

# Welcome to Heraklion

## Welcome to Crete

Heraklion, the gateway and capital of Crete, the city of eternal summer welcomes you. Discover the true Cretan inside you and live like one. That's why you're here!

Pure life fueled by heritage!



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ROUTES

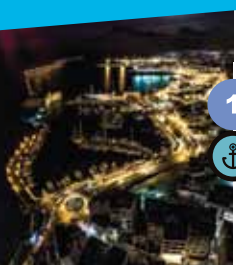


PLACE OF INTEREST



**HERAKLION**  
where Crete begins!

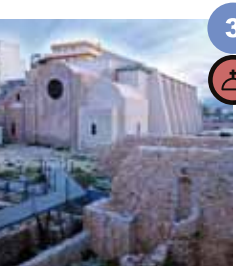
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**VENETIAN PORT – SHIPYARDS** of Heraklion is situated at the end of 25th August Street. The fortress of ROCCA a MARE dominates over the north entrance, while the impressive arches of the shipyards and the Salt warehouse are situated towards the south.



**VENETIAN FORTRESS ROCCA a MARE** or Castello del Molo or Koules was built by the Venetians to protect the pier and the port. It assumed its final form during the period between 1523 and 1540.



**CHURCH OF St PETER the MARTYR** was built during the first year of the Venetian rule as the Cathedral of the Dominican order monastery. It was one of the town's largest churches, with various chapels being added to it. The building which has been restored, suffered extensive damage from earthquakes from the 14th up to the 18th century.



**HISTORICAL MUSEUM** of Crete was founded in 1953 and is housed in a neoclassical building of exceptional architectural merit. It tells the story of seventeen centuries of local history and culture, from the early Christian centuries up to modern times.



**DERMATAS GATE** is situated approximately in the middle of the coastal Venetian wall, in the homonymous gulf. Today a part of its internal side towards the city is visible, while its exit towards the sea is preserved beneath the current coastal avenue.



**PRIULI FOUNTAIN** or Fontana Nuova or Delimarkou is an excellent example of Renaissance architecture. It was built around 1666 by the Proveditor Antonio Priuli.



**NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM** of Crete operates as part of the University of Crete. It is housed in the old Power Station, next to the Gulf of Dermatas.

2



**The SABIONARA GATE** is situated in the northwest corner of the bastion of the same name and led to the town by means of a steep passageway. The unadorned seaward exit still survives as also the inner façade. A green space above the gate has been created, overlooking the port.



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM** of Heraklion is the world's most significant one for Minoan Civilization. The current building was constructed between 1933 and 1937 based on plans made by the architect P. Karandinos, on the site of the Venetian monastery of St Francesco which was destroyed by an earthquake in 1856.



**ELEFThERIAS SQUARE** the open space created during the Venetian rule in front of the gate of St. George and the barracks (the building of the Region today), was used mainly as Campo Marzio, military practice area.



**St GEORGE GATE** was one of the central gates of Candia during the Venetian period. Today it links Eleftherias Square with Ikarou Avenue and is also used as an exhibition venue. Its impressive façade was demolished in 1917.



**JESUS GATE** was one of the three main entrances to the city, situated next to the bastion of the same name, on the south side of the fortification of Candia. Recently it was restored, making it accessible to the public once more. It now serves as a venue for "AN ODYSSEY" – a permanent exhibition on N. Kazantzakis.



**NIKOS KAZANTZAKIS TOMB** the famous Greek writer tomb, is situated on the highest point of the Venetian fortification, at the Martinengo Cavalier.



**PANTOCRATOR GATE** was the main through-route for communication between the town and the island's western regions. Construction was completed in 1570. The gate's monumental façade was the work of the Italian architect and engineer Michele Sanmicheli. Areas inside the gate were used as air raid shelters during World War II.

3



**STOA MAKASI** a total of 110m in length, is one of the many military stoas of the Venetian fortification which connected the inner city with the eastern Piazza Bassa of Martinengo bastion.



**"MANOS HATZIDAKIS OPEN-AIR THEATRE"** One of the distinctive features of the bastion was the piazza bassa (lit. "Low square"), constructed in the bastion flank, at the point where the bastion abutted the curtain wall, built at an intermediate level between the ditch and the scarp. Today the piazzasse have been fully restored and converted into venues for cultural events of various types. Plays and concerts are held in the piazza bassa in the Jesus Bastion.



**"NIKOS KAZANTZAKIS OPEN-AIR THEATRE"** The ditch surrounding earthworks was designed to keep the enemy as far from the enceinte as possible. The greater part of the original ditch protecting the landward side of Candia survives to this day. The land in the ditch has been turned over to the public and converted into parks and entertainment venues, as it is the "Nikos Kazantzakis Open-Air Theatre" in the ditch between the Jesus and Martinengo Bastions.



**FONTANA BEMBO – SEBIL** was constructed between 1552 and 1554 by Capetano Gianmatteo Bembo, who was the first to bring spring water to Candia through an aqueduct. The "charity" fountain (Sebil) was built in 1776 by Haci Ibrahim Aga. Today it is used as a café.



**1866 Str. THE TRADITIONAL MARKET** is situated along 1866 Str., which also during the Venetian and later the Ottoman period was one of the most commercial streets. It was also then the road that connected the city centre with the Palace of the Duke and the Cathedral of St Mark with the very prominent monastery church of Christ the Saviour.



**REGION - COURTHOUSE.** The present day building complex consisting of the Region building and the Courthouse arose from the Turkish barracks which replaced the Venetian St. George Barracks.

4

**25th AUGUST STREET** is the main road connecting the port to the city centre. It is considered to be one of the most significant roads throughout Heraklion's long history.

**CHURCH OF St TITUS** (first bishop of Crete) is one of the most interesting religious monuments in the centre of the city. The skull of the Saint is kept at the church.

**LOGGIA – HERAKLION TOWN HALL** is housed in the reconstructed building of Loggia - Armeria. The Venetian Loggia (officers & merchant's club) was built approximately in 1628 by the Proveditor Francesco Morosini. The Venetian armory, Armeria and the Fontana Sagredo are situated next to Loggia.

**BASILICA OF ST MARK** (the patron saint of Venice) is the cathedral church that hosts the Municipal Art Gallery. From its initial construction in 1239 until 1956, when restoration work began, the monument underwent numerous alterations.

**MOROSINI FOUNTAIN** (Lions fountain), built by Francesco Morosini in 1628, is the best known fountain of the city. Following preservation works, the fountain is currently one of the most impressive Venetian monuments in the city center.

**MUSEUM OF CHRISTIAN ART** is hosted in the cruciform church of Saint Catherine in the centre of Heraklion, near the old and the present Metropolitan church of St. Minas. The main theme of the exhibition is the ecclesiastical art developed in Crete from the 14th until the 19th century with important icons of Michael Damaskinos.

**CATHEDRAL OF ST MINAS.** The new cathedral of the city was built next to the Small Chapel of St Minas and of the Virgin Mary Pandanassa (of the Presentation) and it was consecrated to Saint Minas, patron saint and protector of Heraklion. Work on the church began in 1862 but was not completed until 1895.

**CHURCH OF ST MATTHEW** it was built in the early 17th century, on the site of an earlier Byzantine church destroyed by an earthquake. Following the Ottoman conquest, it was ceded as a dependency to Orthodox Monastery of Saint Catherine on Mt. Sinai, in place of Saint Catherine's, which had been converted into a mosque. The church houses a collection of icons, including major works of the Cretan School.

**CULTURAL CENTRE.** The Cultural and Conference Centre of Heraklion consists of a complex of 5 buildings with all the appropriate infrastructure and equipment to accommodate a variety of events..

**VENETIAN FORTIFICATION** is still standing today, embracing the old town was designed in line with the rules of the new defensive system with Bastions. The outside perimeter was surrounded by a deep ditch. Construction was completed in the early 17th century. Thanks to its new walls, Candia was able to resist the siege by the Ottoman army for over 20 years (1648 - 1669).

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DERMATAS TO ELEFThERIAS SQUARE

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# Welcome to Heraklion

Pure life fueled by heritage!



- ROUTE: 1.6 km** 1
01. VENETIAN PORT / SHIPYARDS
  02. VENETIAN FORTRESS ROCCA α MARE
  03. CHURCH OF St PETER the MARTYR
  04. HISTORICAL MUSEUM
  05. DERMATAS GATE
  06. PRIULI FOUNTAIN
  07. NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

- ROUTE: 3.1 km** 2
08. SABBIONARA GATE
  09. ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM
  10. ELEFTHERIAS SQUARE
  11. St GEORGE GATE
  12. JESUS GATE
  13. NIKOS KAZANTZAKIS TOMB
  14. PANTOCRATOR GATE

- ROUTE: 3.7 km** 3
15. STOA MAKASSI
  16. OPEN AIR THEATRE M. CHATZIDAKIS
  17. OPEN AIR THEATRE N. KAZANTZAKIS
  18. FONTANA BEMBO - SEBIL
  19. 1866 Str., THE TRADITIONAL MARKET
  20. REGION- COURTHOUSE

- ROUTE: 1.4 km** 4
21. 25th AUGUST Str.
  22. CHURCH St TITUS
  23. LOGGIA - HERAKLION TOWN HALL
  24. BASILICA OF St MARK
  25. MOROSINI FOUNTAIN
  26. MUSEUM OF CHRISTIAN ART
  27. CATHEDRAL OF St MINAS
  28. CHURCH OF St MATTHEW
  29. CULTURAL CENTRE
  30. VENETIAN FORTIFICATION

- ROUTE: 0.7 km** 5
05. DERMATAS GATE
  04. HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF CRETE
  25. MOROSINI FOUNTAIN (LIONS FOUNTAIN)

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