

Photo: ckhowley



Photo: Thomas Kohler

Chania (say "Hanya") must be the loveliest port town in Greece. Swallows soar in sheer blue skies above the semicircle of tall Venetian houses around its picture-perfect Old Harbour. The tables of scores of bars and restaurants line the quayside. Behind the harbour front, narrow, traffic-free shopping lanes thread through the atmospheric Old Town. On either side of the town, sandy beaches stretch along the coast.



Photo: esther



Photo: Fredrik Rubensson

# New App coming soon







# Top 5

#### Fort Firca

The calm ruins of the Venetian fort have lovely sea views. Its fascinating Naval Museum (next door) recalls Chania's maritime ...

# Limnoupolis Water Park

This is the kids' choice with waterslides, pools and a lazy river. And for grown-ups there is a jacuzzi and pool bar. Shops an...

# Samaria Gorge

This famous 16 km hike down a spectacular mountain gorge reaches the south coast. You'll need sturdy shoes, water and a hat!

#### Boat trips

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#### **Scuba Diving**

There are at least two scuba diving centers in Chania - Blue Adventures Diving and Omega Divers. They are both certified and h...





# THE CITY



Photo: Thomas Kohler

Chania is Crete's second largest town and is the lively capital of the western half of this long, narrow Greek island. It's very ancient: 4,000 years ago Chania was called Cydonia. It preserves many handsome signs of a long history as a possession of Venice. The Old Town, alongside the Old Harbour, is enclosed by Venetian ramparts and guarded by a waterside Venetian fortress, Fort Firca.

The modern city centre, just outside the old ramparts, offers the energy and character of a vibrant, authentic Greek town. Here are numerous shops, bars, restaurants and street life that are fun to explore. Chania is the focal point of western Crete's coastline of small and charming beach resorts. Each resort has its own appeal, and all are just minutes from Chania by car or bus along the seashore highway that runs at the foot of high craggy peaks and rolling foothills green with olive groves.

# DO & SEE



Photo: esther

Chania has many wonderful things to offer you on your holiday. Go on a glass-bottomed boat cruise and enjoy the wonderful sea life. If this is not thrilling enough go to Limnoupolis Water Park and feel the adrenaline rush on the waterslides. Try scuba diving or just hanging out on the beach all day. Either way you will return back home well rested.

#### **Fort Firca**

The calm ruins of the Venetian fort have lovely sea views. Its fascinating Naval Museum (next door) recalls Chania's maritime tradition.

Address: Fort Firca

Phone: +30 2821 091 875

# **Limnoupolis Water Park**

This is the kids' choice with waterslides, pools and a lazy river. And for grown-ups there is a jacuzzi and pool bar. Shops and eateries add to the attractions.

Address: Varipetro village

Phone: +30 2821 033 246

Internet: www.limnoupolis.gr

More Info: 8 km from Chania

#### Samaria Gorge

This famous 16 km hike down a spectacular mountain gorge reaches the south coast. You'll need sturdy shoes, water and a hat!

Subway: Bus from Chania €6



Tickets:

More Info: Starts at Omalos, ends at Agia Roumeli

## **Boat trips**

Glass-bottomed boats cross in crystal waters to nearby St Theodore Island. Others sail to idyllic Stavros beach on Akrotiri Peninsula. The prices vary so do not hesitate to walk around to compare between the different companies.

Address: Venizelou Sq More Info: On the quay

#### **Scuba Diving**

There are at least two scuba diving centers in Chania - Blue Adventures Diving and Omega Divers. They are both certified and has good reputation in the scuba business. Going scuba diving will let you peek into a new world of seldom seen creatures and will let you be a part of another element for some time.

Blue Adventures Diving 11 Archoleon Str. Old Harbour Tel. +30 2 821 040 608

69 Daskalogianni Str. Old Harbour Tel. +30 2 821 040 403

Omega Divers
Almyrida
+30 2 825 031 412
info@omegadivers.com

Internet: www.blueadventuresdiving.gr / www.omegadivers.com

## **BEACH LIFE**



Photo: Fredrik Rubensson

The Chania coast is ideal for quiet beach holidays for all the family, with a long, narrow sandy strip both west and east of the town. A string of small resorts offers plenty of leisure facilities.

#### Chania Town

Near Hora beach, with sunbathers and watersports, is close to all the facilities of the Old Town. 5km further, Chrissi Akti (Golden Beach) has tavernas behind.

Address: Old Town

More Info: Just west of Old Harbour

# **Almirida And Kalives**

These two resorts are authentic villages with family appeal. Sandy beaches curve around calm bays backed by tavernas and beach bars. Get there with local bus.

More Info: 20 km east of Chania

# **Platanias And Aghia Marina**

Laid-back little resorts merge on a 10km strip of beach backed by bars, tavernas and shops. The resorts do vary, with activity and sports around lively Platanias, and a quieter feel at Aghia Marina and Stalos, the eastern end of the strip. Get there by local bus.

More Info: 8 - 18km west of Chania.



#### **EATING**



Photo: Britrob

Scores of restaurants in Chania's Old Town and the beach resorts offer good eating, relaxed and informal, at open-air tables. Grilled fish and lamb dishes are specialities, plus vegetable dishes like boureki (courgette, cheese and potato bake) and melitzanokleftedes (aubergine patties). Three-courses with local wine cost about €14-20 at almost any restaurant.

#### Maria's Taverna

This is a popular traditional eatery, relaxed and cheerful, serving well-prepared Cretan, Greek and international favourites. It stands on the edge of Kato Stalos, at the start of the long beach strip west of Chania.

Address: Kato Stalos Phone: +30 28210 68 888 Internet: www.mariasrestaurant.gr

# **Amphora**

Smart, professional service and top quality traditional Cretan cooking makes this one of the best Old Harbour restaurants. Good position at the end of the quayside. Superb vegetable dishes include kolokothikeftedes (courgette and cheese patties).

Address: 20, 2nd Passage of Theotokopoulou str.

Phone: +30 2821 093 224 Internet: www.amphora.gr

## Monastiri Taverna

In Chania's harbor you will find many restaurants with an exceptional view, however not every restaurant has the

great food to such a good price like Monastiri Taverna. If you would like to try traditional Cretan food then this is the place.

Address: Akti Tompazi 12 Phone: +30 2821 055 527 Internet: www.monastiri-taverna.gr More Info: Venetia Harbour

#### Tamam

There is excellent traditional local food at this popular classic Cretan taverna inside a former historic Turkish bath-house in the Old Town. Here you find frequent live music.

Address: 49 Zambellou St Phone: +30 2821 096 080 Internet: www.tamamrestaurant.com

#### Cosmos

With elegance and style, in an old building high in upper Platanias, this is a fabulous setting with immense views. An astonishing choice of meats includes crocodile, bison and kangaroo ... as well as more traditional fare.

Address: Platanias old village Phone: +30 2821 068 558 Internet: www.crete-restaurants.gr



## **CAFES**



Photo: Alexis O'Connor

Cafés, bars and ice cream parlours are all much the same thing in the resorts, and may serve food, too. When you're watching the world go by or simply watching the waves, a long cool drink at a shaded outdoor table is all part of the pleasure.

#### **Pallas**

The Old Town is full of places to sit with a drink or ice cream. Pallas is gloriously located on a harbour corner. Its rooftop café gives a stunning view over the lights and life of the quayside.

Address: 15-17 Akti Tobazi Phone: +30 2821 045 688 Internet: www.pallaschania.gr

#### **Backdoor Café**

This is one of the oldest cafeterias in Chania, operating since 1900. Today, recently renovated, it is satisfying all modern needs. Nice views of the impressive lighthouse and the harbour. Open from early in the morning until late at night serving everything from breakfast, coffees, juices and ice creams till light snacks with wine from the wine cellar, cocktails or a beer.

Address: 1, Akti Koundourioti Phone: +30 2821 074 274 Internet: www.crete-cafe.gr

## To Stachi

This is a wonderful organic and vegetarian restaurant near the harbour of Chania. They serve a range of traditional Cretan pies, home-made sourdough bread, fava, tzatziki and dolmades, all excellently prepared. The owner, Stelios, is happy to tell you that all ingredients are locally sourced from organic farmers, the beers and wines are all organic, and Stelios even makes his own very popular organic sourdough bread. You can drop by just for coffee or herbal teas or fresh juices and it is the only place you can get carrot and beet juice etc in Chania.

Address: 5 Defkalionos St Phone: +30 2821 042 589

# Alcanea Café-Wine Bar

Enjoy breakfast and a light menu based on Mediterranean culinary traditions or dig in to a selection of innovative cocktails and distinctive wines from the Greek vineyards specialising in the Cretan varieties.

So sit down for a coffee break, an informal lunch, a sunset cocktail or a glass of wine, while watching the comings and goings in the marina of the Old Port.

Address: 2 Aggelou St Phone: +30 28210 75370 Internet: www.alcanea.com More Info: info@alcanea.com

#### Cafe Vafe

This is a nice little place with a friendly staff and good prices. Lovely to have a nice breakfast or later in the afternoon a glass of wine.

Address: Plateia Vafe | Neo Chora Phone: +30 2821 088 849 More Info: cafevafe@gmail.com



# **BARS & NIGHTLIFE**



Photo: nelo\_hotsuma

For most visitors, nightlife means a leisurely dinner at an outdoor table (many restaurants have live music), followed by a stroll under the stars. For something with more energy, there are late-night bars and dance clubs in Chania's harbour area and in the beach resort of Platanias, west of town. Platanias and Chania are best for nightlife.

# **Eclipse**

The summer season starts in April and continuous to October and so does the bar Eclipse. Good drinks, wild and friendly staff, groovy DJ's and out of control parties!

Address: Platanias

Phone: +30 2821 068 139 Internet: www.eclipseplatanias.com More Info: info@eclipseplatanias.com

# Café Café cocktail bar

Enjoy a vast selection of coffees, drinks and exotic cocktails as you sway to the music. Or have a dig into the long list of beers while shooting some pool or watch all the important games and championships on the projector screens. If you feel peckish theres cold dishes and home-made sweets to try out.

Address: Platanias

Phone: +30 2821 068 015 Internet: www.cafe-cafe.eu More Info: info@cafe-cafe.eu

# **Splendid**

Splendid offers a good night, good cocktails and great

music. If you are looking for a club to dance all night then this is the place to go to.

Address: Platanias

Phone: +30 2821 060 346 Internet: www.splendid-chania.gr

# Tropicana Beach Bar

This place offers a good time all day and all night. Located by Paradise beach, they have some of the best beach parties on the island.

Address: Paradise Beach Phone: +30 2289 023 582

Internet: www.tropicanamykonos.com

More Info: info@tropicanamykonos.com

10 min from Chania

## My Cafe Bar

If you like, you can sit here all day as this place is a café, bar and a club. The real fun begins after midnight when the music gets going and the bar gets crowded.

Address: 37 Skalidi str Phone: +30 2821 079 288



# **SHOPPING**



Photo: Fiona Bradley

Chania is the main shopping centre for all of western
Crete. Stroll in the narrow lanes of its Old Town to discover
numerous interesting small shops. The town has a useful
covered market and fascinating specialist shopping
streets to explore. In Chania's Old Town, many of the lanes
are crammed with enticing little shops, some selling
tourist knick-knacks and souvenirs, others with better
merchandise such as imaginative gold and silver jewellery.

Good buys from around €7 include crochet bags and beadwork, local rugs and kilims and authentic Greek bath sponges. Don't miss narrow Skridlof Street, a traditional leatherworkers' lane where bargains include high quality handmade goods such as handbags, purses, shoes and sandals. There's also a metalworkers' lane, Sifaka Street.

Where Old Town and modern city meet, the fine Covered Market, or Agora (Mousouron street) is the focal point of the town. More a shopping mall than a marketplace, it provides a cool haven where locals throng among shops and stalls offering every kind of local produce, alluring pastries, piles of olives, fragrant herbs and spices, and appetising cheeses like delicious Cretan graviera and mizithra.

## **SLEEPING**



Photo: Luigi Rosa

Most good hotels are small and family-run. Some are in beach resorts outside Chania, others are charming boutique hotels in town. There's self-catering too, from budget apartments to luxury villas.

#### Santa Marina Plaza

Santa Marina Plaza is a 5-star beachside comfort at a small and friendly place, with plenty of facilities, restaurant, beach bar and regular Cretan shows.

Address: Agia Marina
Phone: +30 2821 036 860
Internet: www.santamarina-plaza.gr
More Info: info@santamarina-plaza.gr

#### Doma

Doma is a converted seafront mansion offering decent comfort, 20 minutes walk from the Old Harbour decorated with a taverna-style dining room. Many historical items on display include a collection of headgear!

Address: 124 Venizelos St Phone: +30 2821 051 772-3 Internet: www.hotel-doma.gr

## **Amphora**

Amphora is a historic mansion backing onto the Old Harbour quayside, providing decent modest facilities with a touch of style. Every room is different. They have a great restaurant!

Address: Theotokopoulos St



Phone: +30 2821 093 224 Internet: www.amphora.gr

# **ESSENTIAL INFORMATION**



Photo: Graeme Churchard

# **Airports**

Chania Airport, western Crete's main gateway, is 14 km from the city. Most travellers arrive on tour operator packages including bus transfer or car hire. Independent travellers can catch a taxi into town for around €15.

Phone: +30 28210 83800 Internet: www.chania-airport.com

#### **Public transport**

From 6 am to 6 pm, public buses serve the coast road to and from Chania, stopping at the resorts. Fare from Chania to Platanias: €1.50.

In Chania, town buses serve the modern districts, but the Old Town is small enough to walk around, and its lanes are too narrow for buses.

Internet: www.chaniabus.gr

#### Taxi

Chania's blue and white taxis can be hailed or phoned.

Fares are around €0.40 p/km, or about €0.60 p/km out of town or between midnight and 5 am. Tips are optional.

Phone: +30 2821 098 700 +30 2821 098 701 +30 2821 098 770 Internet: www.chaniataxi.gr www.chania-taxi.com

#### **Post**

The main post office in central Chania is located on Peridou Street. Stamps can be bought at many shops.

Address: Peridou Street

Opening hours: Mon - Fri: 7 am to 8 pm, and Sat 8 am to 2 pm. Small  $\,$ 

offices open Mon - Fri: 8 pm to 2 pm.

More Info: Around the corner of Kydonias Street

#### Dentist

In emergency go to Chania Hospital, in Mournies, 2 km south of the city centre.

Address: Moyrnies Chania Phone: +30 28210 220 00 Internet: www.chaniahospital.gr More Info: info@chaniahospital.gr

#### **Pharmacy**

On the door of any pharmacy a list shows which pharmacy is on night duty. You can recognize the pharmacies through a green cross on the door. Normal business hours are 8 am-1 pm and 5 pm-8.30 pm.

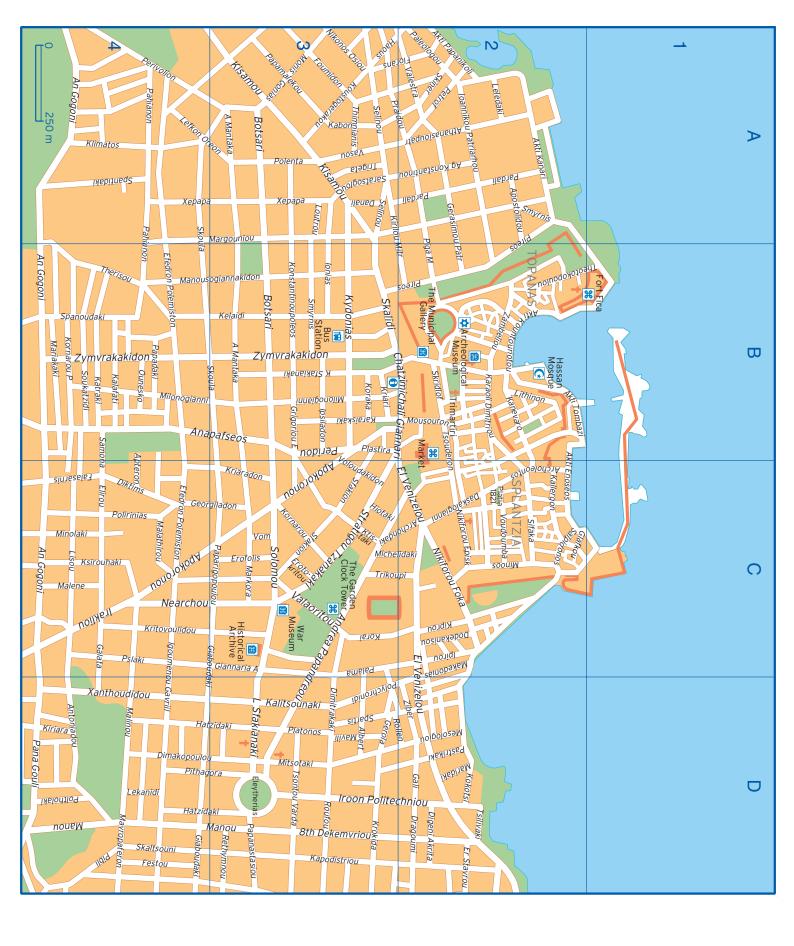
# Telephone

Country code: +30 Area code: 28210

Note that numbers and codes within Greece do not begin with a 0.

# **Electricity**

220V





8th Dekemvriou	D3	Haous	A3	Malene	C4
A Mantaka	A3 B3	Hatzidaki	D3 D4	Malinou	D4
Ag Konstantinou	A2	Hiotaki	C3	Manou	D3 D4
Akti Enoseos	B2 C2	Igoumenou Gavriil	C4 D4	Manousogiannakidon	B3 B4
Akti Kanari	A2	Ioannikou Patriarhou	A2	Margouniou	A3 A4
Akti Kountouriotou	B2	lonias	B3	Mariakaki	B4
Akti Papanikoli	A2	lpirou	C2	Maridaki	D2
Akti Tombazi	B2	lpsiladon	B3	Markora	C3
Albert	D3	Irakliou	C4	Mavili	D3
An Gogoni	A4 B4 C4	Iroon Politechniou	D2 D3	Mavropateron	D4
Anapafseos	B3 B4	K Sfakianaki	B3	Mesologiou	D2
Andrea Papandreou	C3 D3	Kabon	A3	Michelidaki	C2 C3
Antoniadou	D4	Kalafati	В4	Milonogianni	B3 B4
Apokoronou	C3 C4	Kalitsounaki	D3	Minolaki	C4
Apostolidou	A2	Kallergon	C2	Minoos	C2
Apteron	B4 C4	Kanevaro	B2	Mitsotaki	D3
Archoleontos	C2	Kapodistriou	D3	Monis Gonias	A3
Archondaki	C2 C3	Karaiskaki	B3	Mousouron	B2
Athanasioupatr	A2	Karaoli Dimitriou	B2	Nearchou	C4
Botsari	A3 B3	Katraki	B4	Nikiforou Episk	C2
Chatzimichali Giannari	B3	Kelaidi	B3	Nikiforou Foka	C2
Danali	A3	Kiprou	C2	Nikonos Osiou	A3
Daskalogianni	C2	Kiriara	D4	Ounesko	B4
Digeni Akrita	D2	Kirilou Mitr	A3 B3	Pahianon	A4 B4
Diktims	C4	Kisamou	A3	Palama	C3
Dimakopoulou	D3 D4	Klimatos	A4	Paleologou	A2
Dimitrakaki	D3	Kokotsi	D2	Pana Gouli	D4
Dodekanisou	C2	Konstantinoupoleos	B3	Papadaki	B4
Dragoumi	D2	Korai	C3	Papamalekou	A3
Efedron Polemiston	B4 C4	Koraka	B3	Papanastasiou	D3
El Venizelou	C2 C3 D2	Kornarou	C3	Paparigopoulou	C3
Eleytherias	D3	Kornarou P	B4	Pardali	A2
Elirou	C4	Koustogerakou	A3	Pastrikaki	D2
Er Stavrou	D2	Kriaradon	C3	Peridou	В3
Erofolis	C3	Kriari	В3	Perivolion	A4
Erotokritou	C3	Kritovoulidou	C4	Petrof	A2
Falasarnis	C4	Krokida	D3	Pibli	D4
Festou	D4	Ksirouhaki	C4	Piga M	A2 B2
Florans	A2 A3	Ktistaki	C3	Pireos	A2 B2 B3
Foumidon	A3	Kydonias	В3	Pithagora	D3 D4
Galata	C4	L Sfakianaki	D3	Plastira	В3
Gali	D2	Lefkon Oreon	A3 A4	Platia 1821	C2
Georgiladon	C3 C4	Lekanidi	D4	Platonos	D3
Gerasimou Patr	A2 B2	Leledaki	A2	Polenta	АЗ
Gerola	D3	Lisou	C4	Polirinias	C4
Giaboudaki	C4 D4	Lithinon	B2	Poltholaki	D4
Giannaria A	C3	Loutrou	АЗ	Polychronidi	D3
Glafkou	C2	Makedonias	C2	Praidou	A2 A3
Grigoriou E	В3	Malathirou	C4	Pslaki	C4
-					



Rethymnou	D3	Smyrnis	A2 B3	Tsontou Varda	D3
Rollen	D2 D3	Solomou	C3	Tsouderon	B2 C2
Roufou	D3	Soukatzidi	B4	Valaoritou	C3
Salpidonos	C2	Spanoudaki	B4	Valestra	A2
Samona	B4 C4	Spantidaki	A4	Vasou	A3
Saratsoglou	АЗ	Spartis	D3	Voloudakidon	B3 C3
Selinou	АЗ	Stratigou Tzanakaki	C3	Vom	C3
Sfakion	C3	Theotokopoulou	B1 B2	Voudoumba	C2
Sifaka	C2	Therisou	B4	Xanthoudidou	D4
Skalidi	В3	Thimnianis	A3	Херара	A3 A4
Skaltsouni	D4	Trigeta	A3	Zambeliou	B2
Skiner	A2	Trikoupi	C2 C3	Ziber	D2
Skoula	A4 B4	Tsilivaki	D2	Zymvrakakidon	B3 B4
Skridlof	B2				