

GREECE

MUNICIPALITY OF KISSAMOS



HISTORY OF KISSAMOS

The beginnings of Kissamos province history are lost in the mists of centuries. Its history has been connected with the history of the whole island of Crete. Kissamos develops rich commercial and economic activities throughout the course of its history. Its geopolitical position has a lot to do with this; Kissamos is sited by the sea, being the west entrance to Crete.

PORTS OF KISSAMOS

Crete's westernmost town has two ports. There is a fishing port and marina 1 km north-west of the town center, and a ferry port another 2 kms north-west. From there, excursion boats go during the season to the former pirate's fortress on the island of Gramvousa peninsula, and to the beach of Balos. There is also an all-year round weekly ferry boat service that links Crete to the nearest island of Kithira, to Peloponnissos and even to Pireaus.



PRODUCTS

The main occupation of the biggest part of the population is agriculture and cattle breeding. The main products are:

- Olive crop-olive oil of high quality (which has received world prizes) and productivity (the product per olive is with in the first places of world production.).
- Vineyards. It is mentioned in reports of the Venetians that it's true that Kissamos is an oil - producing area but it is mainly famed for its excellent wine.
- Honey with special features because of the pharmaceuticals and aromatic plants on with the bees feed.
- Meat and dairy products (cheese, skim - milk cheese, yoghurt e.t.c) which derive from goats and sheep of free grazing.

TOURISM

There are quite important advantages of the area (ravines,-flora-fauna- rare endemic plants of Crete with aromatic, therapeutic and cosmetic qualities-,areas which are proposed as special protection by the European Programme NATURA 2000, beaches, potentially for vacation year-round e.t.c), noteworthy touristic units (Hotels, Apartments and Rooms to let, Rural tourism units) that can cover your needs year-round. Over the last years intense activity is observed in the construction of summer residences that are purchased by citizens of the European Union as a second habitat.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF KISSAMOS

The Archaeological Museum of Kissamos is housed in Venetian-Turkish is located in the Venetian residential area, which was originally outside the wall of the Venetian castle, __castel Chissamos__, from which the previous name of the town, Kastelli, derives. During the Turkish occupation of the island the castle was enlarged and the building enclosed inside the fortification walls. Over time the monument was remodeled many times; the last one being.



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