

# Ο ΜΙΚΡΟΣ ΚΟΣΜΟΣ Ο ΜΙΚΡΟΣ ΚΟΣΜΟΣ

News and Stories

## ΚΑΛΩΣ ΗΡΘΑΤΕ - WELCOME!

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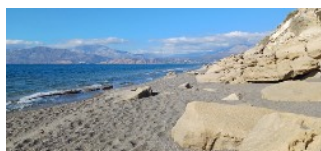
We would like to thank our guests from all over the world for staying with us in our hotel! The special atmosphere of „O Mikros Kosmos“ is also created by the pleasure-loving, curious, communicative, cordial and lovely people who make their home here for a while!



We look forward to new encounters and wonderful reunions - and would like to invite you to join us at the Hotel Resort „O Mikros Kosmos“ in the southernmost south of Europe.

Hopefully this newsletter will whet your appetite for this Crete and make you look forward to your next visit, your next stay with us! Welcome to South Crete!

### Best of Southern Crete



### New in „O Mikros Kosmos“



### New in the South



## Best of Southern Crete

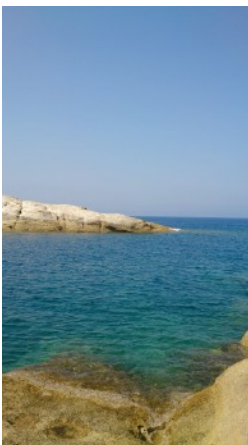
### Favorite spots

*In „O Mikros Kosmos“ we work together to ensure that our guests are happy and enjoy their stay. All of us who live here all year round in the south of Crete love our island and of course especially our region, the southernmost south of the island of Crete. Some of us were born here, some in other countries and then moved here – together, of course, we are all certain that we live here in one of the most beautiful and best places in the world. And of course each and every one of us has their own special favorite places:*

**Frédéric** likes to walk to the Faistos excavation site, not because our technician wants to get professional inspiration for everyday life in „O Mikros Kosmos“ from the innovative Minoans of the time - although he enjoys talking to



the Italian archaeologists at Faistos, who are still busy excavating there and are happy to show off their new finds. - Frédéric particularly loves the path there, the views of the Messara plain and the peaceful atmosphere of this tree-lined hiking trail.

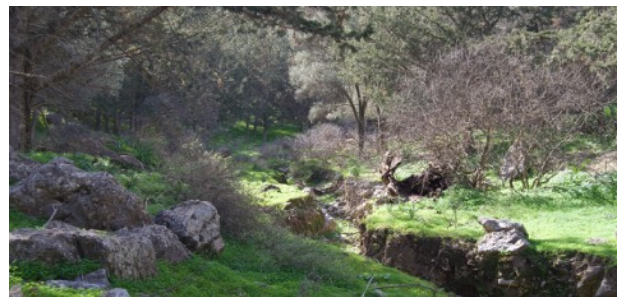


**Jean Marc**, breakfast cook in „O Mikros Kosmos“, also hikes and is accompanied by his friendly dog, with whom he likes to walk south above the Komos beach in the cliffs near Vrachos, on a narrow path to behind the cape in the west – in a seemingly unreal world of „sloping rocks“ and hidden stone coves near Matala.

The favorite place of Rhea, who is responsible for housekeeping in „O Mikros Kosmos“, is not far away: from the forecourt of the small Agia Marina chapel, above the sandy beach of Komos, she can't get enough of the view over the sea with its incredible shades of blue, the snowy white of the mountains in the background and the red and brown tones of the cliffs behind Kokkinos Pigos.

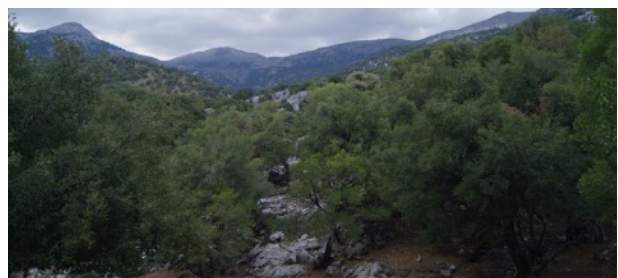


Our chef **Elizavet** has a particularly well-hidden favorite spot: Near Tripita, on the slopes



of the Asterousia Mountains, there is a small chapel with a cistern in a grove that still gives a hint of the abundance of forest that existed in this area 200 years ago. Elizavet comes to relax in the friendly beauty of this place.

**Natalia**, who is with us in the afternoon for guest services, also loves the forest and is delighted that we find the largest contiguous fo-



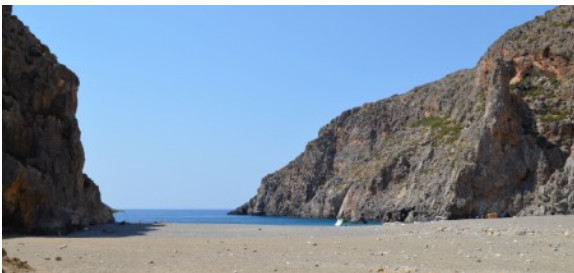
rest area in Crete above the Rouvas Gorge: Here, holm oaks, pines and plane trees form a sometimes enchanted-looking primeval forest that makes you dream of a forest-covered island on long, solitary hikes.

Nektaria and Dhara are also drawn to the mountains: **Nektaria**, who works in our breakfast service, likes to take it easy on her walk around the lake of Zaros on the slopes of the Psiloritis Mountains and enjoy a coffee under



shady trees in a park-like atmosphere. **Dhara**, who loves welcoming guests to „O Mikros Kosmos” at House Keeping, likes the peaceful atmosphere in the mountain village of Zaros above all: In Zaros, says Dhara, everyone is particularly relaxed, enjoying and taking pleasure in being there and in nature.

**Apostolis**, gardener in „O Mikros Kosmos”, is also enthusiastic about the changing landscapes of our island: he particularly enjoys hiking through the „Holy Gorge”, Agio Farago,



at the southernmost point of our island. This place is sacred to him and he always takes in the special atmosphere as he hikes between the rock faces with their caves.

**Maria** could be on her way in the neighboring gorge of Martsala: The path down the ancient steps, past the abandoned monastery built into the rock into the palm-fringed valley, leads her to the small bay where Maria (naturally for her – as kitchen assistant in „O Mikros Kosmos”) occasionally watches Cretan day-trippers grill freshly caught fish over the wood fires.

And Madeleine and Martin, the hosts in „O Mikros Kosmos“?

One of **Madeleine's** favorite places is the Venetian bridge below Agio Ioanis, which is now almost completely overgrown.



Goats, sheep and tortoises live here, a gnarled chestnut tree shades the bridge, wild vines twine among the tall reeds and around the bamboo, oleander blooms and large eucalyptus trees exude a beguiling scent. Madeleine can't get enough of seeing, hearing and smelling this place.

**Martin** can't decide which of the many small, secluded bays on the south coast he prefers to hike to. But he also likes to visit the Odigitria monastery, a place with an ever-



changing history, friendly monks and a very special atmosphere, and then take a walk over the barren rocks.

For **Skai**, the matter is quite clear: there is no better place than her favorite olive tree in „O Mikros Kosmos"! Why should she ever leave this little world?



So each and every one of us here in „O Mikros Kosmos” has a special favorite place in our region. But for all of us, there are of course many other favorite places, which we also reveal to our guests – possibly also as little excursion tips to special places in the southernmost south of this incredibly diverse island!

# News from „O Mikros Kosmos“



## More Small World

It was a close call: 165 trees on the plot to the west were to be sold and felled so that a construction company could have built three multi-storey villas there. But here's the good news: the trees were saved. Permanently. The view of the greenery has been preserved. We have been able to buy the neighboring plot, it remains undeveloped, and the „Small World“ has become a little bigger.

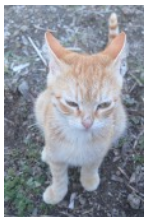
## More Dinner

Elizavet, our chef, delighted many of our guests last year with her southern Cretan specialties - and Elizavet was also delighted with our guests who dined in the taverna of „O Mikros Kosmos“ with so much interest in her cuisine. Elizavet would therefore like to stay with us and is already looking forward to welcoming many more guests to try out and enjoy her dishes!



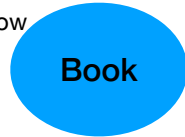
## More for the Guests

There are now twelve of us here: our employees come from Greece, Tunisia, Corsica, Belarus, Tajikistan, Brazil, Germany and Switzerland - today they all live in the area and work well together in „O Mikros Kosmos“!



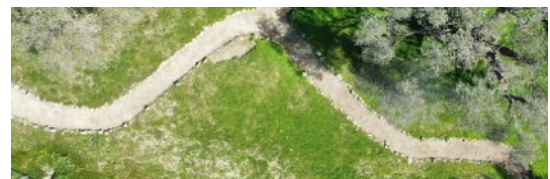
## More Freddie

Anyone who was there will remember it: The New Year's show with Freddie, our artistic cat, following Elizavet's BBQ was a complete success. (Yeah! Freddie has already started rehearsals for his new show „Freddie - Fire on Ice“ for New Year 2026...!)



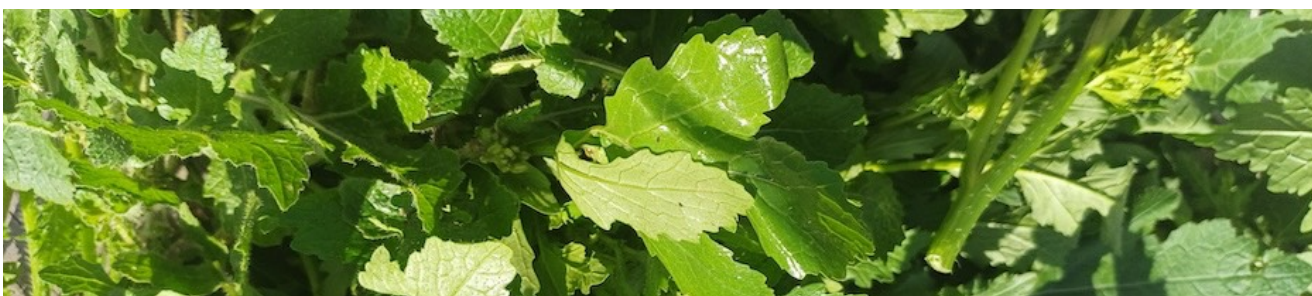
## More Paths

Apostolis has done a great job: All our nature trails are now covered with chopped olive wood. This is a softly sprung walk on even more paths in „O Mikros Kosmos“.



## More from Here

We now produce the electricity we need ourselves, and the olive oil has been coming from our own trees for some time now. Now our fruit and vegetable production is also growing: much of what is served in the morning and evening has been grown in „O Mikros Kosmos“. Naturally without chemical fertilizers and without irrigation with drinking water.



## Who...? How...? What...?

Who works there...?  
For example: Apostolis.



Apostolis used to run a taverna in Sivas – and introduced us to Cretan wild vegetables (Horta) many years ago. Now, as a gardener, Apostolis makes sure that we not only always have enough Horta, but also other vegetables, salad and fruit. And he looks after the entire „Small World” here with care and attention.

How was...  
... the olive harvest?  
Once again, the harvest was weaker than we had hoped, but the quality of the oil is very good: ideal acidity – and above all the very best taste, according to us and our previous guests.



What is it...  
... with the weather? It rained a lot in November and December last year. This was necessary after the last two dry years. There was a thick blanket of snow on Psiloritis again and nature visibly blossomed. January then remained quite dry – and despite all the joy of the warm spring-like weather in February, a little more rain before the summer dry season would be desirable.

## New in Sivas and Area

The beach between Kalamaki and Tympaki has naturally widened: Now you have there a perfect new sandy beach to view the rock formations.



The network of hiking trails on Crete is to be expanded with more public financial support from the EU: Better markings, rest areas and safety barriers in dangerous places should attract more hikers to the Cretan mountains.

January 6th (Theophany Day) finally took place in good weather this year – and it didn't take too much bravery to get the cross out of the sea.



New signs indicate this: Large parts of Komos beach have been officially cleared for nude bathing. However, the clothing regulations will probably not be enforced in future either too strictly...

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