

Uncover the enchanting beauty of Crete

Minos Beach art hotel

Minos Beach art hotel, a glorious assembly of bungalows and gardens poised right on the water's edge, is Crete's first five-star barefoot luxury resort. Celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, Minos Beach art invites guests to connect with the island as locals do, experience art in its many forms and delight in authentic Cretan food and wine.

While only walking distance from the charming town of Agios Nikolaos, and one hour by car from the airport, it is a haven of privacy, tranquility, and warm local hospitality.



Design & Concept

Stretching along 2.5 kilometers of coastline, 125 low-lying whitewashed bungalows, villas, and suites are scattered amongst sand, rocks, greenery, and trees looking out across Mirabello Bay. Each villa has a private pool, while bungalows have patios mere steps from the shore. Inside, modernity and muted earthy tones meld seamlessly with natural textures and Cretan patterns.

Admire the expansive collection of contemporary art that is spread around the hotel and its Sculpture Garden, containing seminal works by Greek and international artists. The G. & A. Mamidakis Foundation's valuable collection of art comprises over 55 pieces, inspired by natural surroundings and the island's heritage.

The stillness of the mountains, the deep Aegean blues, the warm people, and the delectable Cretan food complete the pristine hideaway that is Minos Beach art hotel.

Food & drink

The three restaurants are overseen by the award-winning Chef Giannis Baxevanis, with menus inspired by traditional Cretan recipes that have stood the test of time. La Bouillabaisse is ideal for lovers of fine dining, serving refined Mediterranean mezze dishes and sweeping views of island and sea. Live cooking stations and a Greek buffet selection abound at Bacchus, while Terpsis' authentic Cretan fair delights in a casual al fresco setting just steps from the water.

Tantalize the senses with degustation menus and private dining in any location you desire with a tailor-made menu. With a focus on sustainable hospitality and farm-to-table dining, ingredients are sourced from trusted local suppliers, which extends to the wines from excellent Cretan vineyards and wineries.

The plethora of bars offer signature cocktails inspired by herbs native to the island. La Cave de la Bouillabaisse is a seafront wine bar serving Cretan, Greek and international wines with expertly paired nibbles, while Pure Lounge Bar serves refreshments and light bites to your sunbed. Dionyssos Bar is an elegant sand-covered cocktail lounge with bonfire, and the Ibiscus Poolside Bar offers a refreshing escape from the heat. For a more traditional experience Adeste is a Cretan kafeneio, serving local mezze, raki, ouzo, and strong Greek coffee.

To do

Be immersed in Cretan ambiance with trips to local villages to experience island life. Stroll along two pristine private beaches, dive into Mirabello Bay from swimming platforms and private patios that ring the water's edge or take a dip in the freshwater pool. Take wellbeing to new heights at the Ananea wellness center that has a fully equipped gym, yoga classes, and the Aegeo Spa.

Play a round of tennis, zip along on bicycles, or take on the ocean with the certified Pelagos diving and watersports center. Join the locals as they flock to the hotel's kafeneio, known for nights filled with traditional Cretan music. With dramatic scenery and a hotel chapel, Minos Beach is perfect for an intimate destination wedding.

News for 2023

- Minos Beach art turns 60, expect exhilarating celebrations and a year-long calendar of events will take place from sumptuous dinners to lively music nights, and art events.
- New retreats with visiting wellness practitioners:
- Amy Shonka, yoga teacher and teacher trainer, will host the RESET retreat, which includes a daily yoga class coupled with cultural and historical activities for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.
- Jeanette Jenkins, celebrity trainer and health coach, offers her Refresh, Renew & Recharge retreat includes fitness sessions, Pilates, yoga, stretching, dance, and group meals.
- Invited Chefs and Friends: Guests are invited to embark on a journey of aromas and flavors throughout the year, accompanied by a diverse array of renowned Greek chefs. In collaboration with the multiple-awarded chef Giannis Baxevanis, the chefs will create unique culinary experiences with menus inspired by the flavors of Crete.
- The North & South culinary battle will be taking place in 2023. It is the ultimate battle of flavors from Crete and Macedonia where two chefs craft a menu paired with fine wines.
- This year Minos Beach introduces new accommodation categories and renovated bungalows to add private gardens and pools.

minosbeach.com

Minos Palace hotel & suites

Minos Palace Hotel & Suites is a modern-day sanctuary where wellbeing awaits. Immersive wellness, local traditions, and the tastes and aromas of Crete come together to create a transformative journey.

Situated on a secluded private peninsula, with 360o views of the glimmering blues of Mirabello Bay, this luxury adults-only, 5-star hotel is the ultimate escape. Disconnect from life and reconnect with nature to rejuvenate mind, body, and soul.



Design & Ethos

Nestled on the shores of Mirabello Bay, amidst Cretan gardens, Minos Palace is just 1.5 km from the center of nearby Agios Nikolaos. The 121 rooms, bungalows, and 28 suites with private and shared pools are awash with earthy, neutral palettes and conscious materials to blend seamlessly with the coastline.

Your private enclave of ethereal spaces leads out onto panoramic views of the bay. Wake up to the golden rays of the sunrise or watch as the setting sun paints the scenery with rosy palettes. Minos Palace is a destination worthy of romantic honeymooners, solo travelers in search of wellness, and group getaways.

Explore spaces for meditative relaxation, golden silence and quiet reflection, cocooned by the sounds of the waves. The gardens create a restorative escape amidst sea breezes carrying the scents of over 1,000 herbs and plants grown there. Let the mind be rested, the body revitalized, and the soul enlightened.

Food & drink

Embark on garden-to-plate journeys with locally sourced ingredients and indigenous Cretan herbs. Guests can pluck their favorite vegetables and herbs from the fertile soil to be prepared how they wish. Tantalizing regional cuisines and health-conscious dishes await at the two restaurants. Private dining lets guests craft their own menu and location, for a deep dive into the culinary arts, a degustation menu can be arranged. The two bars offer fusion mixology, with signature cocktails inspired by the herbs growing in the hotel's gardens.

Amalthea serves Greek and Mediterranean à la carte and buffet items for breakfast and dinner, encircled by 360-degree views of the bay and Agios Nikolaos. Inblu is the all-day bar and restaurant, serving traditional Cretan and Greek dishes and tasting menus. Dine and unwind on sundrenched loungers or in the shade, taking in the sea and island panoramas. The poolside Bacchus Lounge Bar offers innovative cocktails, refreshments, and snacks in a chic, yet relaxed setting. The waterfront Island Bar, presides over the private beach on a series of rustic terraces, serving cocktails, coffees, and healthy dishes all day.

To do

Signature spa treatments are inspired by our ethos of Eat Well, Pray Well, Love Well. Taking the form of customized meal programs, meditation and mindfulness practices, and nurturing self-love and a reconnecting with nature and one's partner.

Frolic along the private beach or take a dip in the freshwater infinity pool after exploring the island or sea. The spa offers signature healing treatments for the body and mind, yoga, meditation, and pranayama, as well as seasonal retreats and treatments. Explore local culture with classes on Cretan pottery, loom weaving, olive oil and cheese making, or delve into herbalism with the essential oils workshops.

For the active, guests can use the tennis court, PADI certified diving center, and fitness center. A dedicated exercise zone, a green space with lovely views, invites guests to embrace the outdoors. To search for inner peace, numerous silent zones are scattered throughout the hotel.

The Minos Palace experience leaves the soul refreshed, the mind open, and the body alive.

New for 2023:

- New room categories have been added, and all existing categories are undergoing renovation. Sunrise and Sunset Rooms are for early risers and sunset chasers. For a truly wellness-centered stay, the Zen Rooms and F Zeen Suites are ideal.
- The Summer Program includes an array of activities and events: wellness treatments for the modern era, degustation menus and mixology experiences, live music, jazz nights, and DJ sets.

Candia Park village

The idea of a village takes Greeks and Cretans back to their roots, embodying simplicity, joy, and the sense of community. Your village is where you have the luxury to be yourself. We encapsulate this feeling in colorful neighborhoods, a traditional kafenio and its central square clock.



Design & Concept

Cocooned in nature, on a secluded slope with magnificent views of Mirabello Bay, Candia Park village invites guests to escape to a laid-back oasis of fun and recreation for the whole family. Taking pride of place on 65,000 sqm of coastline, Candia Park's 222 family apartments and suites are supremely spacious with an understatedly warm design. The Serenity Suites, tucked away near the water's edge, were designed for privacy and tranquility.

Bathed in natural light, with terraces and balconies, each comes with everything a family could need. Every detail and amenity for our younger guests has been thought of, allowing families to travel without worry.

Food & drink

Two restaurants, two bars, and a kafenion (Greek coffee house) offer family-friendly Greek and Cretan dining, complete with children's menus and mocktails. Agapi, begins and ends each day by the main pool with a buffet of local delights and dishes made with the freshest of ingredients. Amidst this vibrant atmosphere, younger guests serve themselves from a designated buffet of delicious and nutritious dishes.

To Fili Taverna, overlooking Mirabello Bay, explores Cretan cuisine from locally-caught fish and seafood specialties to exquisite authentic delicacies. The ideal place to introduce Greek comfort food to children, their dedicated menu includes dishes such as souvlaki and gyros. The traditional Kafenion, near the clock tower, serves authentic meze and coffee against a backdrop of island and sea views.

At the poolside Plori, families mingle over cocktails, freshly squeezed juices and light snacks. Moments from the village square, Eros' classy cocktails and refreshments are enjoyed in a cozy, laid-back atmosphere. The new gelateria is where treats and delights await guests of all ages. Gather the family for a special meal with private dining experiences, making Candia Park perfect for celebrations and reunions.

To do

With a range of activities for children from workshops to watersports, the Mini Blues kid's club encourages quality time with their families and new friends. For children aged 4 to 12 years old, Mini Blues' 7 Days of Joy weekly program includes theatre workshops and performances, arts, crafts, and treasure hunts, as well as parties on the beach.

Spend days on the two private beaches, one for fun and one for peace and quiet, and two freshwater swimming pools, one exclusively for children. Guests can enjoy the basketball and tennis courts and hire bicycles to explore island trails. In the evening, Agapi hosts live music and traditional dancing, inviting families to join in. While in the central square be amazed with magic and bubble shows during the week.

Unwind at the spa, stretch with yoga for all ages or head beneath the waves with the PADI diving center. Take to the sea with watersports that include dinghy sailing, windsurfing, waterskiing, donut, and banana rides. Reach back into history while learning about Cretan art and culture.

New for 2023:

- The new gelateria opens this year, offering treats and delights to guests.
- The Summer Program offers a selection of new experiences for the whole family to enjoy and bond over, including Mothers' Day celebrations, dining events, movie nights and Cretan-themed nights.

About bluegr Hotels & Resorts

With hotels in Crete, Athens and Rhodes, bluegr Hotels & Resorts have diversified the concept of luxury hotels in Greece for more than 50 years. Each property offers breath-taking locations, exceptional service, and authentic hospitality.

The CEO, Ms Gina Mamidakis, has brought to life her vision of an innovative hospitality company that strives for excellence and will inspire generations to come. Under her creative vision and her commitment to sustainable growth, bluegr has become a pioneer in "barefoot luxury", prioritizing sustainability, simplicity, innovation, and authentic guest experiences.

Guided by a constant thirst for knowledge and a wholehearted belief in the inextricable connection between hospitality and culture, G&A Mamidakis Foundation was established in 1988. Its mission is to continually support and promote contemporary art and culture, foster lifelong learning and the passing down of knowledge to future generations. This year, G&A Foundation celebrates its 30th anniversary.

bluegr's Hotels & Resorts Conscious Journey

bluegr strives for a continuous journey of excellence and outlines a comprehensive plan of initiatives for ethical, responsible, and sustainable business practices. The eco-culture and sustainability philosophy is built around the four pillars of: Environment; Solidarity & Volunteerism; Cultural Heritage; and Sustainable Education. bluegr's key commitments are sustainable luxury, supporting local communities, responsible waste management, and protecting natural resources.

bluegr.com