

Heraklion, Crete, Greece

Crete's capital packs a Minoan palace, Venetian battlements, a world-class archaeology museum, and one of Greece's most vibrant market streets into a very walkable shore day.

Docked Port

Typical call: 8–10 hrs

Euro (EUR)

Greek · English widely spoken

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Berthed at commercial port

Walk to center: ~10 min on foot

Best For: Knossos · History · Food

Don't Miss: Heraklion Archaeological Museum

Getting around: Taxi ✓ €10–15 · Rideshare ✓ Bolt, FreeNow · Hop-on hop-off ✓ Hop-on hop-off · from 25

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Knossos Palace** — The most important Minoan site in the world — sprawling palace complex dating to 2000 BC, with Arthur Evans' famous reconstructions bringing the...
- Heraklion Archaeological Museum** — One of the finest museums in Greece — the full Minoan collection including the Phaistos Disc, Bull-Leaping Fresco, and Snake Goddess figurines.
- Venetian Old Town & Koules Fortress** — Walk the 16th-century Venetian harbor, climb the Koules sea fortress for views over the port and city, then explore the narrow lanes of the old...
- 1866 Street Market & Cretan Lunch** — The covered market street running through the heart of the old town overflows with Cretan olive oil, honey, cheeses, and raki.

BEST WALKS

- Waterfront to Koules & Venetian Harbour** ~1.5 km · 30–40 min · easy — Follow the quay east from the cruise terminal to the Venetian harbor and Koules fortress.
- 1866 Street, Lion Square & Archaeological Museum** ~2 km loop · 1–1.5 hrs · easy — Head into the old town via the market street to Morosini Fountain (Lion Square), the social heart of Heraklion, then continue to the Archaeological Museum on...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		69°	54°	5d
Jun		83°	68°	4d
Aug		87°	73°	2d
Sep		82°	69°	5d
Oct		74°	62°	6d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:47AM–7:52PM · Jun 6:04AM–8:35PM · Aug 6:39AM–8:08PM · Sep 7:02AM–7:26PM · Oct 7:25AM–6:43PM

Euro (EUR)

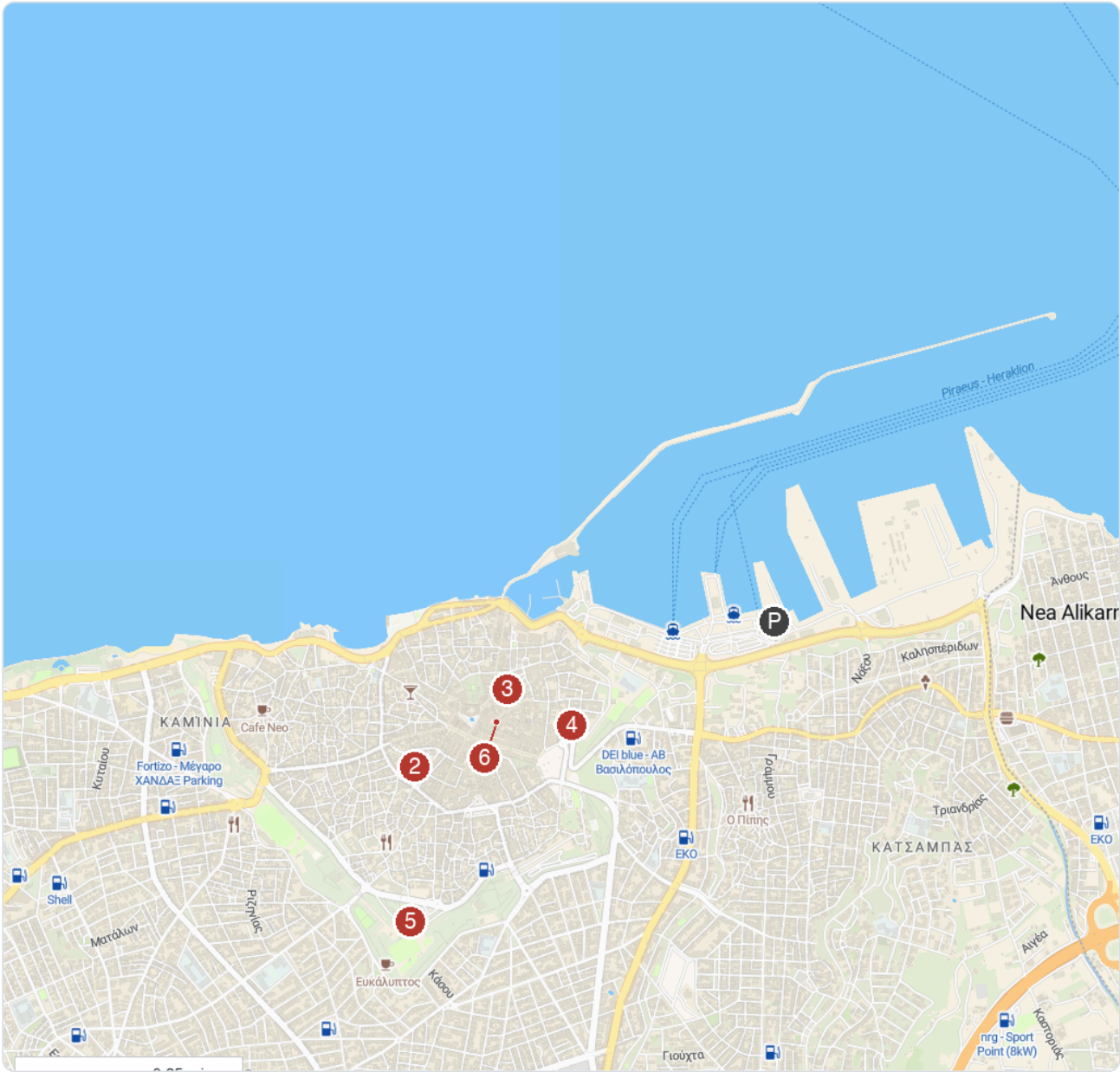
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Do Knossos early. Tour buses fill the site by 10–11am. If your ship arrives early, head straight to Knossos before the crowds and save the old town for the afternoon.
- Summer heat is intense. July–August highs hit 85–90°F. Bring water, sunscreen, and a hat — there's little shade at Knossos.
- Carry cash for the market. ATMs are plentiful in the old town. The 1866 Street vendors and small tavernas prefer cash.
- Book Knossos tickets online. Skip the entry line by buying at the official Ministry of Culture e-ticket site (etickets.tap.gr). Entry is €20 (the old combined Knossos+museum ticket was discontinued in 2024; each site is now ticketed separately). Worth every cent.
- Try raki and dakos. Raki (Cretan firewater) is offered free at most tavernas. Dakos — a barley rusk topped with tomato, feta, and olive oil — is the definitive Cretan snack.

Heraklion, Crete, Greece — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1

Anemospilia

Ancient Minoan mountain sanctuary, site of human sacrifice.
- 2

Saint Minas Holy Cathedral

Heraklion's impressive main Orthodox cathedral, dedicated to Saint Minas.
- 3

Cathedral Holy Temple of Saint Titus

Historic Orthodox cathedral housing the skull of Saint Titus.
- 4

Heraklion Archaeological Museum

World-renowned museum showcasing Minoan civilization's treasures and artifacts.
- 5

Nikos Kazantzakis' Grave

Grave of famous Greek author Nikos Kazantzakis, with city views.
- 6

EscapeRooms.Gr

Interactive live puzzle game experience for groups.
- P

Cruise port / terminal