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Population

53,500 in the town and 70,000 in the greater Chania area.

Currency

Euro, 1€=100 cents

Opening hours

Traditional local shop hours are generally Mon-Sat from 8 am to 2.30 pm, and also from 5 pm to 8 pm on Tue and Thu. Shops catering mainly to tourists are usually open every day of the week from 9 am–10 pm.

Internet

www.chania.gr
www.chaniacrete.gr
www.gnto.gr

Newspapers

Chaniotika Nea
Minima
Stigmes
Crete Gazette

Emergency numbers

Ambulance 166
Police 100
Fire 199

Tourist information

The tourist office is called GNTO.
Opening hours: Mon - Fri 7.30 am - 2.30 pm
Address: 40 Kriari Street (off 1866 Square)
Tel : +30 28210 92943

CHANIA

PUBLISHING DATE: **2012-04-20** | COUNTRY CODE: **GR**

Contents: The City, Do & See, Beach Life, Eating, Cafes, Bars & Nightlife, Shopping, Sleeping, Essential Information, Maps

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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.

THE CITY



© 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.



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DO & SEE



© 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 Limnopolis 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.

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

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

Limnopolis 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.limnopolis.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

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



© 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



© 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.

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

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

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

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

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

CAFES



© 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



© 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-kania.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



© 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



© 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.

Arkadi Hotel

Arkadi Hotel is a hospitable city hotel with an ideal location for guest who want to discover Chania and its region, with quick access to public transportation and services. The hotel is only 200 metres from the old town and the Venetian harbour of Chania. The friendly and helpful service as well as the modern equipped rooms that are classically furnished, with balconies overlooking the beautiful city, makes the stay perfect for everyone.

Address: 1866 Square
Phone: +30 28210 90181
Internet: www.arkadi-hotel.gr
More Info: info@arkadi-hotel.gr

Niriides Hotel

Niriides Hotel is a small complex of 12 air-conditioned studio-apartments situated inside a beautiful garden. The place is ideally located in Almyrida, surrounded by nature and just a few minutes' drive from the airport or the city of Chania. The hotel is only 150m away from the two shallow, sandy beaches of Almyrida, which has been awarded the blue flag. The hotel also has a large swimming pool (12,5m x 6,5m) with a special section for children.

Address: Almyrida
Phone: +30 2825 032 450
Internet: www.niriidesalmyrida.gr

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



© Graeme Churchard

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Exchange Office

There are more fun things to do on your holiday than look for exchange offices or ATMs. Exchange your currency before you leave and get time to do things that you really want. At Forex Bank you can always buy foreign currency free of charge, at hours that suits you. For more info about Forex Bank visit our website or click:

<http://www.forex.se/sv/Om-FOREX/Bankbutiker/>

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

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.

Dentist

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

Address: Moymies Chania

Phone: +30 28210 220 00

Internet: www.chaniahospital.gr

More Info: info@chaniahospital.gr

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	Kalitsounaki	D3	Pana Gouli	D4
A Mantaka	A3 B3	Kallergon	C2	Papadaki	B4
Ag Konstantinou	A2	Kanevaro	B2	Papamalekou	A3
Akti Enoseos	B2 C2	Kapodistriou	D3	Papanastasiou	D3
Akti Kanari	A2	Karaiskaki	B3	Paparigopoulou	C3
Akti Kountouriotou	B2	Karaoli Dimitriou	B2	Pardali	A2
Akti Papanikoli	A2	Katraki	B4	Pastrikaki	D2
Akti Tombazi	B2	Kelaidi	B3	Peridou	B3
Albert	D3	Kiprou	C2	Perivolion	A4
An Gogoni	A4 B4 C4	Kiriara	D4	Petrof	A2
Anapafseos	B3 B4	Kirilou Mitr	A3 B3	Pibli	D4
Andrea Papandreou	C3 D3	Kisamou	A3	Piga M	A2 B2
Antoniadou	D4	Klimatos	A4	Pireos	A2 B2 B3
Apokoronou	C3 C4	Kokotsi	D2	Pithagora	D3 D4
Apostolidou	A2	Konstantinoupoleos	B3	Plastira	B3
Apteron	B4 C4	Korai	C3	Platia 1821	C2
Archoleontos	C2	Koraka	B3	Platonos	D3
Archondaki	C2 C3	Kornarou	C3	Polenta	A3
Athanasioupatr	A2	Kornarou P	B4	Poliriniias	C4
Botsari	A3 B3	Koustogerakou	A3	Poltholaki	D4
Chatzimichali Giannari	B3	Kriaradon	C3	Polychronidi	D3
Danali	A3	Kriari	B3	Praidou	A2 A3
Daskalogianni	C2	Kritovoulidou	C4	Pslaki	C4
Digeni Akrita	D2	Krokida	D3	Rethymnou	D3
Diktims	C4	Ksirouhaki	C4	Rollen	D2 D3
Dimakopoulou	D3 D4	Ktistaki	C3	Roufou	D3
Dimitrakaki	D3	Kydonias	B3	Salpidonos	C2
Dodekanisou	C2	L Sfakianaki	D3	Samona	B4 C4
Dragoumi	D2	Lefkon Oreon	A3 A4	Saratsoglou	A3
Efedron Polemiston	B4 C4	Lekanidi	D4	Selinou	A3
El Venizelou	C2 C3 D2	Leledaki	A2	Sfakion	C3
Eleytherias	D3	Lisou	C4	Sifaka	C2
Elirou	C4	Lithinon	B2	Skalidi	B3
Er Stavrou	D2	Loutrou	A3	Skaltsouni	D4
Erofolis	C3	Makedonias	C2	Skiner	A2
Erotokritou	C3	Malathirou	C4	Skoula	A4 B4
Falasarnis	C4	Malene	C4	Skridlof	B2
Festou	D4	Malinou	D4	Smyrnis	A2 B3
Florans	A2 A3	Manou	D3 D4	Solomou	C3
Foumidon	A3	Manousogiannakidon	B3 B4	Soukatzidi	B4
Galata	C4	Margouniou	A3 A4	Spanoudaki	B4
Gali	D2	Mariakaki	B4	Spantidaki	A4
Georgiladon	C3 C4	Maridaki	D2	Spartis	D3
Gerasimou Patr	A2 B2	Markora	C3	Stratigou Tzanakaki	C3
Gerola	D3	Mavili	D3	Theotokopoulou	B1 B2
Giaboudaki	C4 D4	Mavropateron	D4	Therisou	B4
Giannaria A	C3	Mesologiou	D2	Thimnianis	A3
Glafkou	C2	Michelidaki	C2 C3	Trigeta	A3
Grigoriou E	B3	Milonogianni	B3 B4	Trikoupi	C2 C3
Haous	A3	Minolaki	C4	Tsilivaki	D2
Hatzidaki	D3 D4	Minoos	C2	Tsontou Varda	D3
Hiotaki	C3	Mitsotaki	D3	Tsouderon	B2 C2
Igoumenou Gavriil	C4 D4	Monis Gonias	A3	Valaoritou	C3
Ioannikou Patriarhou	A2	Mousouron	B2	Valestra	A2
Ionias	B3	Nearchou	C4	Vasou	A3
Ipirou	C2	Nikiforou Episk	C2	Voloudakidon	B3 C3
Ipsiladon	B3	Nikiforou Foka	C2	Vom	C3
Irakliou	C4	Nikonos Osiou	A3	Voudoumba	C2
Iroon Politechniou	D2 D3	Ounesko	B4	Xanthoudidou	D4
K Sfakianaki	B3	Pahianon	A4 B4	Xepapa	A3 A4
Kabon	A3	Palama	C3	Zambeliou	B2

Kalafati

B4 Paleologou

A2 Ziber

D2

Zymvrakakidon

B3 B4