



*mistral
singles*

SOCIABLE HOLIDAYS FOR INDEPENDENT SOLO TRAVELLERS



SINGLES HOTEL RESORT IN CRETE, GREECE

Welcome

to the Mistral Hotel, a unique solo holiday destination where you can relax, meet new people, enjoy a lively social atmosphere and head off to explore western Crete with our exclusive excursions.

The Mistral is a boutique hotel with stylish rooms, a wonderful ambience, and a restaurant serving the finest home-cooked Cretan cuisine.

We offer friendly holidays for independent travellers who want to enjoy the company of like-minded people in the sunshine of Greece's biggest island on the southernmost tip of Europe.

Join us at the Mistral to rest, relax and revive on a holiday to remember.



Rooms and pools

The hotel, which is open from May until mid-October, is at Maleme, 16km from the Venetian harbour town of Chania.

Run by the Gialamarakis family, it is renowned for the welcoming ambience it creates for independent solo travellers, with 35 rooms - 27 deluxe and 8 standard rooms – all for single occupancy.

Spacious and bright, the balconied rooms overlook the large front pool or are situated around the peaceful terraces and mature gardens of the rear of the hotel and the smaller pool, which also has a jacuzzi.

Every room has air conditioning, safe boxes, wi-fi, tea/coffee making facilities, an iron and ironing board, hair dryer, fridge, and Olivia olive oil toiletry products.



Our restaurant

Dinner is served with guests seated on long sociable tables where you can meet new friends or chat about the events of the day.

We specialise in traditional cuisine, with a menu that showcases different aspects of the delicious and healthy Mediterranean diet.

During your stay, you'll savour dishes that range from moussaka and grilled locally-caught fish to Cretan salads, boureki and delicious desserts, with every taste and specific dietary requirements catered for. Complimentary table wine is served with the meal, as well as coffee and tea.



Much of the organic produce is picked from our expansive hotel garden and sent freshly to the kitchen, where our chefs use olive oil from the Gialamarakis family's olive groves in the cooking.

Breakfast is a Continental-style buffet with a Cretan twist, where you can try mountain tea, olives, feta cheese, Greek yogurt and fresh fruit as well as croissants, eggs, toast and coffee.

We also arrange weekly cookery demonstrations, where you can learn how to cook the Cretan way and make stuffed tomatoes, tzatziki and cheese pies.



Outdoor bar

Our outdoor bar is open from 10.00am for coffees and lunch orders and continues into the afternoon for cocktails and pre-dinner drinks with our bar staff serving a selection of soft and alcoholic drinks until late into the evening.

Don't miss our free weekly cocktail tasting sessions to help you choose your pre-dinner drink, and be ready for our Greek night with traditional dancers.

Food and wine are important to us, and we love to share the best of it during our Wine-Tasting lunches, where you'll get the opportunity to sample Cretan red, white and rose wines paired with a meze of dishes prepared freshly from our kitchen.



The island of Crete

Crete is blessed with stunning beaches, turquoise blue sea and a wonderful climate. It also has high mountains, lush and fertile plateaus, a diversity of plants and flowers, caves and many gorges, including the famous Samaria Gorge, which is the longest in Europe.

The island has a rich and varied history: the legendary birthplace of Zeus, the many cultures who have passed through over the centuries - from the Romans, Arabs, Venetians, Turks and later the Germans – have all left their mark.

There are also many museums and world-famous archaeological sites to visit such as the Palace of King Minos at Knossos and the ancient ruins at Phaestos.



Attractions and Excursions

It is these wonderful attractions that we love to show you during your stay, with our focus on the western part of the large island of Crete.

Within the Chania region, there are numerous towns and villages to explore, beaches and hidden coves to visit, and lovely walks.

We offer a range of exclusive excursions - shaped by our extensive local knowledge of the island – and take you to locations such as the pink sands of Elafonissi beach, over the mountains to Chora Sfakion and by boat to the beautiful coastal village of Loutro, or to Gramvousa Island with its Venetian fortress and Balos Lagoon.

A 'must' is our signature trip of the famous Mistral Fish Lunch where we head off to the wonderful sandy beach of Falassarna for a long morning relaxing by the waves and then venture on to Sfinari for a leisurely shoreline lunch of Kakavia (fish soup), wine and freshly-caught fish.

On Sundays, we close our restaurant, enabling guests to experience the tavernas of Maleme, Platanias, Chania or Kolymbari for themselves.

But for those who wish to experience Chania at night, we organise an early evening walking tour around the old town, schedule time for a cocktail, and then dine at one of the fabulous restaurants on the harbour front as the sun sets.



Tailor-made trips

We can also arrange tailor-made excursions to specific locations for groups such as to Paleochora and Anidri gorge, or Crete's botanical gardens.

Hiking the Samaria Gorge - the longest gorge in Europe at 16km – is a challenging but rewarding day, where the requirements are good walking boots/shoes and a determination to finish!

Alternatively, guests can head off and explore at their leisure either by taxi, hiring a car or using the frequent local buses, or join one of seven Fun Train routes that wind their way to monasteries, wineries, olive oil factories and tiny villages in the mountains of western Crete.

We can also arrange other activities such as snorkelling, diving, a sailing experience, or even a visit to the island of Santorini.



Mistral SPA

A holiday at The Mistral is designed to be relaxing in every sense. If you feel the need to unwind further, we have a discreet spa where you can enjoy massages, pampering and invigorating therapies.

The island is blessed with an abundance of beneficial herbs that are included in our products.

Our facilities include two massage/body therapy rooms, a facial beauty corner, a hair and nail salon, and a dry sauna.

We also hold a popular weekly aqua aerobic session in our large front pool for those who like to limber up.



Themed weeks

Popular themed weeks at the beginning and end of the season, when the temperature drops a little, include our **Walking, Flavours of Crete, Photography, and Yoga and Wellbeing weeks**, plus a **Writing Retreat** (visit our website at www.singlesincrete.com for dates).

The **Walking Week** takes in four guided walks, either along the coast or through some of the hidden gorges in the region, with a replenishing lunch stop included.



Meanwhile, the **Flavours of Crete Week** is a unique opportunity to learn more about fine Mediterranean food. You will discover more about the provenance of delicious ingredients, cook a range of traditional Cretan dishes under expert culinary guidance, and of course, eat a selection of mouth-watering dishes too in the Mistral Hotel restaurant where the emphasis is on “homegrown/home-made” Cretan fayre. The food-focused week features hands-on cookery classes, a behind-the-scenes insight into olive oil production, foraging in the hotel garden, wine tasting, and the opportunity to meet local artisan producers and restaurateurs to discuss dishes and ingredients.

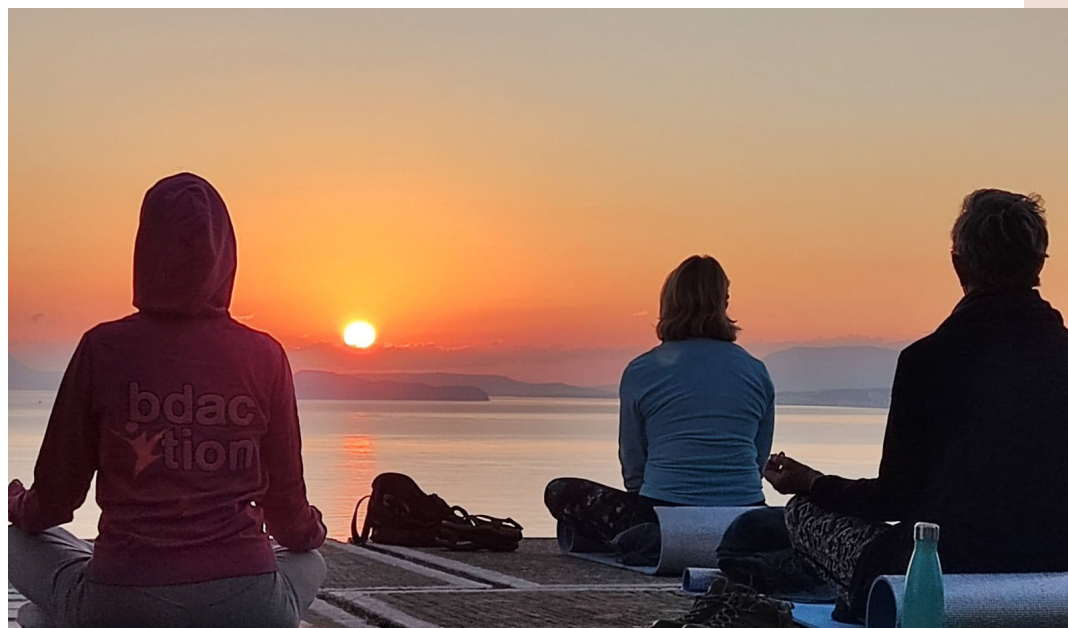
The **Photography Week** will enable you to learn a range of new camera techniques and skills to improve your shots and your artistic eye. Under expert tuition, you will discover a different view of Crete through the lens of your camera with the opportunity to photograph locations from the famed archaeological sites of the Minoans and Ancient Greeks, to beautiful remote villages, vibrant town life and pristine beaches.



The **Mistral Writing Retreat** will have a specific focus on travel writing and help you rediscover your creative flair. Led by an experienced and award-winning travel writer, and set against a magical Mediterranean backdrop, the week will provide you with new writing skills and the opportunity to transform your holiday into an informative and entertaining travel feature.



The **Yoga and Wellbeing Week** offers stress-free days of healing and inner peace and includes a healthier approach to life with organic vegetarian food, herbal teas, massage, sound therapy and Yoga sessions for all levels. The themed break has five Yoga sessions as well as a full regenerative body massage.



What to expect

Alongside the wonderful Cretan climate and warm temperatures, you will be greeted by welcoming and helpful staff, with full reception facilities; friendly fellow guests; a great bar atmosphere; two pools; and easy access to lovely beaches, an idyllic landscape, and rural villages and small towns.

There are tavernas, supermarkets and shops within walking distance of the Mistral, Chania is 30 minutes by bus and Platanias a 10-minute bus-ride away.

We offer airport transfers, co-ordinated with all incoming flights from the UK and elsewhere, with guests joining us from across Europe and the United States.

Fresh filtered drinking water is free and readily available, there is a courtesy room on your day of departure, and we send everyone off with a complimentary bottle of olive oil from the family's own olive groves...as well as happy memories.

A great way to make contact and meet other people heading off to the Mistral Hotel is to post a message on our Facebook group. You can make friends with guests travelling at the same time as you before you even start your journey.

Treat yourself to a welcoming stay in our unique hotel atmosphere at the Mistral where solo independent travellers meet other guests for the first time, and depart as life-long friends.



How to book

Visit our website at www.singlesincrete.com for more information and to use our online booking facility, or email us direct at info@singlesincrete.com


Once you have booked your stay, we will hold your room until you finalise your flight arrangements.


You can also telephone us direct on 0030 28210 62062 or 0245 77 08 68 (at UK rates).


We look forward to seeing you soon!




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