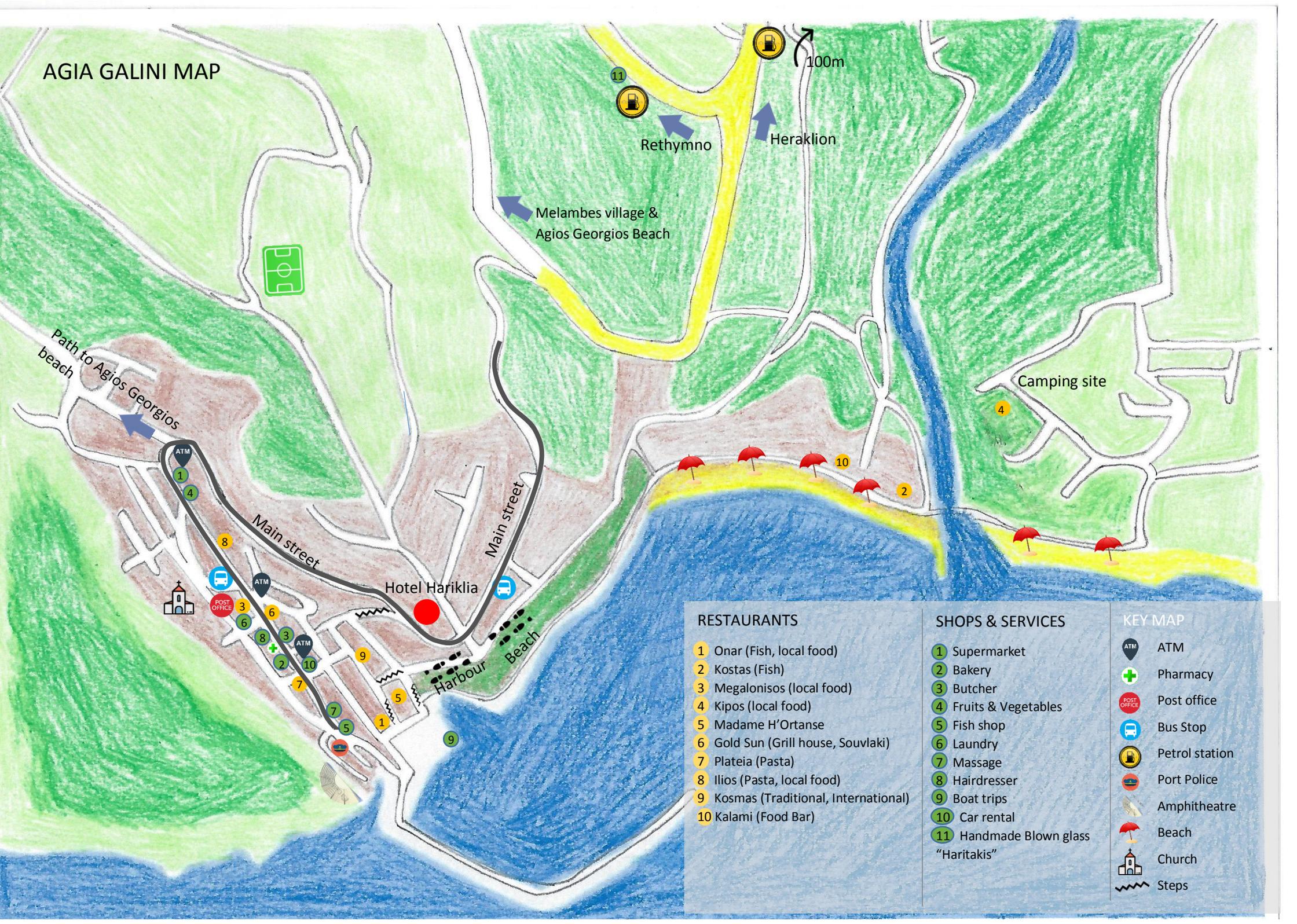


AGIA GALINI MAP



RESTAURANTS

- 1 Onar (Fish, local food)
- 2 Kostas (Fish)
- 3 Megalonisos (local food)
- 4 Kipos (local food)
- 5 Madame H'Ortanse
- 6 Gold Sun (Grill house, Souvlaki)
- 7 Plateia (Pasta)
- 8 Ilios (Pasta, local food)
- 9 Kosmas (Traditional, International)
- 10 Kalami (Food Bar)

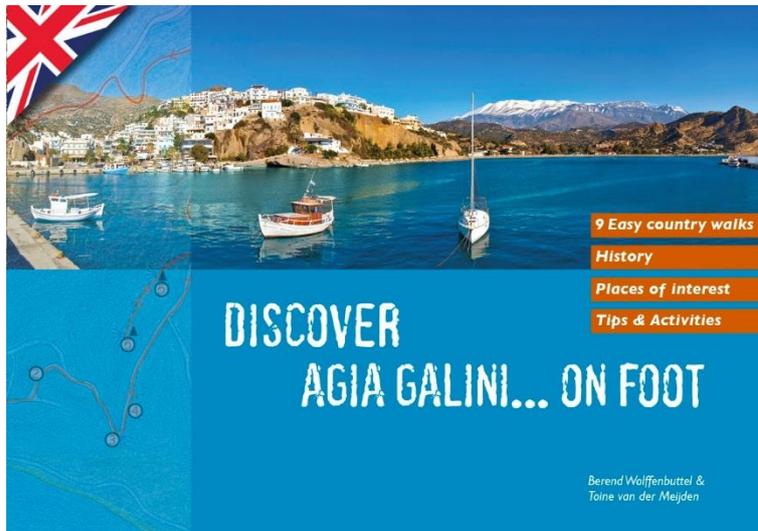
SHOPS & SERVICES

- 1 Supermarket
- 2 Bakery
- 3 Butcher
- 4 Fruits & Vegetables
- 5 Fish shop
- 6 Laundry
- 7 Massage
- 8 Hairdresser
- 9 Boat trips
- 10 Car rental
- 11 Handmade Blown glass "Haritakis"

KEY MAP

- ATM
- Pharmacy
- Post office
- Bus Stop
- Petrol station
- Port Police
- Amphitheatre
- Beach
- Church
- Steps

HIKING GUIDE WITH TRAILS AROUND AGIA GALINI



‘Discover Agia Galini...on Foot’

A walking guidebook exploring hiking routes around Agia Galini.

The fifth book in the serie Discover...on Foot has 9 easy country walks in the area of Agia Galini, Melampes, Apodoulou and Platanos in the south part of the Prefecture of Rethymno. Walking in the area of Agia Galini with this book gives you also lot of extra information about the villages, history and the area. Many beautiful pictures and detailed walking maps make this book complete.

You can find the guidebook in two tourist shops in Agia Galini.

One is the mini market- tourist shop you first come across when you walk down to the beach of Agia Galini.

The other tourist shop you find when you go down the stairs towards the village center. When you reach the main street it is right at the corner on your right hand side.

Available in English and German. Price 7.5€



Αναψυκτικά € 1,50 Sodas



Παγωτά
100% κρητικό
πρόβειο γάλα



Ice cream
100% cretan
sheep milk



Per scoop

Βανίλια 2,00 Vanilla

Σοκολάτα 2,00 Chocolate

Μπανάνα 2,00 Banana

Φράουλα 2,00 Strawberry

Φιστίκι 2,00 Pistachio

Κούκις 2,00 Cookies

Γιαούρτι φράουλα 2,00 Yoghurt strawberry

Κανταΐφι 2,00 Kantaifi

Καραμέλα 2,00 Caramel

Μπισκότο 2,00 Biscuit

Τρεις μπάλες παγωτό 5,00 Three ice cream scoops

Παγωτό
σε Μιλκσέικ

4,00

Milkshake
any Ice Cream



ΚΡΗΤΙΚΟΣ
ΦΟΥΡΝΟΣ



ICE CREAM
αποστολάκης

Point Café - Tel.+30 28320 91411

Agia Galini Crete 74056 Greece



Point
Coffee
juice
int

+30 28320 91411

ΜΕΝΟΥ
Delivery





Καφές € Coffee



Ελληνικός 1,50 Greek Coffee

Εσπρέσο 1,50 Espresso

Καπουτσίνο 2,50 Cappuccino

Καπουτσίνο διπλό 3,00 Cappuccino double

Λάτε 3,00 Late

Νες καφε 2,00 Nes café

Φρεντο εσπρέσο 2,00 Freddo espresso

Φρεντο εσπρέσο διπλό 3,00 Freddo espresso double

Φρεντο καπουτσίνο 2,50 Freddo cappuccino

Φρεντο λάτε 3,00 Freddo late

Φραπέ 2,00 Frappe

Φίλτρου 2,50 Filter

Σοκολάτα ζεστή ή κρύα 2,50 Chocolate hot or cold

Μόκα ζεστή ή κρύα 3,00 Moka hot or cold

+ Δόση καφέ 0,50 + Coffee shot

+ Σαντιγί 0,50 + Whipped cream

Τσάι Tea

Κρητικο μιξ 2,00 Cretan mix

Μαλοτηρα 2,00 Malotira

Χαμομήλι 2,00 Chamomile

Πράσινο 2,50 Green

Μαύρο 2,50 Black

Κοκκινο 2,50 Red

Φρουτο μιξ 2,50 Fruit Mix

+ Μέλι 0,50 + Honey



Χυμός € Fresh Juice



Πορτοκάλι 3,00 Orange

Μήλο 3,00 Apple

Καρότο 3,50 Carrot

Ανανάς 4,00 Pineapple

Κόκκινος μιξ 3,50 Red mix

Ανανάς μιξ 4,50 Pineapple mix

Power mix 4,50 Power mix



Σμούδhis Smoothies

Μπερι μπερι 5,00 Berry berry

Πινκ βελβετ 5,00 Pink velvet

Τζουμαντζι 5,00 Jumanji



Σάντουιτς

Υλικά:

τυρί, τομάτα, μαρούλι,
σος μαχιονέζας και

Ζαμπόν 2,50 Ham

Γαλοπούλα 3,00 Turkey

Κοτόπουλο 3,00 Fresh chicken fillet

Τονοσαλάτα 3,00 Tuna salad

Sandwiches

Ingredients:

cheese, tomato, lettuce,
mayonaisse sauce and



Σνάκ € Snacks



Σφολιάτες Puff Pastry

Κρουασάν σοκολάτα 1,50 Croissant chocolate

Κρουασάν ζαμπόν 2,00 Croissant cheese & ham

Μπουγάτσα κρέμα 2,00 Bougatsa(sweet creme)

Λουκανικοπιτα 2,00 Sausage pie

Ζαμπονοτυροπιτα 2,30 Ham & cheese

Γραβιέρα & 2,50 Gruyere cheese &
καπνιστή μπιριζόλα smoked pork

Τυρόπιτα 1,50 Cheese pie

Σπανακόπιτα 2,00 Spinach pie

Τυροκούλουρο 2,00 Cheese ring

Κασερόπιτα 2,00 Cheddar cheese pie

Φλογέρα Φιλαδέλφεια 2,00 Philadelphia cheese

Πίτσα σπέσιαλ 2,30 Pizza special



Σαλάτες Salads

Σαλάτα Σεφ 5,00 Chef

Τονοσαλάτα 5,00 Tuna

Κοτοσαλάτα 5,00 Chiken

Πόιντ σπέσιαλ 6,00 Point special



HOTEL HARIKLIA RECEPTION

Tel. +30 6974309928 (SMS, WhatsApp and Viber)

Wi-Fi network: Hotel Hariklia

Password: 12345678

USEFUL NUMBERS

- FIRST AID EMERGENCIES: 166
- FIRE BRIGADE: 199

HEALTH CARES - HOSPITALS

- LOCAL HEALTH DOCTOR: 28320-91111 (land line), 6974244547 (mob)
- HEALTH CARE CENTER SPILI: 28320-22222, 22531, 22534, 6974244547
- HEALTH CARE CENTER TIMBAKI: 28920 51219
- HOSPITAL RETHIMNO: 28310-87100

- PHARMACY (AGIA GALINI): 28320-91168
- POST OFFICE: 28320 91393
- MUNICIPALITY: 28320 22046
- LOCAL COMMUNITY: 28320 91258

- POLICE: 28320 91210, 91026, 91027
- TOURIST POLICE: 28310-28156, 53450
- PORT POLICE: 28320 91206

- HERAKLION/ATHENS AIRPORT: 2810 397129, 210 8916000

Local Bus Information

- Heraklion: 2810 246530
- Heraklion (central bus station): 2810 255965
- Moires: 28920 22371
- Chania: 2821 093052
- Chania ticket office: 2821 093306
- Rethymnon: 2831 022212, 2831 022785

HOTEL HARIKLIA TIPS & SUGGESTIONS

FOR BREAKFAST

WHERE TO EAT IN AGIA GALINI

ILIOS taverna, a Bio choice. Manolis, the owner, spends all year round picking whatever he can from nature (wild greens, herbs etc) and selecting natural products directly from small local vegetable gardens and farmers for his kitchen. Here you'll get a genuine taste of Crete and a feel of being in a home yard surrounded by flowers and trees. Directions: You will find 'Ilios' taverna down by the village, on the main street opposite the big church.

Do mention that you are Hotel Hariklia guests, so he takes extra care of you 😊

KIPOS restaurant, a very good choice for local dishes and grill food in a nice garden surrounding.
Located within the camping site. Directions: walk along the beach, cross the bridge and by the end of it turn left on the path. There is a sign 'Kipos' garden in Greek.

MEGALONISOS tavern, a long tradition in Cretan cuisine. One of the oldest taverns in the village. By the bus stop.

ONAR restaurant, good for Cretan local food & fish. By the harbor, beautiful harbor view, nice surrounding, excellent service.

KOSMAS taverna, good for a fun evening! Serves great green curry! By the taverna street.

KOSTAS restaurant, good choice for fish. Specialty, tuna fish. By the beach, last taverna before the bridge.

MADAME HORTENSE restaurant, good for a romantic dinner overlooking the harbor. By the harbor.

KALAMI Food & Cocktail Bar, stylish surrounding and good for combining food and cocktails. By the beach. A good choice for lunch by the beach.

DON'T MISS

1. A visit to Agios Georgios either for lunch or a swim.

A lovely beach bay with a cozy hippie style little **tavern 'Giorgos & Maria'** down by the beach. Only a 10 min drive by car from Agia Galini.

You can also access the beach by **boat 'Elizabeth'** leaving from the harbor every morning at 10.30 and returning at 16.15pm.

If you like hiking, there is a beautiful walking trail over the mountain taking you all the way down to the beach. It takes around an hour to get there.

Directions: leaving Agia Galini you will see a sign pointing left towards 'Melambes' village. Follow the sign and turn left again at the next sign to Agios Georgios.

2. A visit to Melambes village.

The perfect escape when 'melting' away from heat in Agia Galini. The village of Melambes (see map) up by the mountain, has a beautiful climate and is only a 10 min drive from Agia Galini. An authentic Cretan traditional village. If you enjoy hiking there are beautiful walks around this area. Consult the mini hiking guide 'Agia Galini on foot' for walking trails. You shouldn't miss to walk all the way from Melambes to the **church of Analipsis**. A gorgeous scenery of the Messara bay, the Paximadia islands and Gavdos Island.

You can finally rest by **'Platanos' kafeneion** for a coffee or snack under the shade of the beautiful 'Platanos' (Plane tree) and refresh your glass with water straight from the mountains!

Don't forget to give my greetings to Aglaia, the owner of 'Platanos' café!

3. A visit to the street markets

If you enjoy browsing around local markets, do visit Timbaki town on a Friday morning or Moires on a Saturday morning. The street transforms into a colorful sight of stalls loaded with local produce, from fruit and vegetables to Cretan herbs and dairy products. The market operates from about 8.00am until 13.00pm and is the weekly highlight for all the local people. When hunger sets in, complete the local town experience with lunch in **'Aperito'** in Moires. Delicious Greek homemade food that resembles the food you would eat at a typical Greek family house! (You can travel to Timbaki and Moires by local bus from Agia Galini. See local bus schedule on hotel notice board)

4. The 'kafenion' experience

"Kafeneio" is another word for cafe, but not any cafe. Every Greek village has its own traditional 'kafeneion'. By tradition, a place where the locals pass their time discussing the important matters of the village (gossip) and analyze politics. In their morning over a Greek coffee and in the evening with the favorite local produce 'tsikoudia' always accompanied by small 'mezedes' (appetisers).

There are two typical traditional kafenions located right in the center of the village called **'Vriskoumeno'** and **'Giortamis'**. Here you can taste the good tsikoudia (raki) and eat splendid mezedes! If you are lucky you might listen to some live Cretan lyra (traditional instrument of Crete) as young musicians often gather and play spontaneously if the company and mood is right. Another good kafeneion worth a visit is the **'Bogiatzi'** with nice friendly owners (Hrisoula and Mixalis) good mezedes, quality homemade raki and cozy located on a little street in a residential neighborhood close to the church.

5. Town of Spili

If you happen to visit the charming little town of Spili, noted for its cool mountain water which gushes from the Venetian lion head fountains, don't miss out the chance to have a great Cretan meal at a unique little taverna called 'Sideradiko'. Nice atmosphere by the garden yard with delicious food. Nikos uses his own vegetables and meat for all his dishes. What a treat! Don't forget to visit 'Maravel

Garden', a beautiful herb garden with more than 80 different medicinal herbs. You can purchase your own herbs at the small shop within the garden. Spili is a haven of shady trees and flowers. Stroll around the small house alleys which give a beautiful feeling of village life. A perfect place for a half-day trip, and much cooler than anywhere for miles around!

Directions: Leaving from Agia Galini, just as you enter the village of Spili you will find the taverna on your right hand side.

6. Matala

If you are in the mood of combining some tourist shopping, sightseeing, lunch and a swim, visit the renown, once Mecca for the hippies (the caves), **town of Matala**. On your way to Matala don't miss the chance to visit the significant archeological site, the Minoan Palace of **Phaestos**. The palace ruins face wonderful views of Mount Ida. For lunch or dinner in Matala, visit the '**Two Brothers**' (read more on beautiful sunsets, romantic settings)

7. Three archeological sites nearby: Phaistos – Gortys (or Gortina) – Agia Triada

Even if you are not a big fan of history and monuments, these archeological sites should not be missed. In Phaistos you will be taken away by the beautiful mountain views. In Gortys you feel a sensation walking among the olive trees and in Agia Triada you get overwhelmed by the energy of an ancient time.

Note: In Gortina there are two sections. One section is the main archeological site which you pay for and the other is opposite on the other side of the street which is free. The free part is the part which is more interesting, as you go through the olive trees to see the remnants of the Minoan civilization. See map that follows to find the location of the sites.

BOAT TRIPS

You can visit the following beaches by boat. Agios Georgios and Prasonisi with the 'Elizabeth boat' and Paximadia island with 'Agia Galini daily cruises' boat. The boats set off every morning at 10.30 from the harbor of Agia Galini. All boat trips are advertised by the kiosks in front of the boats and between 18.00 and 20.00, there is usually someone there to assist for ticket sale or info.

Tip: The trip to the blue crystal waters of '**Paximadia Island**' and the trip to the small beach of '**Prasonisi**' both include barbeque grilling & drinks and also activities like snorkeling and fishing.

GALINI EXPRESS - ONE-DAY BUS EXCURSIONS

If you don't have a car why not take an all day excursion by bus. The weekly schedule is pinned on the wall by the road opposite our hotel. You can also visit www.galiniexpress.com to view the schedule.

BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS, ROMANTIC SETTINGS

You shouldn't miss the lovely sunset in the small town of **Matala** at around 19.30-20.00pm. Down by the sandy beach you can watch the sun dip into the sea and gaze at the miraculous colors that form around it. For lunch or dinner go to the taverna called the 'The two brothers'. Here you get good quality food, excellent service and all in a beautiful surrounding. The place is located towards the beginning of the main street of Matala on your left.

Kommos beach is on your way to Matala. Also a beautiful location for spending a late evening to watch the sunset. It is similar to the beach of Triopetra, long and sandy, however, the waters here are calmer and better for swimming which makes it ideal also for family with small kids.

For lunch go to '**Bunga Bunga**' at the edge of the rock, great relaxing surrounding and very good quality food!

Agios Pavlos – is a favorite beach for swimming as the waters are calm and crystal clear. It is an organized beach with sunbeds and umbrellas. Enjoy a wonderful snack at 'Scopas' place down by the beach.

You can walk all the way to the back of the mountain where you will find the second beach of Agios Pavlos the '**Sand dunes**'. A remote sandy beach ideal for those that want to keep away from the crowds. Along the 'sand dunes' the beach stretches further on towards the '**Labirynt**'. A fantastic place to watch the sunset. The whole setting here is just magical and a place you won't find written in guide books!

Small Triopetra and Triopetra (The Three stones). Leaving from Agios Pavlos and taking the road along the coast you will come across the small 'Triopetra' beach. Here you will find an organized bay, ideal for small kids with a **family friendly taverna** called '**Apanemia**'. The food here is very good and there is a small playground for small children. Next comes Triopetra beach. Another beautiful setting for watching the sun go down. A tranquil place where your mind calms and drifts away by the powerful landscape of the sea, the rocks and the endless sandy beach. If you want to combine with dinner, there are two tavernas here right by the beach.

Tip: If you are longing for a romantic special place for a drink, Agios Pavlos is the place to be! By the beach, on top of the rock, a bit further away from the 'Dragon' restaurant is a café. Right under it is a cave which has been turned into a bar. What a view and feeling from here. Just magical! The only obstacle is the way back if you have been drinking, but a taxi can be arranged and is definitely worth the expense!

A SOUVENIR FROM 'HARITAKIS' HAND BLOWN GLASS WORKSHOP

For a special souvenir or gift from Agia Galini, visit Nikos Haritakis hand blown glass workshop. You will be impressed by the beautiful glass blown creations.

Directions: The workshop is a minute away from the village. The exhibition shop lays at the top of the Shell tank station, located just outside Agia Galini on the main road towards Spili and Rethymnon.

PLAN A DAY TRIP TO ONE OF THE MAIN TOWNS NEAR AGIA GALINI: CHANIA – RETHYMNO - HERAKLION

Road distances:

Agia Galini – Rethymno 52.4 km and about 1 hour by car.

Agia Galini – Chania 108 km and about 1 hour and 44 minutes by car.

Agia Galini – Heraklion 77.1 km and about 1 hour and 21 minutes by car.

For **bus schedules** visit my website www.hotelhariklia.gr (from the menu go under transport).

For **car rental office** visit **AUTOGALINI**. It is located at the village center. Take the steps and walk all the way down till you get to the main street. The office is the building on your left. Let them know you are staying with us, as you get a 10% discount on your car hire.

PHAISTOS, ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE

Phaistos was one of the most important centres of Minoan civilization, and the most wealthy and powerful city in southern Crete. It was inhabited from the Neolithic period until the foundation and development of the Minoan palaces in the 15th century B.C.

The Minoan city covered a considerable area around the palatial centre. After the destruction of the palace in the 15th century, the city continued to be inhabited in the Mycenaean and Geometric periods, that is, until the 8th century B.C.

Later, the temple of Rhea was built to the south of the old palace. The Hellenistic city was extremely prosperous; houses of the period are to be seen in the west court (upper terrace) of the palace. In the middle of the 2nd century B.C. it was destroyed and dominated by the neighbouring city of Gortyn. Traces of habitation dating from the Venetian period are scattered in the whole area. The archaeological investigation of Phaistos started in 1884 by F. Halbherr and continued by the Italian Archaeological School at Athens, under the direction of F. Halbherr and L. Pernier in 1900-1904 and by Doro Levi, in 1950-1971.

The most important monuments of the site are:

- The Palaces (old and new). They are built of ashlar blocks and spread on different terraces. To the central, peristyle court are opened the royal quarters, the storerooms, a lustral basin, and workshops. The monumental propylon and the large staircases facilitate access to the many terraces.
- Minoan and later town. Sections of the town have been located at the sites called Chalara and Aghia Photeini, SE and NE of the palace, respectively.
- Venetian church of St. George of Phalandra. It lies to the west of the palace, on the left of the road that leads to the archaeological site of Aghia Triada and Matala.

Information: tel. +30 28920 42315

Tickets - Full: €8, Reduced: €4 (for March & April)

Free admission days

6 March (in memory of Melina Mercouri)

18 April (International Monuments Day)

18 May (International Museums Day)

The last weekend of September annually (European Heritage Days)

28 October

Every first Sunday from November 1st to March 31st

Opening hours during winter:

From 7th of January to 31st of March 2022 from 08:30 - 15:30.

From the 10th of April from 08:30 - 20.00.

During summer:

08:00 - 20:00. Last admission 19:45

During Holidays:

Good Friday: 12:00-17:00

Holy Saturday: 08:30-16:00

1 May: closed

Easter Sunday: closed

For more info you can visit the official site for archeological sites and museums ODYSSEUS
<http://odysseus.culture.gr/>

THE ANCIENT CITY OF GORTYS (GORTYNA) – ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE

Slightly north of Phaistos, between the villages of Agioi Deka and Mitropoli are the ruins of ancient Gortys, Gortyna or Gortyn, one of Crete's most powerful cities and island's capital at the times of the Roman and Byzantine periods. With a history of 6,000 years it is one of the most extensive archaeological sites. The whole area has been inhabited since the end of the Neolithic period and continued through the Minoan period with a Minoan villa found near Mitropolis in the Kannia area proof of this.

Gortys replaced Phaistos in the middle of 1000 BC as the chief city. The most interesting monuments on the site are the remains of a fortified acropolis, the temple of Athena Poliochios, the crepidoma of an ancient theatre and the Odeon, which was used for plays, recitals and musical events. Also, at the back of the site, is the famous and rare evergreen plane tree of Gortys which was reputed to have shaded the wedding guests of Zeus and Europa. Be sure also to see the fascinating Law Code of Gortys carved on the Great Inscription in twelve columns. They deal with matters of civil law and are extremely progressive and liberal. They represent not just the laws of a Cretan city-state but also they form the oldest Greek law code and are considered to be the greatest contribution of Classical Crete to world culture.

Near the car park it is worth looking at the Roman statues which were discovered whilst excavations were taking place in the wider area of Gortys. They date from 1st to 3rd century AD and are Roman copies of Greek statues. Near the agora are the ruins of the Basilica and church of Ayia Titos, one of the finest examples of Byzantine architecture. Built in the mid-6th to early 7th century AD it was mostly destroyed during an earthquake in the 8th century. The Gortys Museum, close to the basilica houses finds from the area and is located in a square with ancient olive trees.

Information: tel. +30 28920 31144

Tickets - Full: 6€, Reduced: 3€ (for ages over 60)

Free admission days

6 March (in memory of Melina Mercouri)

18 April (International Monuments Day)

18 May (International Museums Day)

The last weekend of September annually (European Heritage Days)

28 October

Every first Sunday from November 1st to March 31st

Opening hours in winter:

From 1st of March until beginning of April 2022 from 08:30 until 15:30.

Last admission 15:15.

Opening hours in summer:

From 08:00 to 20:00. Last admission 19:45

Holidays

1 January: closed, 6 January: 08:30 - 15:00, Shrove Monday: 08:30 - 15:00, 25 March: closed, Good Friday: 12:00 - 17:00, Holy Saturday: 08:30 - 16:00, 1 May: closed, Easter Sunday: closed, 15 August: 08:30 - 15:00, 28 October: 08:30 - 15:00, 25 December: closed, 26 December: closed

AGIA TRIADA ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE

The ruins of the Royal Villa, the Small Minoan Palace at Agia Triada is situated a couple of kilometres from Phaistos on the west slope of a hill 30-40 metres above sea level and the excavated area measures 135 by 135 metres. The site is named after the village of Agia Triada that is located next to it and was inhabited until 1.897, when the Turks destroyed it. The Minoan name of the site is unknown.

At the site are the Minoan town, the palace and the tombs, excavated by Halbherr with L. Banti in 1902 and onwards. La Rosa resumed the excavation after 1976.

Monuments

The most important monuments of the site are:

The Royal Villa. It consists of two wings and, although it was smaller than the palaces of Knossos and Phaistos, it presents all the typical features of palatial architecture: halls with polythyra (pier-and-door partitions) and a light-well, shrines, magazines, repositories, workshops, staircases, porticoes, courtyards, terraces, balconies and paved streets.

The settlement and "Agora". They lie to the NE of the villa and belong to the Mycenaean period. Eight spacious rooms are opened behind the portico of the Agora (market-place) while to the west of it are the remains of a Mycenaean settlement.

The cemetery of Aghia Triada. It includes two Early Minoan (3000-2300 B.C.) tholos tombs with complexes of funerary rooms, and chamber tombs of the Late Minoan period (14th century B.C.). Burials were placed in clay larnakes (sarcophagi). A similar larnax, made of limestone, the famous painted sarcophagus of Aghia Triada, was also found at this cemetery.

The "Megaron" of the "Mycenaean" type, built over the storerooms of the Royal Villa, is contemporary with the portico.

Church of St. George Galatas. The Byzantine church, decorated with splendid wall-paintings, lies in the courtyard of the Minoan villa.

Information: tel. (+30) 28920 91564

Operating Days & Hours:

MON-SUN: 08:30-15:30

Admission Fee:

- General admission: €4 for adults, 2€ for over the age of 60.



MAP WITH POINTS OF INTEREST ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES & VILLAGES



KIKLADES - PIREAS - THESSALONIKI

KIKLADES - PIREAS - THESSALONIKI

KRITIKOPELAGOS

map.com (psiloritis)



Botanical Garden in Spili

‘Marvel Garden’

We welcome you to visit our beautiful two-acre medicinal herb gardens, especially in spring and summer. When you enter the garden gate, especially from april to september, you will find yourself immersed in a peaceful and magical garden, filled with aromatic herbs and medicinal herbs. Over 80 common and unusual medicinal herbs grow in Marvel garden. Intermingled with the herbs are a variety of flowering trees and annual and perennial flowers that feed the pollinators.

Visitors may purchase herbal remedies in our shop after touring the gardens.

Experiencing the beauty of our gardens is in itself an uplifting experience.

Please come visit if you can. Wherever you are, when you open a Marvel bag of tea or bottle of herbal extract, the healing essence of our garden is there for you to receive.

Visit our herbal Garden that has more than 180 species of herbs and they are categorized accordingly such as:

Aromatic herbs

Medicinal herbs

Aromatic cum medical herbs

A visitor’s touch releases the rich scents of lavender, lemon basil and other aromatic herbs.

We are always looking for additional dedicated volunteers. Adults of all ages and backgrounds who love gardening and who love sharing their gardening knowledge with the public through tours and demonstrations.

When you step into Marvel Garden, you will enter an oasis of herbs. Marvel garden tours offer the perfect way to spend a peaceful moments. A trip to the garden makes a wonderful gift for nature- loving friends and family and a one of a kind experience for you while you’re visiting the Crete Island.

Herbal Garden Tour

The Herbal Garden tour will give you a unique and memorable experience during your stay on Crete Island. The tour starts in the morning when your Guide will familiarize you with a wide range of native plants & herbs. You will be introduced to plants that have been used for centuries by the Cretan people for first aid, emergencies and the treatment of chronic illnesses.

How therapeutic grade essential oils are produced at an organic herb farm from start to finish.

At Maravel, there are three critical steps to distillation. The first is in the cooking process — the plant material must be compressed just right, so that when the steam goes through, it can maintain proper pressure and proper flow. There are even special preparing controls in the cooking chambers to reduce the risk of the essential oil being “refluxed” or burned during distillation. Condensing is the next process. The condensing system is very critical. It must be balanced in such a way that it produces the maximum amount of oil with minimal waste. The third step is the separation process. With three phases of separation, a higher percentage of molecules are recovered, giving Maravel oils the highest quality and the highest standard in the world today. That’s why they are often referred to as gourmet oils.

WHAT TO BRING:

Comfortable foot wear with non-slip soles that can get wet & muddy are advisable, as well as a hat & sun block, a camera, long pants, extra clean cloths. It is not recommended to wear white cloth

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When: Every day.

Cost: it’s free and it includes a Herbal Tea

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DRIMOS TAVERN - NATURAL PARK & THE GORGE OF PATSOS

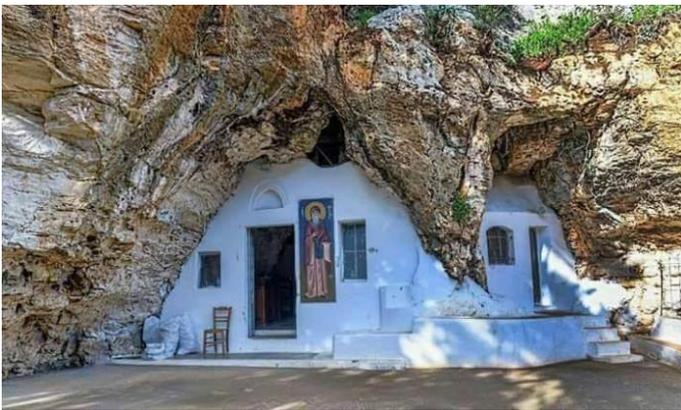
Located 8 km southwest of the Monastery of Arkadi, in the heart of the lush province of Amari. The water of the gorge is poured in the dam of Potami. Trekking in the gorge is very easy, since it is managed by the Forest Service.

The gorge offers facilities for picnic, with a spring of running water near the river. A beautiful attraction of the gorge is the cavernous church of St. Anthony in the rocky walls, a former temple of Hermes. From there you can follow the trail towards Potami, dam or till the beautiful cavernous waterfall and then return back. On the sides of the gorge there is an observation deck for birds in the area.

The name of the gorge comes from the homonym village. Patsos village is located near the foot of the hill of Soros at an altitude of 490 meters, and is 30 km south of Rethymno. Nearby villages are Karines, Spilia and Gerakari. The area has rich vegetation. Vegetation and crops are lush due to the numerous springs of water available in the wider area. The water is of very good quality and runs all over the year.

Between the lovely green surroundings and small rivers you will find 'Drimos' family tavern and Natural Park. There is a playground and small animal farm within the park premises.

To get to Patsos you take the road towards Rethymnon. When you reach Spili, drive through the village. When you pass Maria & Kostas taverna there should be a road sign to Patsos or Drimos tavern. You take a right turn up the mountain. Travel time around 40min.



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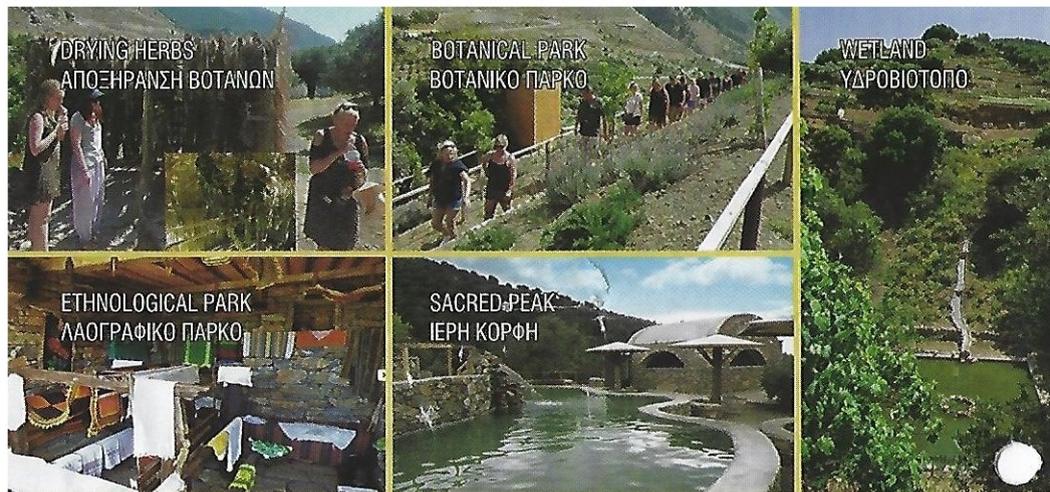
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02

03

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AGIOS GEORGIOS BEACH



The beach of Agios Georgios is located 3km west of Agia Galini, appr. a 10 minutes' drive by car.

Here are two small bays with wonderful pebbly beaches, which are separated by a rocky shore.

The weather here is always mild, making the beaches ideal for swimming all year round.

Down by the beach of Agios Georgios you will find Maria and Giorgos charming little taverna. A little paradise where you forget that time exists and a place where, with the help of some raki, you will surely redefine your life priorities!

If you come to St. George, you can stroll in the wild Cretan countryside and walk to the Monastery of St. George (500m northern). Note the slope of the church walls, which has been damaged due to ageing and soil sedimentation (don't worry, it is safe). The Church is known for its old wall paintings.

If you want to stay more secluded, you can go to the west beach called Kolimbistiri (i.e. "swimming area"). Here you can swim alone. Moreover, the seabed is ideal for snorkeling.

To access the beach of St. George, you can follow the asphalt – paved road leading here from Agia Galini. Leaving from Agia Galini you make a left turn to the sign pointing to Melambes. The next sign you find points to 'Nikos rooms' here you make another left turn and head straight down the road to the beach. Moreover, the Elizabeth boat by the harbor of Agia Galini sails every morning at 10.30 to Agios Georgios and back at 16.15.

AGIOS PAVLOS BEACH

The coastal beach of Agios Pavlos (St. Paul) is located west of Agia Galini approx. a 30-40 minutes' drive. You can access the area by driving from the villages Akoumia or Sachtouria. The beach is a sheltered bay with beautiful green deep waters and magnificent rocky seabed. Near the beach you will find 'The sleeping dragon' café-restaurant and 'Scopas' café & snack food. The beach is organized with basic services, such as umbrellas and sunbeds. You can also take a swim in the nearby idyllic beach with the huge sand dunes, the 'Sand Dunes' beach. Read more details on my 'tips & suggestions page, under 'beautiful sunsets & romantic settings'.



TRIOPETRA BEACH

Triopetra is located about 52km south of Rethymno and 13km southeast of the village Akoumia, at the foot of the mountain Siderotas and next to dense green olive groves. It can be accessed by car, through the paved roads that start from Akoumia or Sachtouria. It is the central part of the vast beachfront, called Akoumiani Gialia, i.e Akoumian Beach. This is named like this because the wider area of Triopetra was once the winter “refuges” of Akoumia village residents, who had built small cottages to spend the night near their lands. Today, the lucky Akoumians have repaired the cottages near the stunning beach.

Triopetra consists mainly of two beaches, which are separated by a small peninsula. At the edge of the peninsula, in the sea, three majestic rocks rise. Triopetra is named after these rocks, since it means “Three Rocks”.

The first beach, known as Small Triopetra (or Koumado), is located in a closed sandy and rocky bay, south of the three rocks. In its southern edges Akoumianos River empties, which separates it from the magical beach of St. Paul Sandhills. On the beach there are a few rooms and taverns, and umbrellas are offered. Here is the small harbor of the area, in the southeast part of the beach, called Stomio. 1km northeast of this beach, you can visit the amazing chapel of Prophet Elias, on a high hill, overlooking Triopetra area.



AGIA FOTINI BEACH

The village Kerames is located 49km south of Rethymno, close to the village Agalianos. South of the village are many beautiful beaches, with the most famous being the beaches of Akoumiani Gialia, namely Ligres, Triopetra and St. Paul sandhills. The beachfront north of Akoumiani Gialia is called Keramiani Gialia, meaning Keramean Beach, named after the nearby village.

The poor asphalt road that leads to Keramiani Gialia stops near the local harbor of Agia Fotini, also known as Agia Fotia. Agia Fotia has some stunning tiny pebble beaches, ideal for snorkeling and swimming. These are surrounded by marvellous boulders. The traditional tavern of Stavros, built on an old carob repository, serves fresh fish near the harbor and you can find some rooms to stay there. It's an amazing place, reminding of Greek islands of the old '60s. The tavern offers some umbrellas and showers for free. There is a small river near Agia Fotia, that forms a small green wood. If you follow the path that heads north, along the river, you will meet an incredibly high palm tree and after 50m you will find the old church of Agia Fotini, near a small house with a nice garden. If you walk 5' west of the tavern, along the rocky shore, you will meet another small pebbly beach.



PREVELI BEACH

Down on the south coast of the island, is the idyllic area of Preveli. The mouth of the River Kourtaliotis meets the Libyan sea here and forms a delightful lagoon, fringed with palm trees and oleanders. Unusual and tropical but also, because of this, quite busy in the summer months. A few meters out of the village of Asomatos, past the Kourtaliotis ravine, there is a road on the left-hand side, which is half asphalted and half dirt road, which leads through lush green countryside to Preveli and the monastery of the same name. Moni Preveli, the monastery is constructed on top of a hill, looking out to the sea. Today only two monks reside there although it has a heroic and glorious history. The monastery was founded in the 16th/17th century and is dedicated to St. John the Theologian. The present church of St. John (Agios Ioannis) was built in 1836 but partially destroyed in the 1866 revolution. It was renovated in 1911. The present rooms of the Abbots were built around 1900 of which there are twenty cells and also guest quarters which are in the old abbot's room. Inside the church there is the miraculous gilded Holy Cross studded with precious stones and "holy wood".



KOMMOS BEACH

Kommos is an impressive beautiful beach, famous for its wonderful long sandy beach, one of the largest in Crete, stretching all the way from Kalamaki to just before Matala. Kalamaki is just a short distance away, as are Matala and villages Kamilari, Sivas and Pitsidia. From Kalamaki you can walk to Kommos beach. Kommos beach is not your typical beach with lots of people, cafeterias and restaurants. The beach is so long that no matter how many people come here to enjoy a swim in the clear waters of southern Crete, there is always plenty of space for everybody without the slightest sense of crowding. To get to Kommos from Agia Galini you drive to Tymbaki town, pass it and turn off left towards Kamilari, continuing until you find the road to Matala. From Pitsidia turn towards Kommos. Kommos is about half an hours drive from Agia Galini. Don't miss lunch or a snack at 'Bunga Bunga' by the rock (see photo below).



AGIOFARAGKO BEACH

Agiofarango is a short gorge south of Matala and west of Kaloi Limenes town. The name comes from Ayio (meaning Holy) and Farangi (meaning Gorge). It was so named because many hermits used to live here in previous centuries. During the Turkish occupation period Ayiofarango was a remote place ideally suited to people who wanted to worship God undisturbed. It is said that 300 hermits used to live here under strict rules (strict diet and lack of social life). The legend says that, but for one occasion each year when they met together in a big cave (the "abbot's cave"), these hermits lived alone and isolated from one another. This annual meeting was their only opportunity to socialize.

To get from Agia Galini to Agiofaragko you drive to the traditional village of Sivas, close to Matala and Festos and then follow the road signs to Moni Odigitrias (Holy Monastery of Odigitria). It is a several km dirt road but easy to drive. You have to keep driving past Odigitria Monastery and follow the road signs to Kaloi Limenes or Agiofarango (whichever you may find). A few km past Odigitria you will have to leave your car and continue by foot for about 1 hour. If you trust your car or you do not care about it, then you may drive along the dirt track that enters the gorge. If you go this way then you won't have to walk more than 15 minutes.

The walk to Agiofarango beach through the gorge is beautiful. The path between the vertical cliffs of the gorge is breathtaking. On the way you will see large caves in which ascetics live and the chapel of St. Anthony, with a well outside.

