Greek

accommodation, convenient for both village and beach.

Air-conditioning: available at a local charge of €7 per day

Early Booking Offer

Up to £100 off per apartment per week (max discount £200) for bookings made by 31/1. Conditions apply - see page 267.

The Studios:

Self Catering
Studios for 2/3
Air Conditioning
Free WiFi



Paleochora restaurant

Filoxenia Apartments Paleochora

Quietly tucked away next door to our Manos Studios, so just 50m from the widest part of Paleo's wonderful sandy beach, the Filoxenia Apartments enjoy a great location.

Studios are on the ground and first floor and are double bedded with a small kitchenette area (2 rings, fridge). They all possess A/C, shower/wc and balcony or terrace, some with views of the mountains to the rear of the village. Furnishings and decor are typically neat and simple.

The three apartments are on the top floor and possess a A/C double bedroom and a separate living room (also A/C). They possess a half-bath with shower attachment above, and one large balcony or two smaller ones with partial sea,

mountain and village views. The living room has two sofa-beds - a double and a single - so good for a family of up to 5 at a squeeze.

From here you can be on the beach in less than a minute, and there is a choice of beach cafes and restaurants nearby. The centre of the village and the harbour side of town is a 5-8 minute walk.

Air-conditioning: available at a local charge of €5 per day (Studio); €10 per day 1-bedroom (which has 2 AC units).

The Apartments:

Self Catering
Studios for 2/3
Apartments for 2/5
Air Conditioning
Free Wifi



Paleochora beach

Walking, Painting and Insight Holidays to Western Crete

Western Crete is the perfect location for walking and painting so we are very pleased to offer these options here. There is also an Insight Week for those wishing to explore Crete's general culture and enjoy some hands-on experiences.

Led by Iakovos Triantafyllou, an engineer and walker from this part of Crete with an intimate knowledge of the area, and English artist Camille Marquand you will be in very good hands.

The painting and/or walking weekly programme includes

- Welcome dinner on the first evening
- 5 morning walks
- 4 painting workshops
- Painting exhibition and party on the last night

There are three options to choose from depending on how much walking or painting you wish to do, and if you want to mix them.

The Walking

Five walks taking in the hills and the valleys around the town of Kissamos and the surrounding area, as well as traditional villages and quiet ancient sites. The countryside here is particularly beautiful in the spring, early summer and autumn with an abundance of wild flowers and plants. Each expedition starts at 9 am at the hotel.

During Walking and Painting weeks

(departures 22/5, 29/5, 18/9, 02/10)

Five mornings of leisurely paced walks of light to medium difficulty. Walks end between 12.30 and 1 pm back at the hotel. Other than the introductory 90 minute walk to Kissamos, which gives time to see the town and museum here, walks are 2½ to 4 hours.

During Walking Only weeks

(departures 04/9, 16/10, 23/10)

Five longer walks of medium difficulty lasting approximately 5-6 hours, ending between 2 pm and 3 pm at the hotel.

Each walk has regular rest stops. Some walks involve travel on the local bus which is inexpensive and paid locally. Essentials to bring with you are strong walking shoes, small rucksack, swimming costume, sun glasses, sun hat, sun cream. For more details on the walks please enquire.



The Painting

During Walking and Painting weeks

(departures 22/5, 29/5, 18/9, 02/10)

Four afternoons of painting workshops for beginners and more advanced artists, sketching with either the medium you have brought with you (e.g. pastels, oils or watercolour) or the medium we provide (pencils, pastels and acrylics). Each workshop starts at 17:30 and ends at 19:00. The painting sessions will take place either at the Studio or out in the landscape; if the group wishes, the sketching workshop can be combined with the walk, instead of the afternoon session, freeing up the evening and giving you the chance to paint interesting aspects of the walk. On Saturdays in the late afternoon we exhibit our paintings and have a party.

During Painting Only weeks

(departures 19/6, 09/10)

As above but with five painting days plus morning sessions in addition to afternoon or evening. The longer sessions allow the chance to venture further afield for some stunning subject matter.

Basic materials are provided, including a board, pencils, pastels and a wetbox with acrylic colours but artists are encouraged to bring their own mediums and also a collapsible stool if wished, to sit on.

Accommodation

These holidays are based at the Cormoranos Hotel Apartments featured in our regular holiday programme. Please note there are two important variations to our description.

- These holidays are on a bed and breakfast basis, so breakfast will be served to your terrace each morning
- Air Conditioning is not included but is available at a local charge of €7 per day. This is because they take place outside the hottest times, so AC may not be required.



Insight into Crete

(departures 12/6 and 11/9)

This one week holiday is intended to give guests a genuine insight into Cretan culture and life through a mix of activities, visits and hands-on demonstrations. The programme includes:

- Welcome dinner on the first evening
- Leisurely walking by the sea and inland
- Learning a little Greek
- Cooking some Cretan dishes in a village taverna
- Visit to an olive oil factory
- Learning about the Mediterranean Diet and Cretan herbs
- Cretan dancing
- Full day boat trip to Gramvousa Peninsula and Balos Lagoon (optional swim)
- Sketching
- Tour of a local winery with tastings
- Visits to Kissamos' archaeological museum, the Botanical Gardens of Chania and local places of interest

General (all holidays)

All activities are of course optional and take place in the morning and early evening, leaving most afternoons with free time for relaxation. There is one completely free day in the week. See our website for sample itineraries. Entrance fees and bus tickets are payable locally. These holidays may be combined with an additional week in any of our featured resorts and accommodation (all transfers included) - please ask for a costing.

Prices: vary according to departure date but are from £1208 per person sharing twin apartment. Single supplement is c. £125. Please enquire for a firm costing. The price includes Tuesday flights from Gatwick (Manchester price on request), transfers (1 hour), a welcome dinner on the first evening, 7 nights BB accommodation and activities as described. For further details and sample itineraries please see our website.

Cormoranos Hotel Apartments Near Kastelli/Kissamos

The Cormoranos is located just 150m from the beach in the hamlet of Nopigia, 7 kms east of the main town of Kissamos (aka Kastelli).

The 10 apartments here comprise a living room with kitchen (3-ring mini-oven, fridge) and pull-out extra bed(s), a twin bedroom, shower room and spacious covered balcony or terrace with fine views to the surrounding countryside (some to the sea). All possess AC (included), hairdryer, room-safe and Wifi.

Although equipped for self catering, a good breakfast can be provided with some Cretan specialities and homemade treats included (local charge).

To the front the Cormoranos has lush gardens and a beautiful pool (12m x 7m, depth 0.80m-2.40m) with sun-beds on the grass. Mountain bikes can be rented.

It is a two minute walk to the long pebble beach (gently shelving and sandy in the water). Nopigia has three traditional tavernas, a beach cafe (seasonal - sun-beds free for patrons) and a mini-market. There is an hourly bus service to Kissamos from the top of the road.

This is a beautiful area of Crete with untouched countryside and little development, which is why the Cormoranos is also the base for our 7-night walking and painting holidays. (Note: those trips are with breakfast included but AC at an extra charge).

The Apartments: Self Catering Apartments for 2/4
Swimming Pool
Air Conditioning
Free WiFi



Explore Crete Fly-Drive

The size, shape and dramatic scenery of Crete lend themselves perfectly to fly-drive holidays and ours are the most flexible you will find. We do not list any pre-planned itineraries. Rather, we list the resorts in which we can arrange short stays in comfortable BB hotels and allow you to choose your own route.

Fly-Drive Centres & Pricing

North Coast: Heraklion, Chania, Rethymnon, Elounda, Mochlos, Sitia, Palekastro

South Coast: Paleochora, Aghia Galini, Ierapetra, Plakias

Mountains: Zaros

Please ask for advice should you want help with your route, or would like to know approximate driving times.

Prices vary as there are so many permutations, but a typical per person price for each of 2, including flights, car and hotels would be, depending on the season, approximately: 1 week £850-£995; 2 weeks £1150-£1450. Please enquire for exact costing.

CRETE

Guide prices in £'s per person

ACCOMMODATION	PERSONS BASIS	Low Season (May - early Jul & mid Sep - Oct)								High Season (mid Jul - early Sep)							
		From		To		From		To		From		To					
		1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks				
Aeolos	Studio	2	SC	664	758	706	814	720	836	773	864	784	970	842	1002		
	1 Bedroom	2	SC	721	872	771	944	784	970	842	1002	724	845	777	873		
		3	SC	668	766	710	823	724	845	777	873						
Afrodite	Studio	2	SC	664	759	706	816	720	836	773	864	681	756	732	782		
		3	SC	630	691	667	737	681	756	732	782						
	1 Bedroom	2	SC	699	828	746	893	759	917	834	968						
		3	SC	653	736	693	789	707	810	779	857						
	4	SC	630	690	667	737	681	756	751	801							
Almirida Beach	Standard Room	2	BB	732	972	940	1326	954	1342	977	1366						
	Family Room	2	BB	800	1090	1009	1464	1022	1481	1057	1526						
		3	BB	758	1008	953	1351	966	1367	996	1404						
Casa Veneta	Studio	2	SC	736	919	828	1053	828	1053	838	1073						
	1 Bedroom	2	SC	768	983	850	1124	868	1124	863	1112						
		3	SC	705	869	776	984	793	984	789	976						
Cormoranos	1 Bedroom	2	SC	808	974	876	1108	890	1205	994	1310						
		3	SC	738	871	787	962	801	1032	877	1109						
		4	SC	754	870	793	940	806	996	869	1059						
Doma	Standard Room	2	BB	846	1154	932	1297	945	1404	1058	1517						
	Suite	2	BB	986	1434	1123	1680	1136	1842	1305	2010						
	Top Floor Suite	2	BB	1348	2156	1592	2616	1605	2926	1920	3241						
Filoxenia	Studio	2	SC	700	815	741	894	779	954	821	996						
	1 Bedroom	2	SC	752	919	802	1054	876	1130	899	1152						
		3	SC	719	855	762	954	817	1010	839	1032						
		4	SC	703	822	742	904	787	950	808	971						
George	Studio	2	SC	712	839	799	1010	836	1048	858	1070						
		3	SC														
Iliana	Studio	2	SC	752	850	801	922	814	936	836	958						
	1 Bedroom	2	SC	772	890	842	1004	855	1018	876	1040						
		3	SC	690	772	746	856	759	870	781	892						
		4	SC	715	778	764	848	777	862	798	883						
Kalives Beach	Standard Mountain View	2	HB	806	1134	1050	1546	1064	1563	1088	1588						
	Standard Side Sea View	2	HB	846	1194	1111	1668	1124	1686	1150	1710						
	Standard Sea View	2	HB	874	1242	1152	1750	1166	1768	1190	1792						
Libyan Princess	Standard Room	2	BB	802	1034	976	1354	990	1448	1090	1549						
	Standard Pool View	2	BB	826	1082	996	1394	1010	1520	1142	1652						
	Junior Suite	2	BB	990	1410	1192	1785	1205	1828	1255	1878						
		3	BB	853	1135	996	1394	1010	1427	1050	1467						

ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMMODATION	PERSONS BASIS	Low Season (May - early Jul & mid Sep - Oct)								High Season (mid Jul - early Sep)							
		From		To		From		To		From		To					
		1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks	1 Wk	2 Wks				
Manos	Studio	2	SC	706	799	748	855	762	876	815	904						
		3	SC	685	755	723	804	737	824	778	850						
		4	SC														
Mimayia	1 Bedroom	2	SC	734	854	780	917	793	940	868	990						
		3	SC	691	768	731	820	744	840	816	887						
		4	SC	670	726	706	771	720	789	790	834						
Mistrali	Studio	2	SC	684	827	758	948	772	963	794	985						
		3	SC	638	736	697	826	710	840	732	862						
	1 Bedroom	2	SC	728	915	815	1062	828	1078	851	1100						
		3	SC	667	795	735	902	748	917	770	939						
	4	SC	637	734	694	822	708	836	730	858							
On The Rocks	Standard Room	2	BB	826	1082	898	1252	965	1321	988	1344						
	Suite	2	BB	950	1330	1024	1460	1046	1484	1070	1508						
Porto Loutro	Standard Sea View	2	BB	850	1118	882	1154	896	1170	918	1192						
	Studio	2	SC	850	1118	882	1154	896	1170	918	1192						
		3	SC	747	954	777	987	791	1002	813	1024						
Romantica	1 Bedroom	2	SC	780	947	830	1061	884	1117	927	1180						
		3	SC	739	867	782	952	823	994	859	1044						
		4	SC	719	826	758	898	792	933	824	975						
Serenissima	Standard Double	2	BB	1127	1716	1233	1900	1246	1918	1272	1944						
	Superior Double	2	BB	1195	1852	1335	2104	1348	2123	1375	2150						
	Junior Suite	2	BB	1332	2124	1542	2519	1556	2540	1584	2568						
	Superior Suite	2	BB	1432	2325	1681	2796	1694	2818	1724	2847						
	Superior Terrace Suite	2	BB	1500	2461	1750	2934	1764	2957	1794	2986						
	Superior Split Level Suite	2	BB	1568	2598	1820	3072	1833	3096	1863	3126						

Prices shown are indicative only and variable due to offers, changing flight prices and seasonal supplements - please call or check online for a confirmed costing (note: not all holidays can be checked online). Prices based on Gatwick flights and include transfers or car hire (see text); accommodation as described; and all airport/fuel charges & taxes known at the time of printing - for our surcharge policy see booking conditions at the back of this brochure. To add: regional flight supplements, room and board supplements (see text) - single room prices on request. Not all our accommodation is suitable for guests with reduced mobility. Please contact us to answer any questions you may have regarding our properties and to advise their suitability for people with health conditions or impairments.

Not included: Overnight Stay Tax of €0.50 to €4 per room, apartment or villa per night payable locally - the amount varies according to the category of the accommodation (i.e. most self catering and 1-2 star hotels = €0.50, 5 star hotels = €4).