

Villa Inia - Info



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The Intro

Welcome to Villa Inia.

We are pleased to welcome you and wish you a wonderful and relaxing stay at Villa Inia.

The following information is intended to make your stay at Villa Inia as easy and pleasant as possible.

Free Wi-Fi is available in every room and on the terrace.

The WLAN name is: "Villa-Inia" or "Terrasse".

The password is: inia2016

If you have any questions about Villa Inia, please do not hesitate to contact your two local contacts:

Birgit Popp (Mobile: +30 697 2611133)

Ari Matthaiakis (Mobile: +30 697 7607382)

Enjoy your time. You have earned it.

villa-inia-kreta.rent

The Villa

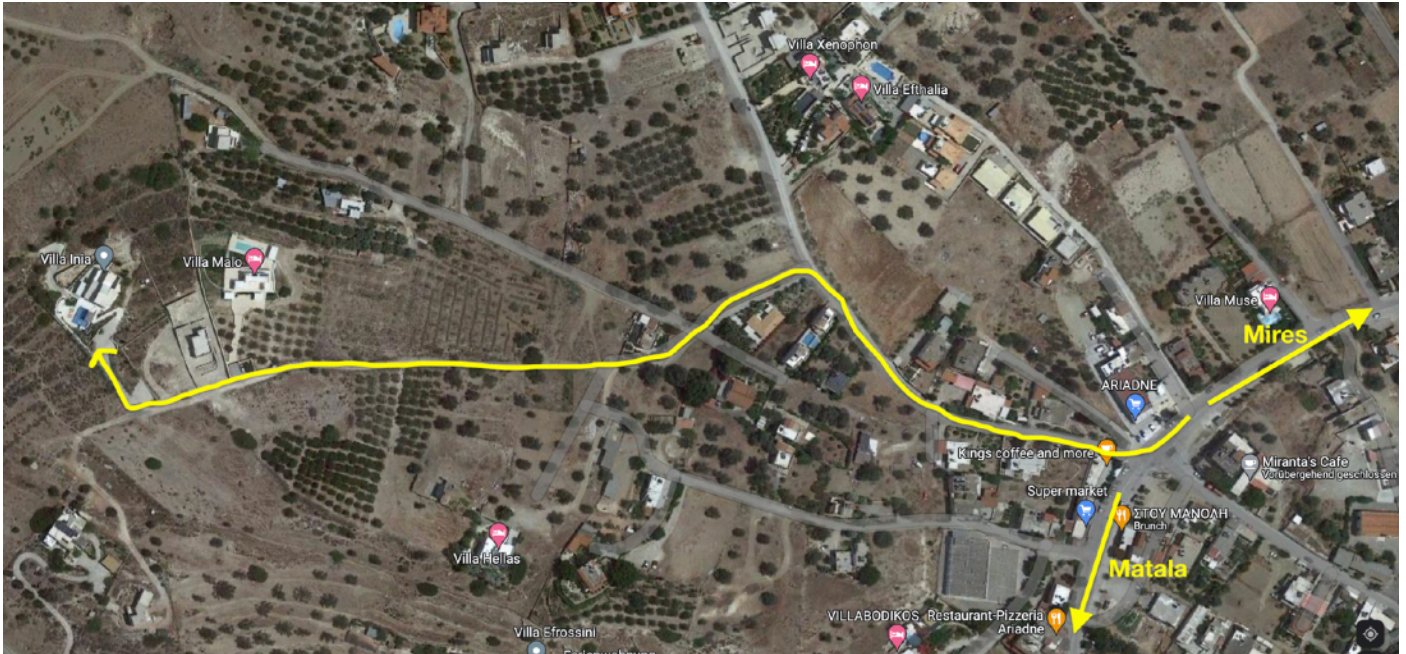
The arrival

Do not enter Villa Inia in Google Maps when planning your route. This would lead you to a sandy road below Villa Inia.

Please follow these directions:

Take the main road from Mires to the village of Pitsidia. After passing the town sign, you will see the cafe "Kings" on the right hand side after about 600 m. Turn right immediately before the cafe. Immediately before it, turn right onto a tarred road. After approx. 200 m turn left into the first tarred road. After approx. 90 m the tarred road becomes a bad dirt road. Follow

this dirt road straight on for another 300 m until you see the gate to Villa Inia on your right.



The bed

In bedrooms 2, 3 and 4 we offer you Coco-Mat beds. This manufacturer takes a 100% natural approach to its mattresses and is one of the leading manufacturers when it comes to excellent sleep. Materials such as coconut fibre, natural rubber, algae, horsehair, linen and lavender let you sleep like a dream.

In bedroom 1, we pamper you with a bed with a solid wood frame and two spring mattresses. The two 7-zone slatted frames offer, among other things, a shoulder comfort zone with shoulder lowering and individual hardness adjustment in the lumbar area.

The entrance gate

An electric gate opener is ready for you in the kitchen. To operate the gate, the gate opener needs visual contact with the gate.

The window

Please do not open both sashes of a window at the same time. The strong wind would slam them shut and damage the window. We recommend tilting the windows or opening only one window sash. In windy conditions, please only tilt the windows.

The television

Remote control TV Samsung

Power: Red button at the top left

Source: Select HDMI 1 for SAT TV

Remote control SAT Receiver Edison

Power: Red button top left

Select channel: CH+ or CH-

The grill

There is a charcoal barbecue ready for you on the terrace. Charcoal and lighter can be bought at the supermarket in Mires.

The towel

We ask you not to take the white towels in the bathrooms to the pool or beach. Coloured towels are available for you in the guest toilet in the kitchen.

The hammock

In the basement you will find 2 hammocks already hung up. Feel free to spend some relaxing time there.

The hot water

The hot water is produced with solar collector technology. To get hot water, you have to let the water run for a longer time. If the water does not get warm due to cloudy weather for days, you have to turn up the switch "HOT WATER" in the fuse box. This activates an electric heating coil in the water tank. To save CO₂, we ask you to put the switch down when the sun is shining.

The cooker

The cooker does not switch off automatically. Please switch it off after use.

The air conditioner

To save CO₂, we ask you to turn off the air conditioners when you leave the room.

Operating instructions:

Select the operating mode with Mode.

COOL: Enjoy cool air at the desired temperature.

DRY: Use the unit to dehumidify the room. The room temperature may drop slightly. The temperature cannot be adjusted in DRY mode.

HEAT: Enjoy warm air at the desired temperature.

FAN: Let the air circulate in your room.

VANE

Auto: The airflow vane is set to the most effective airflow direction.

COOL / DRY / FAN: Horizontal position

HEAT: Vertical position

ECONO COOL (cooling saving mode)

The unit performs a vertical swivel operation in several cycles depending on the temperature. The set temperature is automatically set 2 degrees higher. A fanning (changing) air flow is subjectively cooler than a constant one. Therefore, a comfortable ambient temperature is achieved during cooling, although the selected temperature is automatically set 2 degrees higher than in COOL mode. This saves CO2.

The kitchen

The generously equipped kitchen offers you, among other things, an espresso machine, espresso maker, coffee machine, milk frother with heating, sandwich maker, table grill, toaster, microwave, kettle, juicer, hand mixer, dishwasher and an XXL refrigerator with freezer.

The tap water

We recommend not to drink the tap water.

The light

With the light switches in the kitchen-cum-living-room you can switch the outside wall lamps at the pool and at the house wall.

The light switch in the bedrooms can also be used to switch the outside wall lamps in front of the bedrooms.

The mosquito net

In all bedrooms you have the possibility to hang up a mosquito net as needed. Even the smallest insects are kept out by the small mesh size. The mosquito net is located in the wardrobe. The hooks are already pre-installed on the ceiling. A small ladder can be found behind the refrigerator or in the cellar.

The music

A loudspeaker is ready for you in the kitchen. It can be connected to your player via Bluetooth or the AUX input.

The rubbish

There is currently no waste separation in Greece. Please dispose of your rubbish yourself. You will find the public waste garbage cans on the left-hand side as you leave the village in the direction of Mires.

The parking

There are several parking spaces available on the property. Two parking spaces are directly next to the villa and two parking spaces are above the villa.

The pool

We use a salt water system. The salt water system provides clear and soft water. Bacteria and algae are

combated in a natural way. The addition of chlorine is reduced to a minimum. The salt in the water is only slightly noticeable because the salt content is very low. It is only 10% of the salt content in seawater. This means that you can hardly taste, smell or feel the salt.

We ask you to use the outdoor shower before using the pool.

The smoking

We kindly ask you not to smoke in the rooms of Villa Inia.

The cleaning

The villa is cleaned regularly, the towels are changed and the beds are made again.

The fuse box

It is located behind the refrigerator

The sun lounge and seat

We kindly ask you to put a towel underneath when using the sun beds and seats in bathing clothes.

The sports equipment

In room 1 you will find a treadmill, dumbbells and a spinning bike. Of course you may use these free of charge.

The spinning bike can easily be pushed onto the terrace due to the attached wheels. Enjoy the view while you train.

The beach towel

There are special towels for the pool and beach, which are ready for you in the guest toilet in the kitchen. Please do not use the white towels from the bathrooms.

The first aid kit

It is located to the left of the fridge.

The WLAN or LAN

Free WLAN is available in every room and on the terrace.

The WLAN name is: VILLA INIA or terrace.

The password is: inia2016

In addition, a 10m LAN cable is available for you, which is located in the rightmost lower cupboard door of the kitchen.

You can connect the LAN cable in the kitchen-living room, room 1, room 3 and room 4.

The washing machine

You will find a washing machine in the kitchen on the ground floor for free use.

The tumble dryer

A tumble dryer is available for free use in the kitchen on the ground floor.

The food

The supermarket

It is located on the main road in Pitsidia on the left hand side in the direction of Mires.

<https://goo.gl/maps/Pe142KqALtAhiBAq6>

There are also several mini markets in Pitsidia on the main road and in the centre of the village.

The meat

There is a butcher's shop in the centre of Pitsidia.

<https://goo.gl/maps/gzSAbKUXSzFPya567>

The fish

Fresh fish can be bought at the fish shop in Mires on the main road on the left towards Tympaki.

<https://goo.gl/maps/e53Nh6oB9fEezbip8>

The bakery

It is located on the main road at the southern end of the village of Pitsidia.

<https://goo.gl/maps/92PLP2vph4VNo5BD7>

The wine

The wine and spirits shop "Cash and Carry" with a very good and large selection is located in the village of Tympaki on the main road on the right hand side in the direction of Agia Gallini.

<https://goo.gl/maps/hgRMqGGPw94HVMyt8>

The ice cube

You can buy ready-made ice cubes in the supermarket in the village of Pitsidia on the main road on the left towards Mires.

<https://goo.gl/maps/Pe142KqALtAhiBAq6>

The restaurant

In Pitsidia, the restaurant and wine bar Raftis awaits you with selected wines and refined cuisine.

<https://goo.gl/maps/wfPV8ESYu3YfGjTf9>

You will also find several tavernas with traditional cuisine.

The health

The emergency telephone number

Uniform emergency number EU 112

Police 100

Fire brigade 199

You will also find a list of the most important telephone numbers on the wall next to the washing machine.

The pharmacy

A pharmacy is located in the village of Pitsidia on the main road at the southern end of the village.

<https://goo.gl/maps/xdPbBGhqxhN1hdzc9>

The hospital

A smaller hospital can be found in the village of Mires.

<https://goo.gl/maps/sQqmYHSwewjSwakQ8>

There is a large hospital only in the city of Heraklion.

The tennis

Near the neighbouring village Kamilari you have the possibility to play tennis.

To rent a court please contact contact@cretanvillas.gr or +306979322314.

<https://goo.gl/maps/JvkUk88VRBdDBQPd6>

The beach

The location

Komo beach, about 1.5 km by foot or 2,5 km by car west of the villa, is one of the longest sandy beaches in Crete. It stretches from the village of Kalamaki in the north down to the steep cape in the south, behind which is the bay of Matala.

As the beach is part of an archaeological zone, it is undeveloped.

The restaurant

At the southern end of the beach and near the excavation site of the Minoan harbour you will find two restaurants and bars. Here you will be spoiled with delicious food, suitable music and various cocktails.

<https://goo.gl/maps/ifjruW4hBwfo9Ad36>

The nudist culture (FKK)

North of the excavation site of the Minoan harbour of Komos there is a nudist area.

The sun lounge

For a small fee, umbrellas and sun loungers can be hired at the southern end of Komos beach.

The sea turtle

Every day during the summer, before the first bathers arrive, the beach is walked by volunteers from the

Sea Turtle Protection Society. They check whether the endangered *Caretta* sea turtles have laid new eggs there. Any nests discovered are protected from destruction by metal grids and a border made from the remains of old beach mats in order to preserve the severely reduced population.

The Minoan settlement

This stretch of beach got its name from the ancient Minoan settlement of Komos, the remains of which were excavated here in the 1970s directly above the beach.

Despite the fencing around the excavation site, one has a good view of the parts of this former harbour of the palace of Festos coming from Pitsidia from the asphalted access road or from the edge of the dune. The areas uncovered so far show, among other things, walls from the Middle to Late Minoan period, from the years 2000 to 1200 BC.

The mobility

The car

There is a car rental in the centre of Pitsidia. Scooters can also be rented there.

The motorbike

In the neighbouring village of Kalamaki you can rent motorbikes of all kinds and scooters at the car and motorbike rental "Oleander". You will find the rental on the left side after entering the village.

<https://goo.gl/maps/SKKaDTA5CXVSdLxB6>

The electric bike

In the neighbouring village of Kalamaki you can also rent electric bicycles from the car and motorbike rental company "Oleander".

<https://goo.gl/maps/SKKaDTA5CXVSdLxB6>

The excursion

Agio Farango - Sacred Gorge

The sacred gorge of Agiofarango is only 15 km from Pitsidia. Follow the road from Pitsidia to Sivas, continue through Listaros and past the monastery of Odigitrias (direction Kali Limenes). At the fork just after the monastery, take the left path (downhill) and after a few kilometres a gravel road (signposted) will lead you to the entrance to the gorge on the right.

The hike takes you through the riverbed, lined with oleander bushes. To the left and right of the path tower the high rock walls with small and large caves. You reach the Byzantine-style chapel of Agios Antonios and shortly behind it the beautiful bathing bay with its crystal-clear water. In this bay the apostle Paul landed and began his pilgrimage from here. Since that time, this place has been sacred and in the

past has led many people to live in the caves as hermits.

Unfortunately, pirates also had a liking for this cove, and the hermits suffered because they were made slaves by the pirates. Therefore, the hermits left the bay and settled in a safer place, the monastery of Appezanes.

For the hike, be sure to bring enough water and a small picnic, and don't forget your swimsuit. You will be able to enjoy a wonderful day of swimming.

The hike to Agiofarango takes about 90 minutes from the first car park and about 30 minutes from the second car park.

<https://goo.gl/maps/Z9q9DJ2Hs3eAtMCx5>

Faistos - Ancient excavation site

Faistos is halfway between Mires and Timbaki. There the road branches off towards Matala. After two hairpin bends you will be at the top of the hill at the Palace of Faistos. This is the second largest Minoan palace complex on Crete after Knossos.

In a great location on a hill in the plain, it offers a beautiful panoramic view of the Messara plain and the steep slopes of the Ida Mountains.

Built around 1900 BC, the palace was destroyed by an earthquake 200 years later. Attempts to rebuild it failed. It was not until around 1600 BC that a new building was begun. However, before it was completed around 1450 BC, it was destroyed together with the other Minoan palaces in a mysterious catastrophe that has not yet been explained.

In contrast to the palace of Knossos, which was rightly restored to a kind of archaeological "Disneyland", here you will find a scientifically sound excavation site.

Even today, excavations continue at the foot of the palace to uncover the former Minoan residential settlement located there.

<https://goo.gl/maps/9e3BgUD8g78ZDos2A>

Kaliviani - Monastery and Orphanage

It is well worth visiting the Kaliviani Monastery, which is on the way to Timbaki. Kaliviani is a girls' boarding school and orphanage run by nuns. In a small shop you can buy the beautiful handmade embroideries and weavings or hand-painted icons and be sure that it is real handicraft. The girls living there are taught this art.

<https://goo.gl/maps/K1TVkyigrmroXD617>

Kamilari - mountain village

If you are looking for peace and tranquillity, if a few nice tavernas and quiet Cretan village life are enough, you will feel at home in Kamilari. Situated on a hill, not far from Kalamaki and Pitsidia, the small village is a popular alternative to Matala, which is now fully developed for tourism. Many empty and half-ruined houses have been restored. A stroll between the whitewashed rubble stone walls, which stand in charming contrast to the lush flowers of the gardens, quickly reveals the charm of the village.

Nearby is one of the most important Minoan domed tombs of Messara.

<https://goo.gl/maps/YFE1ciWo7RtHz3pw6>

Kefali - 400 m high cliffs

The impressive 360° panorama over the Messara Bay with the Paximadia Islands, the southern coast of Kali Limenes to the "weeping lion" of Lentas and the Psiloritis massif, makes the Kefali plateau, 400 m above sea level, a unique viewing platform in Crete's south.

You drive via Sivas and Listaros to the monastery of Odigitrias. At the monastery, turn right following the signs to "Martsalos" and the road winds through the hills.

The almost white clay road leads directly to the mountain and at the top, on the last stretch to the plateau, can only be driven at walking speed.

Due to its exposed location, there were several gun emplacements up here in wartime, the remains of

which are still clearly visible on the southern edge of the plateau, directly above the 400-metre drop.

In 2000, the small chapel "IEROS N. T. STAVROU" was built high up on Kefali. With its massive natural stone walls, it is a real gem on the otherwise barren plateau.

<https://goo.gl/maps/rCaHnvmsmKUWjpdHA>

Kouses - Mountain Village

Although hardly listed in any travel guide, there are good reasons to visit this village of only 300 inhabitants on the foothills of the Asterousia Mountains.

Only 1.5 km from Petrokefali on the main road to Matala, the village's traditional stone houses nestle picturesquely on the hillside. From up there you have a wonderful view over the Messara, across to the Ida Mountains and even to the sea. In the village itself you will find South Crete's first organic kafenion as well as a spice and herb shop worth seeing, BOTANO. Both are worth a visit in Kouses.

<https://goo.gl/maps/ndumoBkPt5ahy4jD6>

Lentas - Small seaside resort

The "weeping lion" is the name given to the massif on the peninsula at Cape Kefalas, at the foot of which the few dozen houses of Lentas (Lendas) nestle on the pebble beach.

Peace and tranquillity are the first impressions that await the visitor after a great drive over never-ending serpentines through the Asterousia mountains.

On the descent down to the south coast, there are always magnificent views, from the bay of Loutra to the east to the "weeping lion" on the right.

In the village itself, there are remains and excavations of the ancient settlement of Levin, the presumed harbour of the former Gortis, in several places. The path to the water, hard to find at first glance, leads through the maze of houses and finally down some steps between the beach tavernas.

Lentas may not be the most beautiful bathing spot on Crete, but it is a place with a very special atmosphere.

It's an ideal place to simply switch off, watch the fishermen cleaning their nets and boats, and then finally check out for yourself what fresh seafood is on offer in the tavernas in the evening.

<https://goo.gl/maps/dbVpHCtpF52GwheV9>

Martsalos - Pirate Bay

The name of the Martsalos valley and the bay of the same name probably dates back to Byzantine times, when pirates were up to mischief here.

Drive via Sivas and Listaros to the Odigitrias Monastery. At the monastery, turn right following the signs to "Martsalos" and the road winds through the hills. At the turnoff to Kefali, continue straight ahead following the rusty sign. Soon you reach a small new chapel where you can leave the vehicle. Only a short distance below, the road, which is already very bad from here on, ends at a small valley. If you follow the narrow and mostly dry stream bed in this valley, after a bit of climbing you reach a sudden break-off edge

from which you have a unique view of the wide Martsalos valley.

However, to get all the way down into the valley, you first have to go back the same way and then, almost from the starting point, follow the sign with the arrow over the hill (path on the other side of the valley). Thus, after a few hairpin bends, they reach the cave church dedicated to Panagiá on a concrete path secured with railings, almost at the foot of the steep rock face. To the left of it are some very spartanly furnished cloister cells.

Apart from a few foundation walls and a well, nothing remains of the abandoned village on the palm-covered valley floor. The bay with its pebble beach is all the more beautiful for that.

<https://goo.gl/maps/E6wxEHc8fV8kbioE8>

Matala - cave dwellings

Matala's beach is situated on a picturesque bay that opens out into the sea to the west and is bordered on the north side by the main attraction, the Matala rock

face. This rock face contains numerous caves that were carved and inhabited in the Neolithic period, then later converted into burial caves by the Romans. After Zeus kidnapped Europa and landed here, nothing happened for a long time - a few thousand years later, freaks from all over the world came to this beach.

In the 1970s, many dropouts of the hippie generation rediscovered the charm of these rock dwellings and lived in them for years.

Cat Stevens wrote parts of his album "Tea for the Tillerman" here and sang with Jannis Joplin. Matala became a meeting place for hippies and dropouts. Today the caves are secured by fences and access is only allowed during the day.

<https://goo.gl/maps/cMG8CAZNojpzfpjK6>

Mires - weekly market

Every Saturday until noon, the traditional weekly market takes place in Mires. Farmers from the surrounding mountain villages come and offer their

own products, such as fruit, vegetables, honey, cheese, fish and live chickens or rabbits. On the other side you will find the flying traders with their clothing stalls and household goods.

A lively hustle and bustle surrounds you, and the air is filled with the clamour of the market. In the summer months, it is advisable to go to the market early in the morning. Refreshments are provided by the many small street cafés along the market street.

<https://goo.gl/maps/SbzeDyxhcUw9C1YQ8>

Red Beach - Red Bathing Beach

It is only a short walk of about half an hour from Matala to Kokkinos Ammos, better known as "Red Beach". It is one of the most beautiful naturist beaches in the world. However, the beach may also be visited in swimwear.

The beautiful beach in the next bay south of Matala can be reached via the road leaving the Hotel Zafiria (signposted "Parking"). After the car park, the path

begins, at the end of which you climb up between the rocks. Sturdy shoes are recommended.

Another path leads over the mountain directly behind the last small houses of the actual village, from which you first climb up to a small plateau. From up there, you have a beautiful view of the bay of Matala and the caves as well as in a southerly direction down to Red Beach, whose name comes from the reddish shimmering sand there.

Alternatively, you can also reach the beach by boat from Matala.

At Red Beach you can get an individually prepared mojito.

<https://goo.gl/maps/oJzw7fHN4YiVoCcm7>

Rouvas - Gorge

This suggestion takes you to Zaros, a small Cretan mountain village at the foot of Psilorítis, the highest mountain of the Ida Mountains (2,456 m). From here comes the famous and healthy table water "Zaros". Due to the large amount of water, Zaros is a green

oasis even in high summer. The village is also known for its large trout and salmon farming.

On the outskirts of the village is the monastery of Agios Nikolaos, which is one of the first ecclesiastical buildings on Crete. The ancient icons and wall paintings are particularly worth seeing. In the meantime, the monastery has been converted by monks into an orphanage.

From here, a path leads directly to the Rouvas Gorge, which is a smaller version of the Samaria Gorge. At the end of the hike you reach the high plateau of Agios Nikolaos. The shade of ancient holm oaks invites you to picnic and rest on the plateau with a beautiful view. Compared to the Samaria Gorge, you will meet few tourists on the hike.

At the end of the walk, Zaros is a good place to eat trout or salmon.

<https://goo.gl/maps/BeGL4aFsJAfeociy5>

Vathi - Lagoon Bay

The elongated lagoon bay of Vathi, only about 5 km from Matala as the crow flies, is almost like a lake in its own right.

From the beach, the connection to the sea is hardly recognisable; on both sides, Vathi is bordered by high cliffs.

Until now, this small sandy / gravel beach has been one of the insider tips in the central south of Crete. This is certainly also due to the fact that this bay, which is shaped like a fjord, can only be reached by boat or with difficulty by car.

You drive via Sivas and Listaros to the Odigitrias Monastery. From the monastery, you first follow the track to the Kefali mountain, before shortly after the turn-off to the Martsalos gorge, the track down to Vathi begins to the right.

You first pass two gates in quick succession, which you absolutely have to close again behind you because of the sheep and goats running around.

After a few hairpin bends, you reach the bottom of the valley, where you cross a dried-up stream bed

and continue to the beach. Shortly after crossing the stream bed, you reach the narrowest part of the valley, where the stream has dug deep into the ground next to the path. There are a few small weekend cottages here. The regular guests tend to be locals at weekends.

The bay is fantastically beautiful, with colours ranging from deep blue to turquoise, depending on the wind and weather, as you enter the almost shadeless beach. Only from the rocks on the left above the beach can you see that the long bay does have direct access to the sea. A short "climb" up the rocks not only provides a view of the connection to the sea, but also of the remains of an earlier settlement in the bay.

<https://goo.gl/maps/iomRmcZt3QKoiRhYA>

Vori - Ethnological Museum

About 4 km behind Kaliviani in the direction of Timbaki, on the right hand side, lies the small village of Vori with its ethnological museum. It is one of the

best museums in Crete and exhibits the various working utensils of the individual craftsmen, such as stonemasons, potters, shepherds, farmers and basket weavers. The very interesting collection is described in Greek and English.

<https://goo.gl/maps/3g5qcdZA1zAqK4uW7>