



Rethymno

Includes ➔

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Castelvecchio (p114)
- ➔ Avli (p114)
- ➔ Tasomanolis (p128)
- ➔ Vrissi (p129)
- ➔ To Steki tou Sifaka (p134)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Enagron (p122)
- ➔ Casa Vitae (p112)
- ➔ Idili (p134)
- ➔ Kapsaliana Village (p121)
- ➔ Sohora (p111)

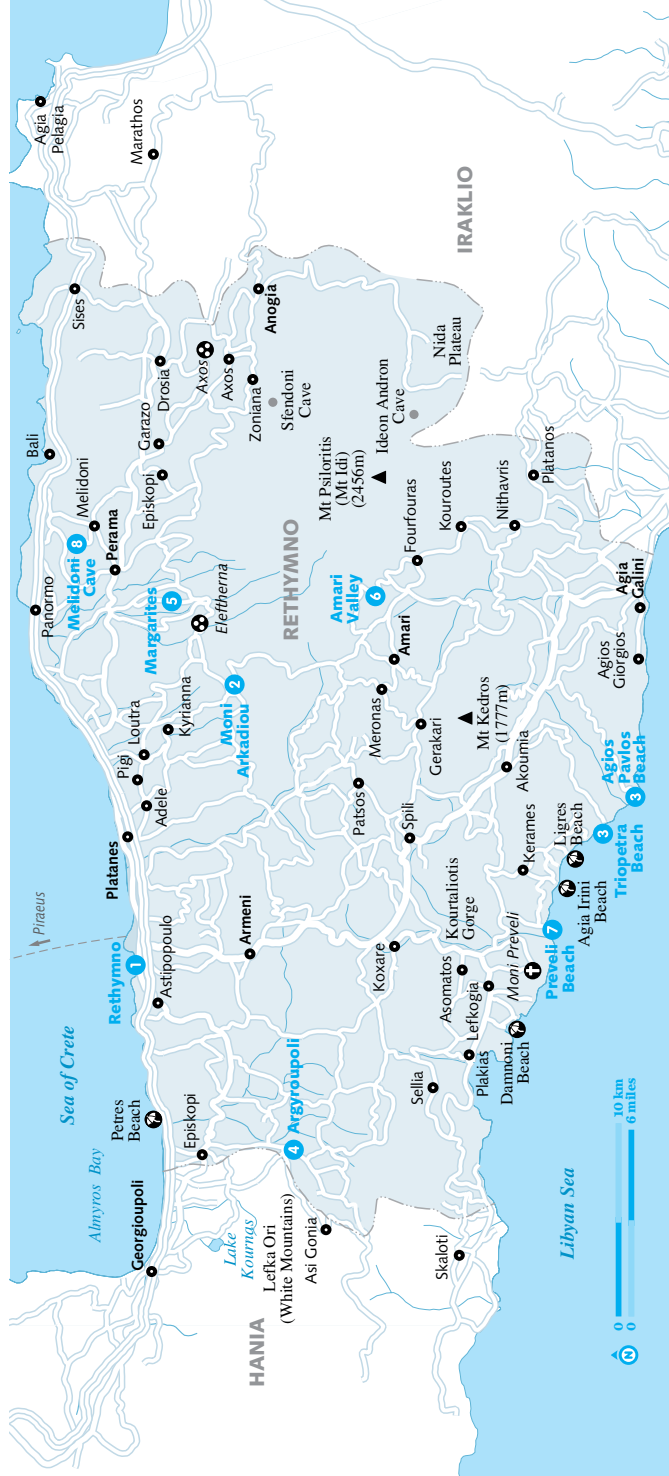
Why Go?

Rethymno (Ρέθυμνο) is a wild beauty. Endless ribbons of mountain roads wind through the timeless interior, passing fields of wildflowers and tiny, traditional hamlets cradled by olive groves. It's a region peppered with historic sites and natural wonders. Descend into the spooky darkness of grotto-like caves; explore steep, lush gorges; and rest in the shade of lofty Mt Psiloritis, Crete's highest peak. Visit enduring monasteries, Minoan tombs and Venetian strongholds. Rethymno is also a magnet for artists, many practising age-old trades with modern twists.

The eponymous capital on the northern coast is a bustle of atmosphere-soaked, cobbled lanes, laden with shops, restaurants and bars and flanked by a wide, sandy beach. The southern coast is graced with bewitching beaches in seductive isolation. Weave your way through this spell-binding land from shore to shore.

Road Distances (km)

Anogia	99			
Plakias	47	94		
Rethymno	53	56	39	
Argyroupoli	58	79	24	23
Agia Galini				
Anogia				
Plakias				
Rethymno				



Rethymno Highlights

- 1 Explore the charismatic maze of the Venetian-Ottoman quarter in **Rethymno** (p106) before diving into its gourmet eateries.
- 2 Wander through the stunning old town and then cool off over a trout lunch by the springs of **Argyroupoli** (p117).
- 3 Escape civilisation on the beaches of **Triopetra** (p131) and **Agios Pavlos** (p131).
- 4 See potters working their magic in **Margarites** (p121).
- 5 Get lost amid the charming villages and spectacular vistas on a drive through the **Amari Valley** (p120).
- 6 Make the pilgrimage to palm-studded, sun-soaked **Preveli Beach** (p130).
- 7 Descend into Cretan history in the stunning underworld of **Melidoni Cave** (p122).