



Ο ΜΙΚΡΟΣ ΚΟΣΜΟΣ

Ο Mikros Kosmos

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ΚΑΛΩΣ ΗΡΘΑΤΕ - Welcome!

We would like to thank all our guests for being with us last year – and we are already looking forward to many reunions and new encounters in 2026! It has been a pleasure to host so many people from all over the world who enjoy good things in life, staying here and shared with us their joy at being here – and we would like to express our sincere thanks for that.



We hope this newsletter will make you long for Crete and „O Mikros Kosmos” and awaken anticipation for your next visit and your next stay with us!

This is growing here



This is new here



Who? How? What?



How O Mikros Kosmos grows

„O Mikros Kosmos” is growing — above all, the wilderness and gardens here are growing. Much of it grows entirely on its own. Our gardener Apostolis carefully tends this growth and also decides which plants are allowed to make their home here. - Apostolis has worked in many different professions. He has driven trucks and buses, and once ran a taverna. His great passion is gardening. And here with us he is exactly in the right place.



Let's not talk about olives and olive trees for a moment — even though we love the trees (which are actually merged shrubs) and their fruits, and although the Messara Plain, almost all of Crete, even half of Greece, seems to lie in the shade of olive trees and every dinner somehow involves olives: Let us imagine for a



while instead that every second tree here were not an olive tree but a small almond tree — that would look lovely as well...

Almond trees used to be far more common here, but over time they had to give way to plantations of olive trees. In „O Mikros Kosmos“ they have found a home again, although they are still growing cautiously and need time to truly take root. Here the almond trees

are meant to feel comfortable — in good company with the olive trees, of course.

To say it right away: in principle no plants should be discriminated against in „O Mikros Kosmos.” Whatever wants to grow should be allowed to grow, as long as no neighbors are harmed.

We practice tolerance here and appreciate diversity.

However, to be honest, the Askeletoura, the sea squill, makes it difficult for Martin to maintain this principle consistently. These plants apparently prefer to grow on freshly created nature paths, look untidy, says Martin, and are not particularly beautiful, Martin thinks. Apostolis —



which doesn't make things easier for Martin — claims that this plant has guarded the secret of

immortality for centuries, because it withstands all weather conditions. After all, Cretans place an Askeletoura in front of their doors on New Year's Day. It is said to bring luck, grant a long life, and protect against evil. That convinces Martin as well.

As its name suggests, the Cretan date palm clearly belongs on the island. In general it prefers proximity to the sea and therefore grows prominently at the „palm beaches” of Vai, Preveli and Elafonisi. But apparently it also likes „O Mikros Kosmos”, as it settled here without any help from us — within sight of our large saltwater pool.



Admittedly, the Aloe vera growing here does not originally come from this area. Ours comes from Sivas — which isn't terribly far away. Apostolis personally brought it from his own garden, so that is an import we can accept. It is important here: Elizavet uses it, cut open, when she burns herself on the oven, and it is also helpful for guests' sunburns. As soon as the young plant blooms (after about three years), the leaves can be cut. The thorny edges are removed and the gel-like interior is scraped out. Some people eat it just like that. „Not me,” laughs Apostolis.



Whatever grows in Apostolis' plant paradise at home eventually grows in „O Mikros Kosmos“ as well. From his garden he also brought Frangipani, Cretan bush roses, and

— because of their enchanting fragrance — Manousakia, the wild Cretan daffodils. The nodding wood sorrel, which forms a lemon-yellow carpet under the olive trees, „is



there purely for beauty,” says Apostolis.

Quite different is Lapsanida, whose leaves and stems are picked before the beautiful lemon-yellow blossoms appear. They are blanched with hot water and then eaten with a little salt, lemon and of course olive oil as chórta (wild herbs or wild vegetables).

„Kali orexi!“ (καλή όρεξη) – Enjoy your meal!” wishes Apostolis.



Directly from our garden into the salad bowl come Mantílides, the leaves and stems of white and yellow daisies, as well as the huge leaves of Tsochi, the vegetable sow-thistle.



Of course we are also happy with Apostolis about the wild orchids that have found a home in „O Mikros Kosmos.”

Other plants we gently persuaded that life here is pleasant and brought them ourselves. Planted here are hibiscus and oleander, and — to the benefit of us and our guests — fruit trees such as pomegranate, apricot, peach, orange, mandarin and lemon. Those are well known, of course. Less well known is the carob tree, whose dark



brown pods produce the flour in which Elizavet coats the cheese for her saganaki. Some plants have practically moved in on their own: cucumbers, for example, have made themselves comfortable beneath the oleander. And in fact we have even been able to welcome a watermelon here.



Many of our guests share our opinion: Komos is the most beautiful beach in Crete — if not in all of Greece. And that is partly because tamarisk trees provide shade in some places. One of them grows



here with us as well, near the pool. It will take a few more years, however, before guests can lie in its shade on a deck chair.

Mallow, the Cretan crocus, the Cretan iris and wild asters were already here before the landscape became „O Mikros Kosmos,” a very long time ago (more than four years from now)

and fortunately they were not driven away by the construction work.



In a way, we think together with Apostolis, plants are a bit like guests:

We welcome them here — and we want to do everything we can so that they take root here to some extent, feel comfortable with all their different characteristics, interests and preferences, and enjoy their stay in „O Mikros Kosmos“ carefree.

News from „O Mikros Kosmos“

More Walking

Loop Trail

Since early summer 2025, you no longer need to leave „O Mikros Kosmos“ if you want to go for a walk. This new „Loop Trail“ is about 1.2 km long, well marked and equipped with seating areas for resting.



More Hiking

There is now a cooperation with the hiking experts from Silva Mundi. Their „Mediterranean Hiking“ experience trips in November can be booked together with stays here in „O Mikros Kosmos“ here.



More Views

Madeleine intensified her postcard production over the winter. That means more choice at our postcard stand for personal souvenirs and guaranteed unique pieces from „O Mikros Kosmos“!



Less Freddie

Because Freddie received far too many samples during the preparation of the New Year's BBQ, he was unfortunately indisposed when his show was supposed to start. Freddie deeply regrets this and has already begun training for the show on January 1, 2027: „Freddie – Fire on Ice“ (working title).



More Tea

At breakfast you can now mix your own herbal tea.



More Café

For most of her life, Madeleine dreamed of her „Café Le Monde.“ Now she welcomes guests in our „O Mikros Kosmos.“ Our library with its new small tables has gradually become a little „Café Le Monde.“



And of course you will surely be able to enjoy a coffee or a tea or a glass of wine there while reading comfortably.



More Beach

Storms from the south have carried sand further south: the beach at Komos has grown a little. Whether the stone slabs there will also become covered with sand remains to be seen...



More Elevators

We increasingly encounter „fake reviews“ on the internet. That is annoying, but sometimes also amusing. For example, a „Ron“ from Nebraska complained: *Aggressive security guard, racist bellboy refused to carry luggage, elevator not working, manager unavailable.* - We reconstructed the situation (with the help of artificial intelligence)...

More Floating

Using the machine „Minos,“ Apostolis shredded branches and spread the material along the paths to create a softly cushioned walking surface.

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

Who works here? For example: Rhea.



Rhea was the very first. She was already in „O Mikros Kosmos“ before the first guests arrived. She came with the company that did the final construction cleaning and then decided to stay — because she enjoys meeting the guests whose bungalows she cleans. We are grateful and very happy to have had her with us for four years now!

Who cooks...?

... in the evening? Elizavet will again be our cook in 2026. She is already looking forward to preparing proven favorites and new dishes — especially specialties from southern Crete — exclusively for our guests.



Book

Who is new...

... in „O Mikros Kosmos“? Marina! How wonderful to have such a cheerful and friendly colleague who works with Rhea cleaning the bungalows — and who is looking forward to getting to know our guests!

Which...

... animals lived in the “Little World” last year? Cats, turtles, snakes (only friendly ones), lizards, geckos, dragonflies, cicadas (seasonal), praying mantises, kingfishers, hares, hoopoes, roller skins, wild pigeons, stone-curlews, swallows, wild bees, „hippie wasps,” and many more.



How was it...

... with the olive harvest? High-quality olive oil from „O Mikros Kosmos“: Of course we are proud of the best olive oil in the universe. The quantity this year is sufficient — for Elizavet’s kitchen and for guests to take some home.

What about...

... the weather? - Fortunately, extreme weather conditions were largely absent in 2025. The winter of 2025/26 brought relatively much rain, which was good for nature, and even the (few) reservoirs in the south are somewhat fuller than in previous years. Our weather station reports for 2025: Highest temperature: 39.7°C (August 26), lowest temperature: 3.1°C (February 23)

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