PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Details about Crete and Greece in general can be found on the website www.vacation.gr and for Rethymno at http://www.rethymno.gr/en/city, www.vacation.gr/gr/crete/ or www

The Town of Rethymno



A beautiful, wide and endless sandy beach, picturesque little streets with old Venetian and Turkish houses, and the Venetian port and fortress make Rethymno one of the most attractive places for holidays in Greece. Rethymno combines the sea with the country, and is surrounded by mountains in the south. Its location, in about the middle of the northern coast of Crete, makes it a convenient starting point from which to visit most of the island's beauties. Within thirty minutes to an hour, the traveller can visit lakes, archaeological sites, historic monasteries, charming villages, or the wild unspoiled beauty of the south, by public bus, organised tour, or car.

Population: About 30,000 inhabitants. Rethymno is the third largest town in Crete, after Heraklion and Chania.

Distances: From Heraklion 78km, from Chania 72km.

Tourist information: Information, maps and travel guides from the Tourist Support Office in Rethymno (Tel: +30 28310 29148).

Telephone: The town code is +30 28310. In Greece the telephone office (O.T.E., 28 P. Kountouriotiou Ave, daily 8 am - 10 pm) is separate from the post office. Phone calls from public phone stands or OTE's office, can be made only with phone cards (Tilekarta, € 3). Prepaid phone cards (Teledome, Vivodi, Smartalk, Talk Talk, Hronokarta, with prices from € 3 to € 10) can be bought at kiosks or mini markets, charge less and can be used from any fixed public or private tone phone. Phoning home is cheaper from 10 pm- 6 am on the weekdays and from 3 pm at Saturday till 6 am Monday (Greek time). Transferred calls can be operated through the operator, by dialling 161. Telegrams can be sent from OTEs office and faxes from OTE, travel agencies and hotels. Emergency: 100, Tourist Police: +30 28310 28156, Police department: +30 28310, 25247, First aid: 166.

Post office (ELTA): Two offices, at 21 Moatsou St. (main office) and at the beginning of Sof. Venizelou St. (department). (Mon - Sat 8 am - 8 pm). Post code: 741 00 Rethymno. Letter boxes are painted yellow and can be found in the most central locations. Stamps can be bought from the post offices or from kiosks and shops selling postcards and foreign newspapers, with a small premium being charged.

Medical treatment: There is a public hospital at Trandalidou St., near the south side of The Municipal Garden (tel. +30 29310 27491) and many private medical centers. There is always a pharmacy sopen from 8 am to 8 pm and another one from 8 pm to 8 am. Lists of these pharmacies, for each day, can be found on the window of any pharmacy.

Weather: Rethymno has a mild climate: in summer it is cooler than mainland Greece (average temperature is 26-30°C) and in winter much warmer (14-18°C). The maximum sea temperature in summer is 24°C and in winter 16°C.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

There are several ways to reach Rethymno:

- By air travel to Athens, and a connecting flight to the Cretan cities of either Chania or Heraklion, and then bus or taxi travel to Rethymno (approximately 1 hour)
- By air travel from a European city directly to the Cretan cities of either Chania or Heraklion, and then bus or taxi travel to Rethymno (approximately 1 hour)

BY PLANE

Travelers can reach Rethymno by air travel from Athens via Chania or Heraklion. Flights between Athens and either of these cities take slightly less than one hour. Information regarding flights and time schedules can be located in the official sites of Olympic Airlines and Aegean Airlines and the site of the Eleftherios Venizelos International Airport.

Land travel between Chania or Heraklion airport and Rethymno

Option 1

Transfer by taxi costs about 80 € from Chania Airport (90 € from Heraklion Airport). However, this cost can be divided if more than one passengers share the taxi. (Travel Agent, Mr. Vourlakis, tel. +30 2831 0 24977, CRETA CONNECTION TRAVEL AGENCY, can help you with this)

Option 2

After arriving at the airport, travellers can take a taxi to the <u>bus terminal (KTEL)</u> in the city of Chania or Heraklion. From either city buses leave for the Rethymno bus terminal approximately every hour between 5:30 and 21:00.

BY BOAT

Ferryboat connection between Piraeus and Crete is available through Chania, Souda Bay (ANEK Lines or Blue Star Ferries) or Heraklion (MINOAN Lines - ANEK Lines - Blue Star Ferries). After arrival at the port of Souda (Chania) or Heraklion, travelers would choose between the bus/taxi options listed above.