



Aghios Nikolaos, Greece

The nearby Lassithi Plateau is the highest inhabited plateau in all Greece. Nearby Mt Dikti rises some 7218 feet (2,200m) above sea level.

Whitewashed houses climb the slopes of this charming port on the Gulf of Mirabello. The small harbor is surrounded by restaurants, cafés, and shops prepared to dispense everything under the sun - from necessities to souvenirs. Aghios Nikolaos is also your gateway to the Minoan ruins at Knossos and to the famous windmills of the Lassithi Plateau.

1 Knossos Palace

Home to King Minos, Knossos Palace is one of the most important archeological sites of the Bronze Ages. Dating back 7000 years it was excavated by Sir Arthur Evans in 1900 and boasts 1200 rooms.

2 Archeological Museum (Heraklion)

This amazing museum dates back to 1883, and boasts the finest collection of Minoan art found anywhere in the world, including marble statuary, pottery, sarcophagi, gold jewelry and ancient weaponry.

3 Kardiotissa Monastery

This Byzantine church and monastery dates back to the 13th century and is dedicated to the Virgin. It boasts beautiful frescoes, arches decorated with bricks, icons, and a carved altar screen.

4 Folklore Museum

This informal museum in Tsermiadou features a collection of heirlooms, artifacts, and clothing donated by local families. The collection forms a moving image of village life over the decades.

5 Lasithi

This unique oak-studded plateau is dotted with over 100 windmills, whose charming sail-trimmed arm's spin in the breeze. They were declared works of art in 1986 and are in various states of repair.

6 Elounda

The ruins of the ancient city of Olous are visible in Elounda bay, a beautiful and popular beach resort, while the sea views stretch across the Mirabello Bay all the way to Spinalonga Island.

7 Gournia

This amazing Minoan site was excavated in the early 20th century by the American archaeologist, Harriet Boyd-Hawes. Featuring many small basins, the palace here dates back to circa 1600 B.C.

8 Ierapetra

Ierapetra has been nicknamed the 'bride of the Libyan Sea', because of its position as the only town on the south coast of Crete. The 17th-century Kales Fortress was built to protect the harbor.

Sightseeing & City Tours



Most Popular

Knossos, Heraklion City Drive & Show

ZAN-110 | Aghios Nikolaos, Greece

Experience Crete's history and culture on a drive that visits the ruins of ancient Knossos. View the restored Throne Room and frescoes before continuing to a cultural village for a taste of traditional island life. After lunch and a folkloric performance, enjoy a drive through Heraklion, the island's capital city.



from **\$129**

approx. **7 hours**



Knossos

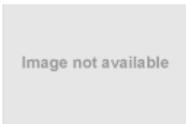
ZAN-205 | Aghios Nikolaos, Greece

Experts once believed that Knossos and its civilization were myths ? part of the legend of Dædalus and Icarus. Then in 1901, an archeologist excavated the ruins of Knossos and shed new light on Crete's Bronze Age culture. Explore these ancient ruins and view its restored Throne Room and frescoes.



from **\$59**

approx. **4 hours**



Plateau of Lassithi & Kera Monastery

ZAN-290 | Aghios Nikolaos, Greece

Surrounded by mountains, the Lassithi Plateau is home to ancient monasteries, traditional small villages and magnificent, sail-driven windmills. Explore the plateau and visit the Kera Monastery, home to Byzantine icons and mosaics. Watch local artisans practicing their traditional crafts and view a landscape dotted with over 10,000 windmills.



from **\$49**

approx. **4 hours**