

THE
GETAWAY
COLLECTION CO

Travel Guide
CRETE

Crete, the largest of the Greek islands, is packed with diverse landscapes, rich history, and amazing food.

TCC | CRETE

INTRODUCTION

Discover how to plan the perfect Crete getaway with The Getaway Collection Guide to the Crete—covering what to see, where to stay, and how to make the most of your trip for an unforgettable experience!



Destination HIGHLIGHTS



CHANIA

A charming harbor with a lighthouse, waterfront restaurants, and cobblestone streets.



HERAKLION

Bustling with cafes, shops, and a vibrant local scene.



RETHYMNO

A well-preserved Old Town with a mix of Greek, Venetian, and Ottoman influences.

GETTING THERE



BY AIR

Easiest and fastest way is by air. There are two main airports. Heraklion is the main international getaway. Chania is smaller but operates to most European destinations.



BY FERRY

A great option if you enjoy scenic travel or are island hopping.



ACCOMMODATIONS



HOTELS

Crete boasts a wide variety of hotels, ranging from luxurious resorts to charming boutique establishments, ensuring that every traveler finds accommodation that suits their preferences.



VILLAS

Crete offers a diverse selection of villas, catering to various preferences and budgets. Luxury Villas in unique locations, Villas with private and shared pools, or over looking the beautiful landscapes and beaches.



APARTMENTS

Crete offers a good variety and mix of apartments for rent. Whether you want to be situated in the heart of the town, or located by the sea, there's a huge variety for all needs.

CHANIA



DOMES NORUZ

A luxurious, adults-only resort situated on the serene Agioi Apostoloi Beach, just a short distance from Chania's vibrant Old Town.

This five-star hotel offers a blend of modern design, exceptional service, and a range of amenities tailored for relaxation and indulgence.

Features: Two good-sized public pools, with one designated as a quiet zone, ensuring a peaceful environment for relaxation.

Ideal for: Adults only.



MINOA PALACE RESORT

A luxurious 5-star hotel located in Platanias, near Chania, Crete. This beachfront resort offers a blend of elegance, comfort, and family-friendly amenities, making it an ideal choice for travelers seeking a relaxing and enjoyable stay.

Features: Two outdoor pools designed for younger guests.

Ideal for: Families.



KIANI BEACH RESORT

Kiani Beach Resort is an all-inclusive family resort located just outside the village of Kalyves, in the Apokoronas region of Chania, Crete. The resort offers a blend of luxury and family-friendly amenities, making it an ideal destination for families seeking a relaxing beach holiday.

Features: located on the sandy and pebbled Kiani Akti beach, ideal for swimming and sunbathing.

Ideal for: Families and couples.

HERAKILON



STELLA ISLAND

Stella Island Luxury Resort & Spa is an exclusive adults-only retreat. Renowned for its luxurious accommodations and expansive lagoon-style pools, the resort offers a tranquil and romantic atmosphere, making it particularly popular among couples and honeymooners.

Features: overwater bungalows provide a unique experience with hammocks over the water and Jacuzzis on the deck.

Ideal for: Adults only, honeymooners.



MINOA PALACE RESORT

A luxurious 5-star hotel located in Platanias, near Chania, Crete. This beachfront resort offers a blend of elegance, comfort, and family-friendly amenities, making it an ideal choice for travelers seeking a relaxing and enjoyable stay.

Features: Two outdoor pools designed for younger guests.

Ideal for: Families.



NANA PRINCESS

Kiani Beach Resort is an all-inclusive family resort located just outside the village of Kalyves, in the Apokoronas region of Chania, Crete. The resort offers a blend of luxury and family-friendly amenities, making it an ideal destination for families seeking a relaxing beach holiday.

Features: located on the sandy and pebbled Kiani Akti beach, ideal for swimming and sunbathing.

Ideal for: Families and couples.

RETHYMNO



GRECOTEL CRETA PALACE

Stella Island Luxury Resort & Spa is an exclusive adults-only retreat. Renowned for its luxurious accommodations and expansive lagoon-style pools, the resort offers a tranquil and romantic atmosphere, making it particularly popular among couples and honeymooners.

Features: overwater bungalows provide a unique experience with hammocks over the water and Jacuzzis on the deck.

Ideal for: Adults only, honeymooners.



ROYAL SENSES RESORT

A luxurious 5-star hotel located in Platanias, near Chania, Crete. This beachfront resort offers a blend of elegance, comfort, and family-friendly amenities, making it an ideal choice for travelers seeking a relaxing and enjoyable stay.

Features: Two outdoor pools designed for younger guests.

Ideal for: Families.



AQUILA PORTO

Is luxurious 5-star hotel situated on the beachfront of Rethymnon, Crete, offering an ideal blend of modern comfort and traditional Cretan hospitality. Features: Many of the rooms offer stunning sea or harbour views

Features: located on the sandy and pebbled Kiani Akti beach, ideal for swimming and sunbathing. Ideal: Families and couples.

Ideal for: Couples, families, friends and business travellers.

Local TRANSPORT

TAXI AND RIDESHARE

Easy to find in towns and cities. Official taxis are metered, but agree on a fare for longer trips. Can be pricey for long distances, better for short hops. You can book private drivers or transfers online if you want a more comfortable ride.

PUBLIC TRANSIT

Best for budget travellers and main route travel. Extensive network connecting major cities (Heraklion, Chania, Rethymno, Agios Nikolaos) and many towns/villages. Affordable and relatively reliable, but limited service on weekends and in remote areas. Buses are Great for short day trips.

RENTAL CARS

Most recommended way to explore Crete. Gives you the freedom to visit beaches, mountain villages, and archaeological sites at your own pace. Roads are generally good, though mountain areas can be narrow and winding.

WALKING

Great for exploring the local areas, especially in the old towns, or taking a stroll to the beach.



DINING *and cuisine*

Crete is a paradise for food lovers. The island's cuisine is deeply rooted in tradition, known for its fresh, seasonal ingredients, bold flavours, and healthy dishes—arguably the foundation of the Mediterranean diet.

Indulge in the diverse array of dining options, from upscale gourmet establishments to casual street food vendors. Discover the unique fusion of global influences that have shaped the local cuisine, blending traditional techniques with innovative twists.



THE
GETAWAY
COLLECTION CO

Cultural EXPERIENCES

ANCIENT MINOAN SITES

Crete is the birthplace of the Minoan civilization, Europe's first advanced society, and it's home to some of the most impressive ancient ruins in the Mediterranean.

TRADITIONAL VILLAGES

Crete is full of traditional villages where you can step back in time, experience authentic Cretan life, and enjoy beautiful landscapes, homemade food, and warm hospitality.

CRETAN MUSIC & DANCE

Cretan music and dance are a huge part of the island's soul—deeply emotional, rooted in tradition, and often tied to storytelling, resistance, and celebration. If you're visiting Crete, experiencing live music and dance is a must.

FESTIVALS

Crete is alive with festivals year-round, blending religion, music, food, and centuries-old traditions. Whether you're into culture, food, or just a good party, there's probably a festival (or panigiri) happening nearby.



Best SUPPLIERS

HOTEL ONLY

Back office 'stays' search, Ratehawk, Travel Pack, Instant Packages, Gold medal, Major, JTA, Direct

PACKAGE SUPPLIERS

Travel Pack, Classic Packages, Jet2, JTA, Gold Medal, Instant Packages, Major

EXCURSIONS

Viator, Not in the Guide Books

CAR HIRE/TRANSFERS

Holiday extras, holiday taxis, JTA, Flexible autos





TRAVEL GUIDE

CRETE

Time to Getaway...

TGC | CRETE