

Cycle Touring Crete



with Frank & Daphne Sep – Oct 2018



Why Crete?

The Islands



Athens Transportation

Most ferries to
Islands
leave from
Piraeus



Athens Airport
is 35km
from city
centre

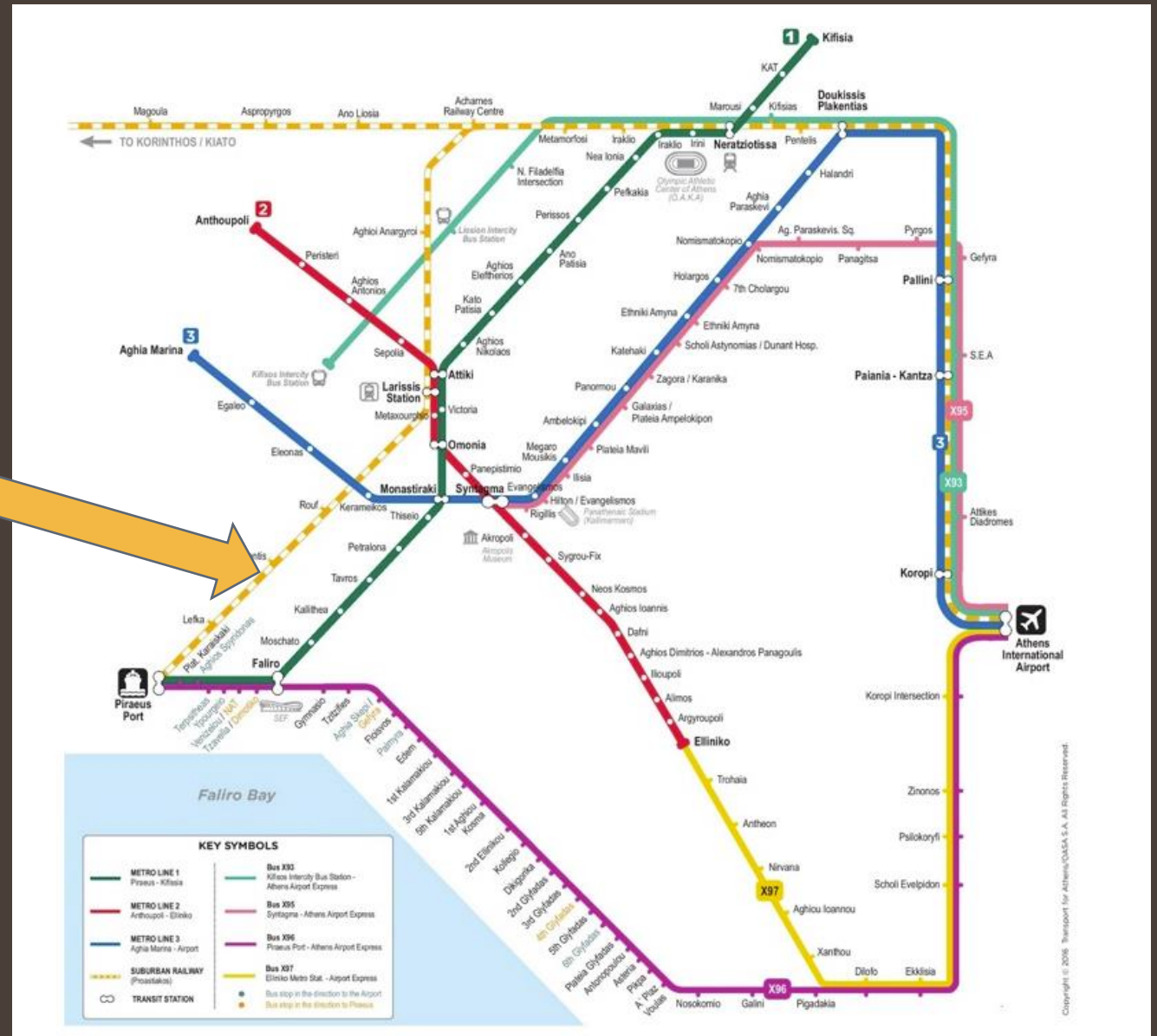


Athens Transportation

Bicycles are **NOT** allowed on the Metro or buses

They ARE allowed on the sub-urban train
Direct service from Airport to Piraeus

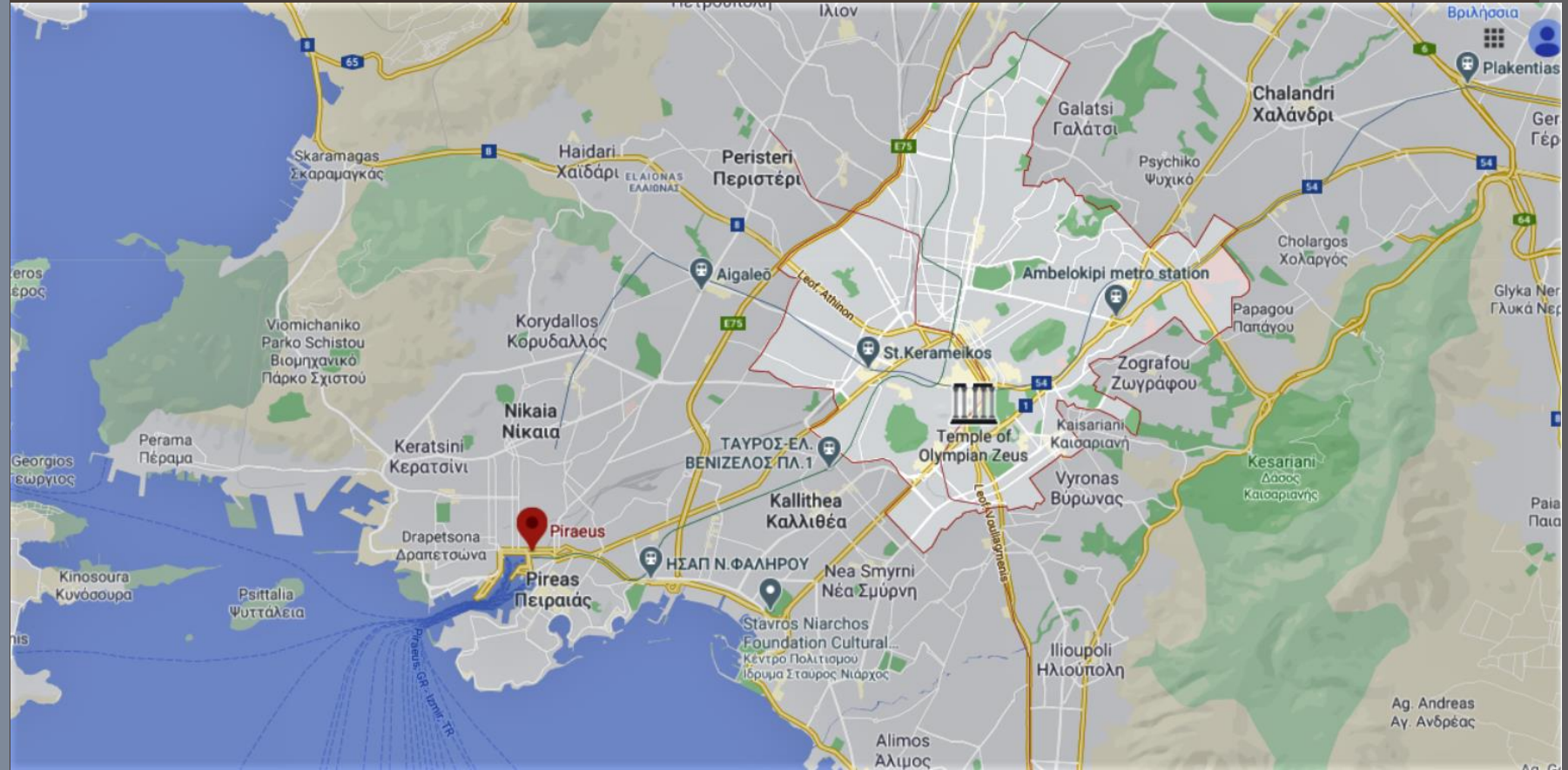
Convenient walkway from terminal building
to the Metro/train station



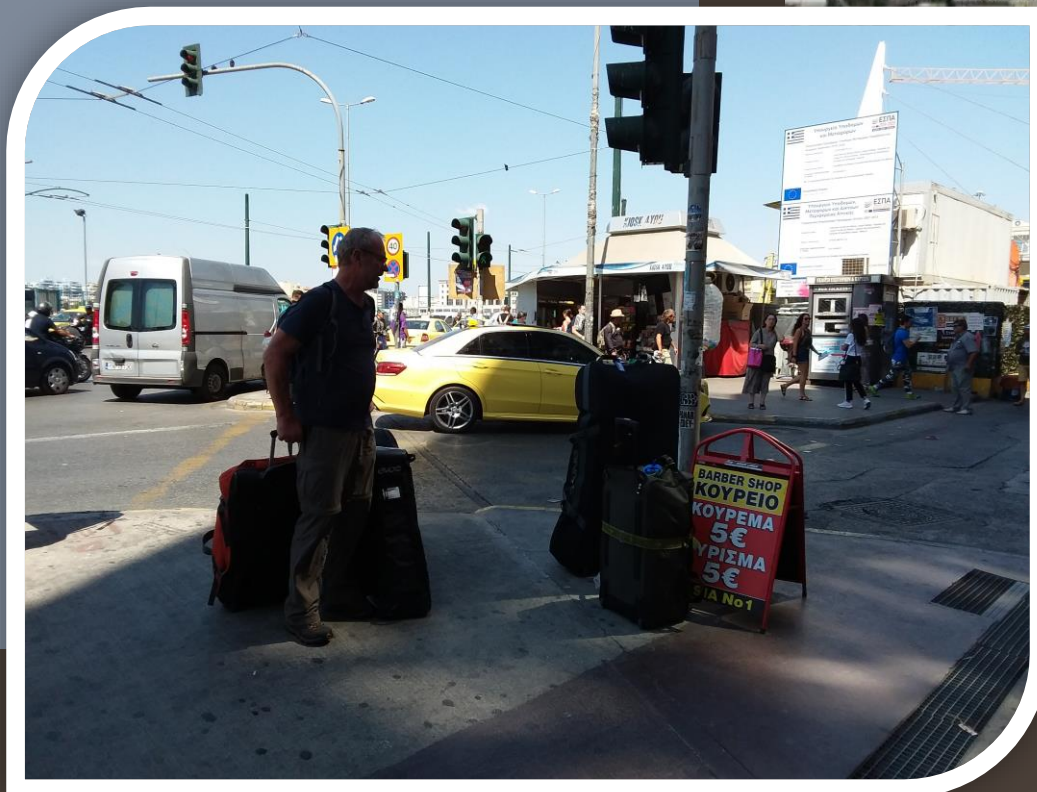


Athens suburban train service

Athens Transportation



Arriving in Piraeus



Piraeus Port



Piraeus

Bikes on Ferries

There are 3 types of Greek ferries –

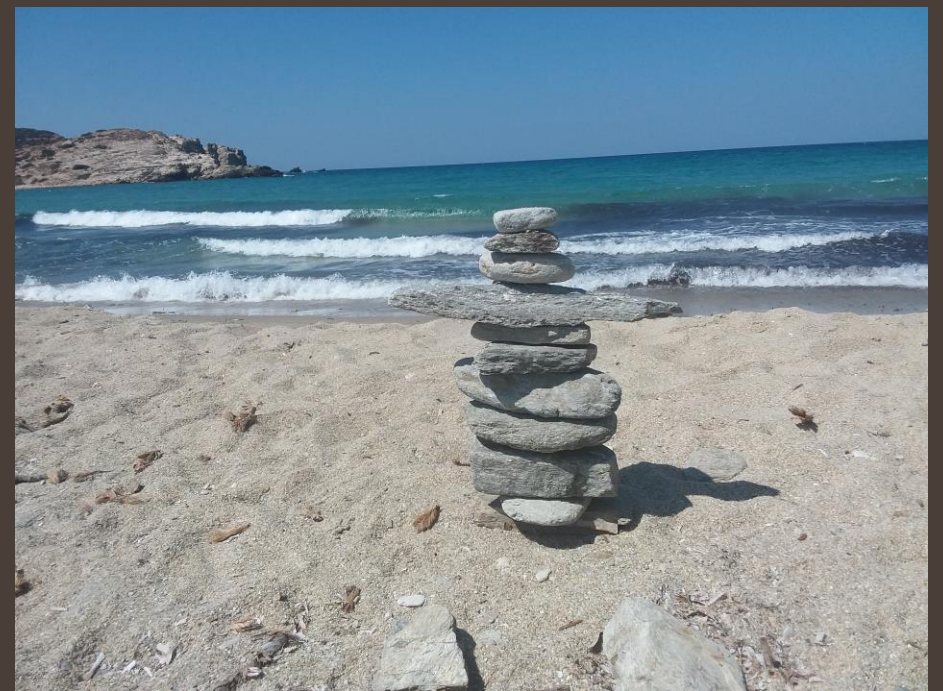
- Car/passenger ferries
- Larger high-speed catamarans
- Smaller catamarans



- Bicycles can be taken on car ferries but NOT on the high-speed passenger ferries



Ferry from Piraeus to Paros



Antiparos



Ferry from Paros to Santorini



**The road up from the port,
Santorini**

Santorini

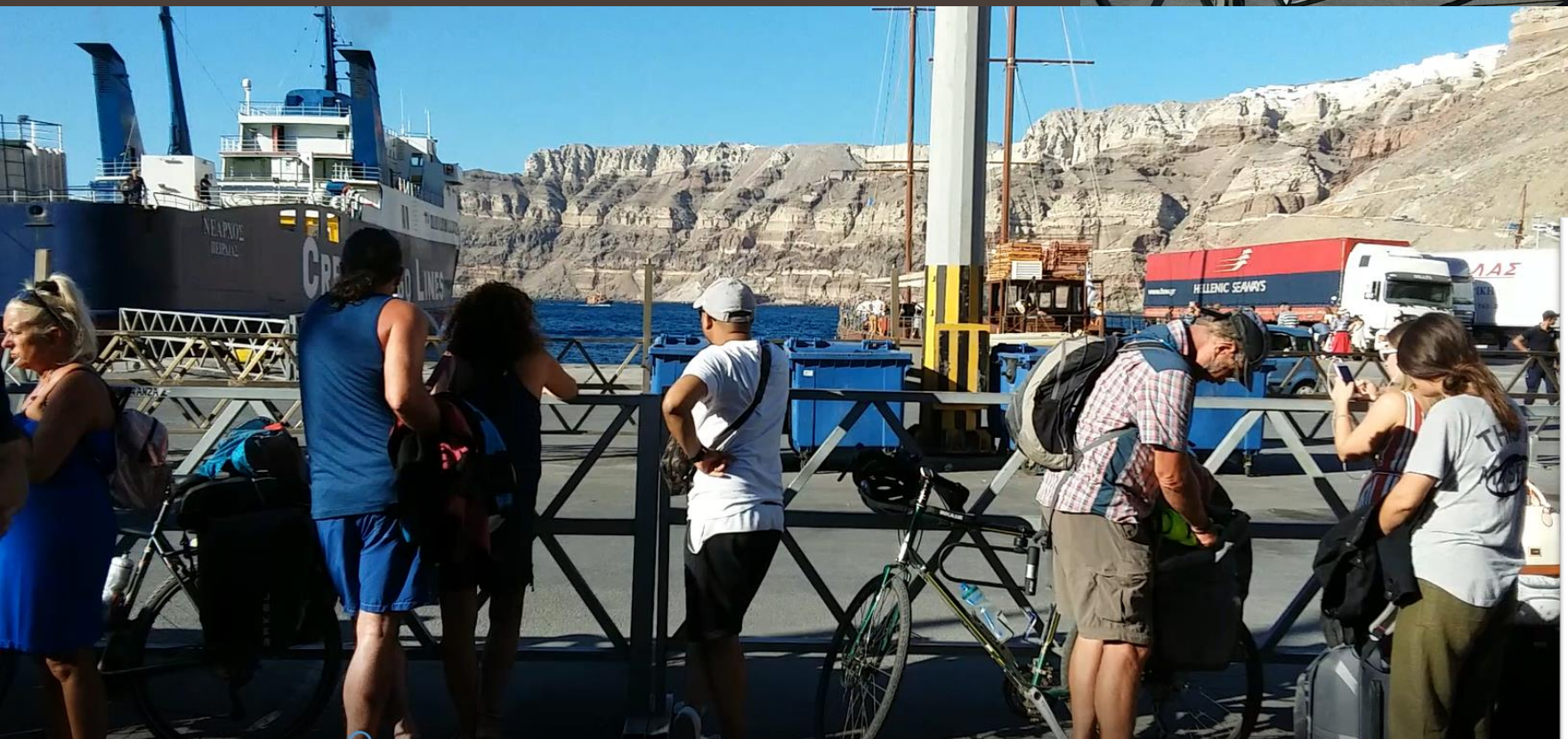
Oia



Fira



Ferry from
Santorini to Crete
Sep 18th



260 km wide (~340 km to drive across)

12-60 km north-south

Population 630,000

Crete





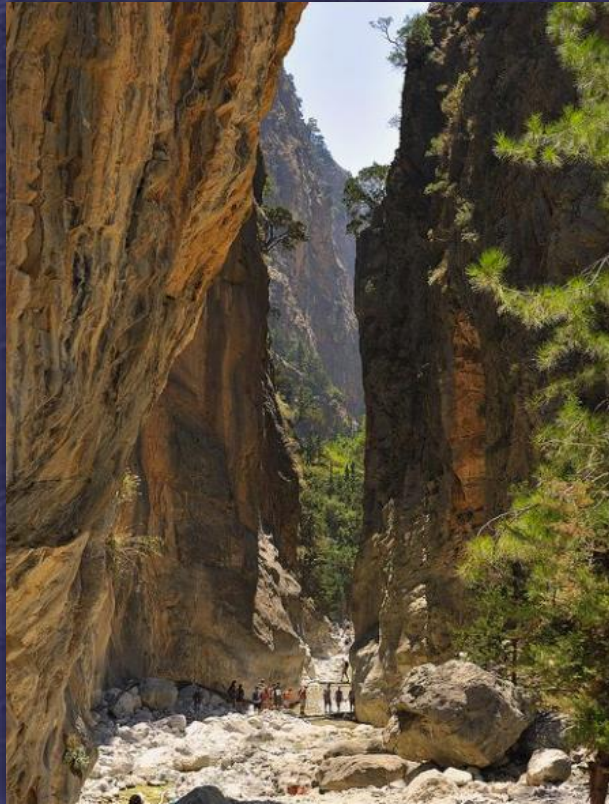
Mountains of Crete



©



Samaria Gorge



Cycling on Crete

You won't find.....

- Cycle paths or established cycle routes
- Big rivers or canals
- Long sections of flat cycling
- Campgrounds every 20 km (like on the Loire)
- Trains or buses to take your bike on

Cycling on Crete

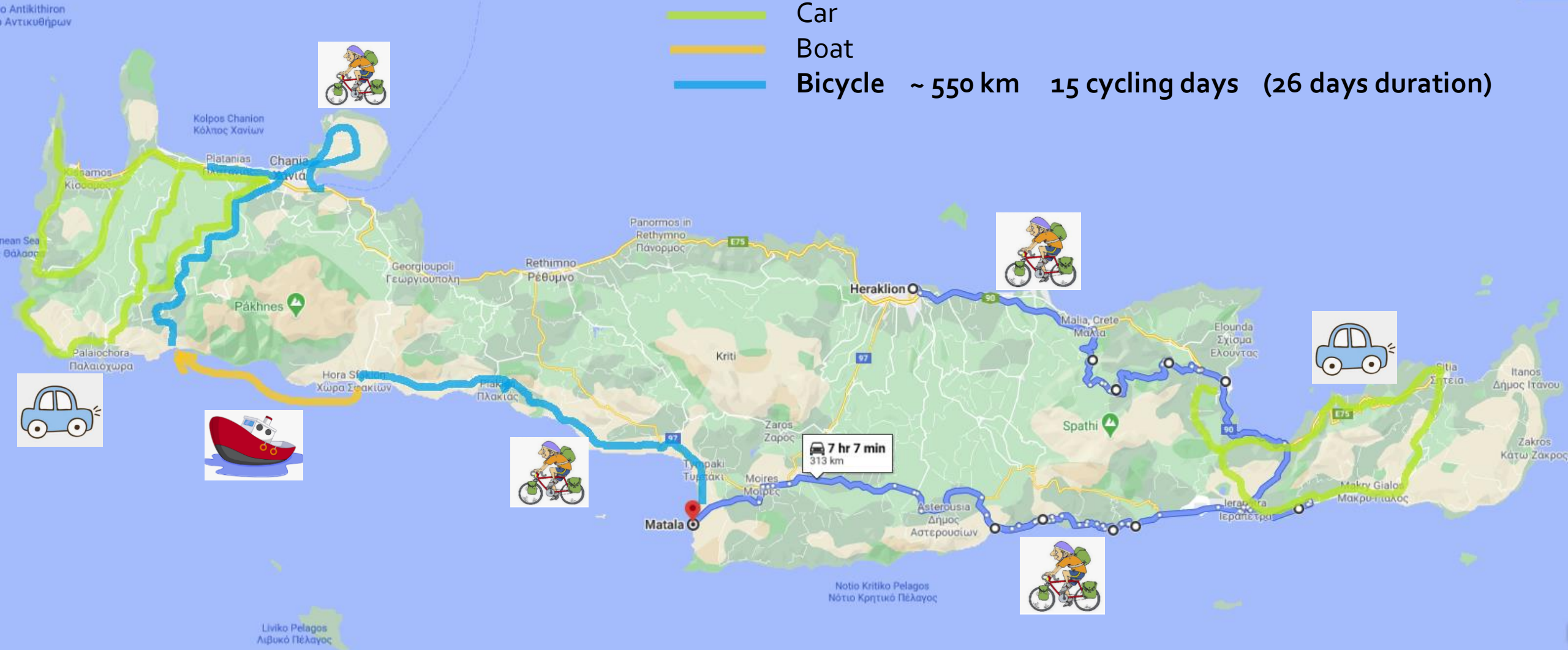
You will find.....

- Miles of quiet roads
- Lots of hills
- Many mountains and gorges
- Characterful, authentic villages
- Hospitable people
- Good food
- Amazing beaches
- Good campgrounds
- Moderate prices
- Numerous historical sites



Sign in

 Car
 Boat
 Bicycle ~ 550 km 15 cycling days (26 days duration)



Our routes

Minoan Civilization



- Bronze Age Aegean civilization
- First European civilization
- Crete and other Aegean Islands
- 3000 BC to 1450 BC
- ended around 1100 BC
- First excavations at Knossos in 1900
- Named after King Minos
- [More reading](#)

CRETAN SEA



Minoan Crete

- Palaces sites
- Country houses
- Tombs or other settlements
- ★ Sacred caves
- ▲ Mountain sanctuaries

0 10 50 km

Minoan Crete

Knossos Palace and Heraklion Archaeological Museum





Marble statue of emperor Hadrian (Publius Aelius Hadrianus, 117-138 AD). A humanist, a poet and a philosopher Hadrian was also a philhellene, who graced many cities of Greece and Crete with important buildings. He is shown here as a triumphant army commander with a cuirass, where medusa Gorgo and Victories, crowning Pallas Athena and treading on fallen barbarians, are depicted. Athena is standing above the she-wolf, emblematic allegory of Rome, feeding Romulus and Remus, the founders of Rome. A figure kneeling on the same plinth apparently represents the defeated enemy. Knossos, Roman period, 2nd cent. AD.





Αξόνες, σφύρες και μικρή σμίλη. Κεντρική και Κνωσός, 5900-3000 π.Χ.

Axes and a small chisel. Central and Knossos, 5900-3000 BC.

Οστέινοι απείς για επεξεργασία μαλακών υλών, όπως δέρμα. Κνωσός, 4400-3000 π.Χ.

Bone awls for piercing soft materials such as leather. Knossos, 4400-3000 BC.

Σύνεργα υφαντικής σφονδύλια σπύρι με αποτύπωμα υφάσματος. Κνωσός, 4400-3000 π.Χ.

Weaving utensils. spindle whorls with the imprint of a textile. Knossos, 4400-3000 BC.



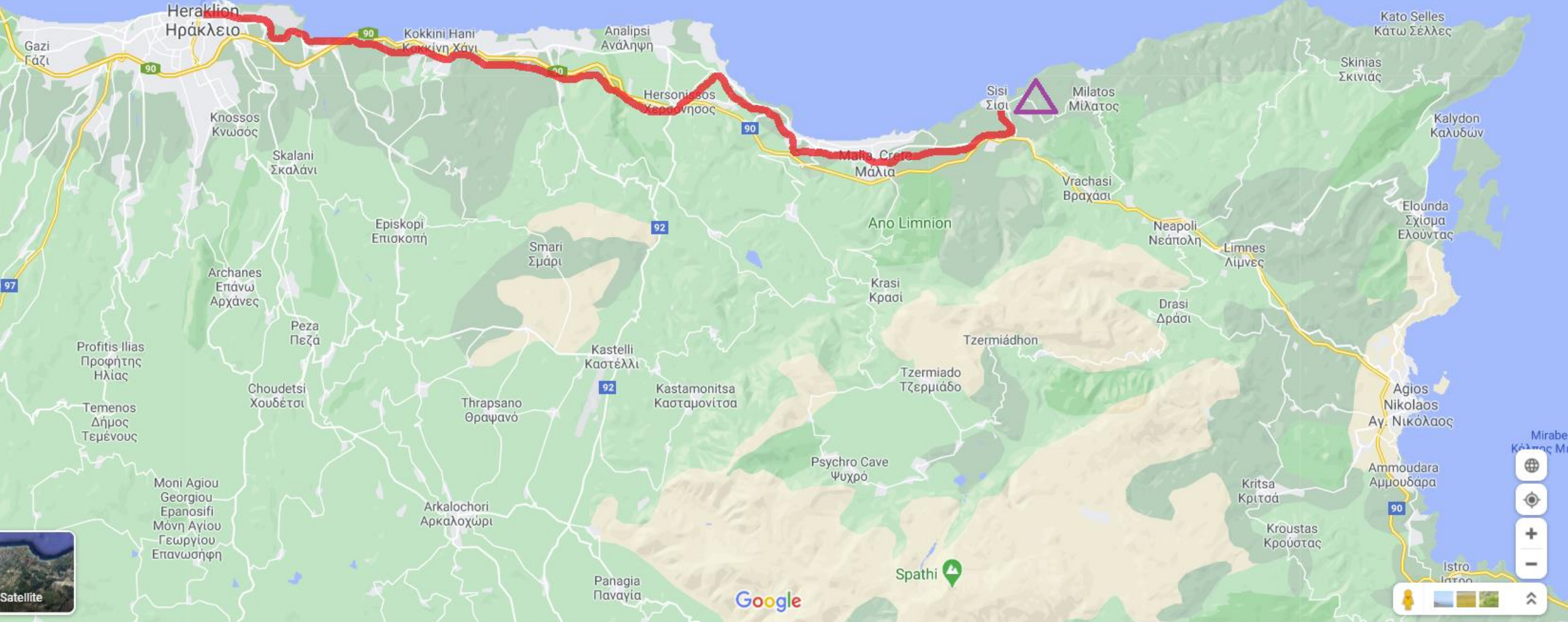
Ειδώλια του εντόμου ρινόκερως ορύκτης. Θεωρείται ότι συνδέονται με δοξασίες των κτηνοτροφικών κοινοτήτων. Πισκοκέφαλο, 1650-1500 π.Χ. Μαζί εκτίθενται δύο πραγματικά έντομα του είδους.

Figurines of rhinoceros beetles (genus *Oryctes*). They are related to the beliefs of herding communities. Piskokephalo, 1650-1500 BC. Two real insects of the species are also exhibited.

Ready
to
Ride!



Sep 20th



Cycle Day 1

Disaster!

56km

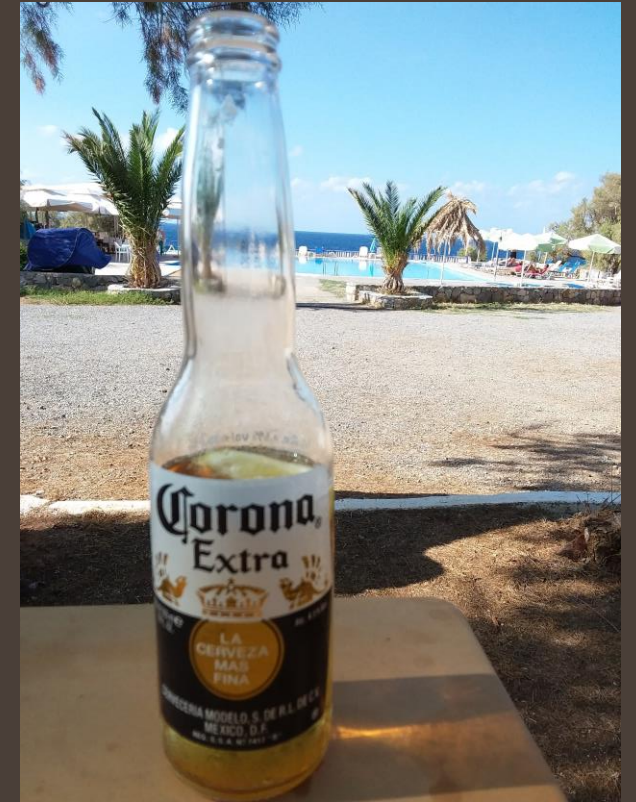


Missing pannier!

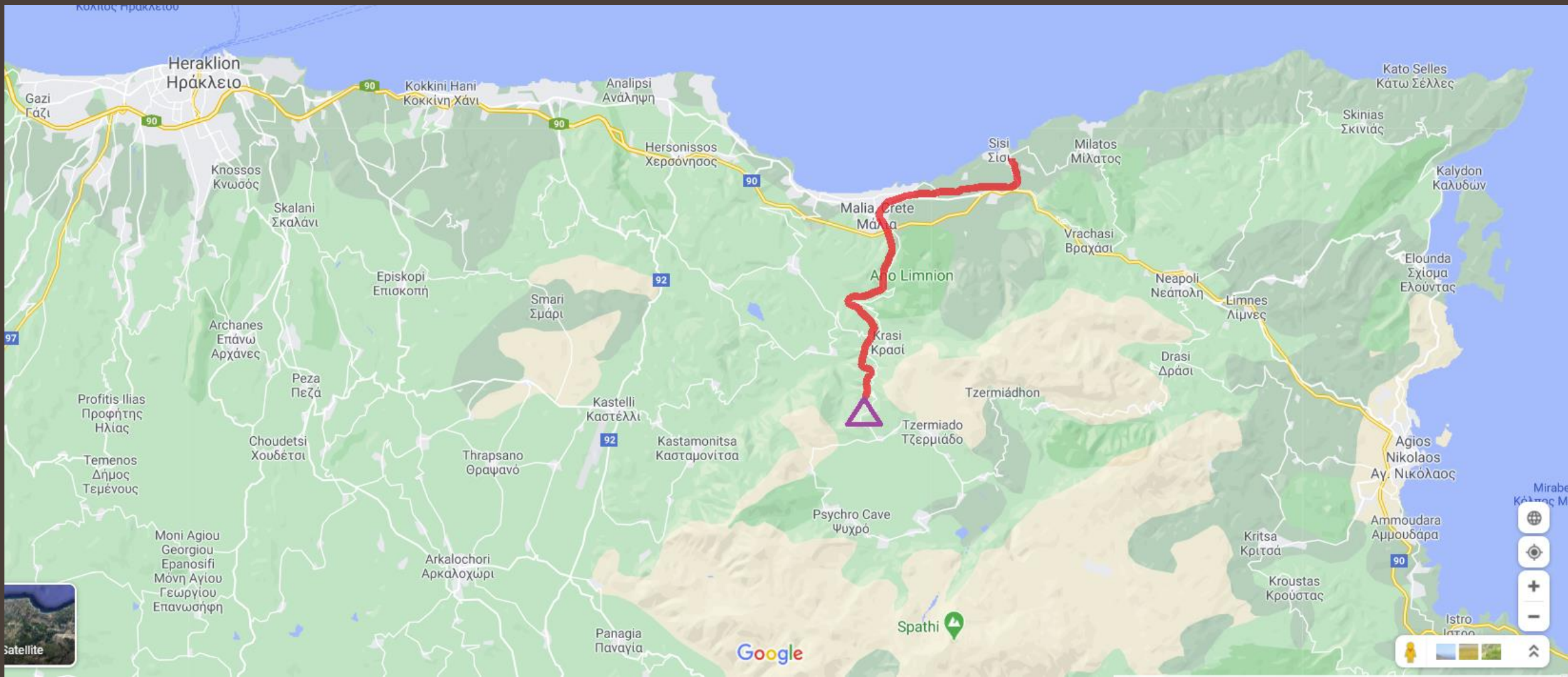




[Sisi Campground](#)



A nice end to
Day 1
in Sisi



Cycle Day 2

Climb to Lasithi Plateau

22km



ΤΟ
ΚΑΦΕΝΕΙΟ
ΤΗΣ
ΛΕΥΚΗΣ

Taking a break





This plane tree in Krasi is over 2000 years old



Wild camp in an olive grove on Day 2

The pass

Our olive grove

Ano Kera
Ανώ Κερά

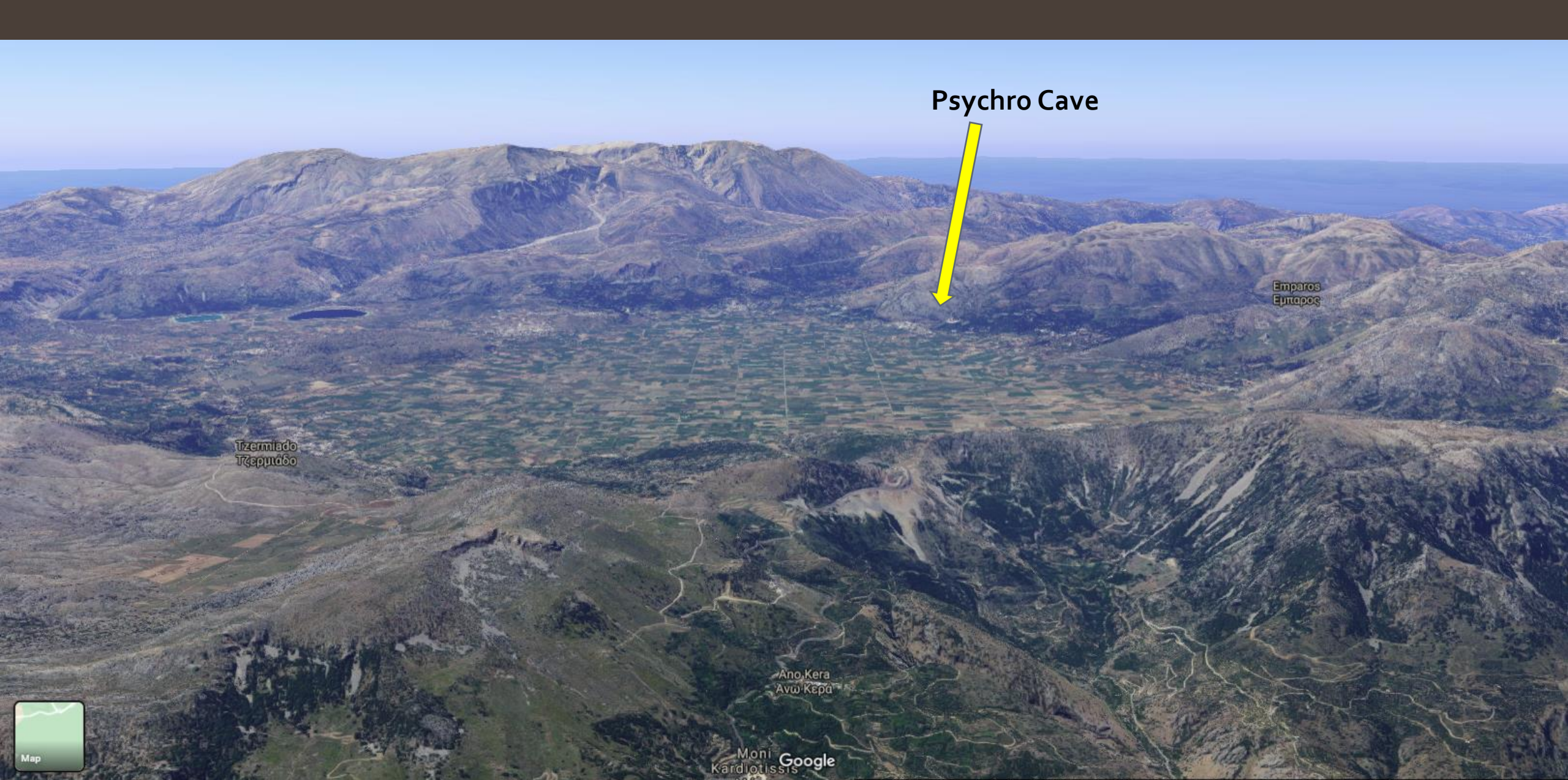
Roza Gorge upper
entrance / viewpoint

rete
nge





Day 3 Reaching the Plateau 56 Km



Psychro Cave



Tzermiado
Τζερμιάδο

Emparos
Ευραπος

Ano Kera
Άνω Κερα

Moni
Καρδιωτισσής



The Lasithi Plateau

Lasithi Plateau in the Fall





Ρουσακιάνα
Ρουσακιάνα

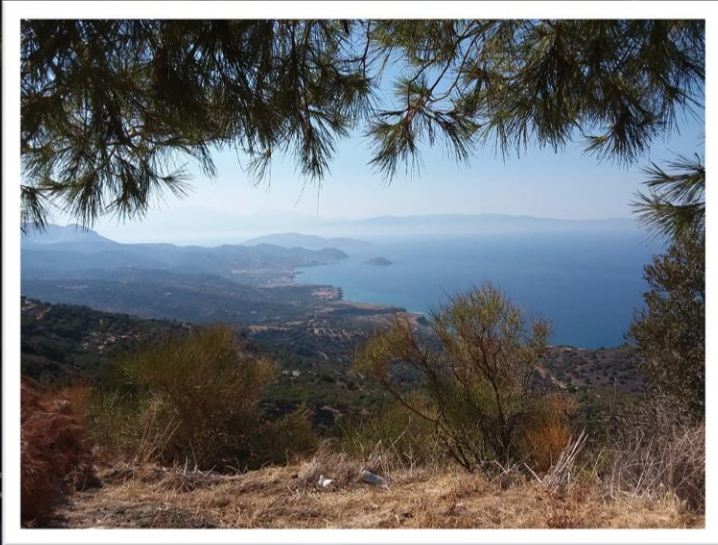
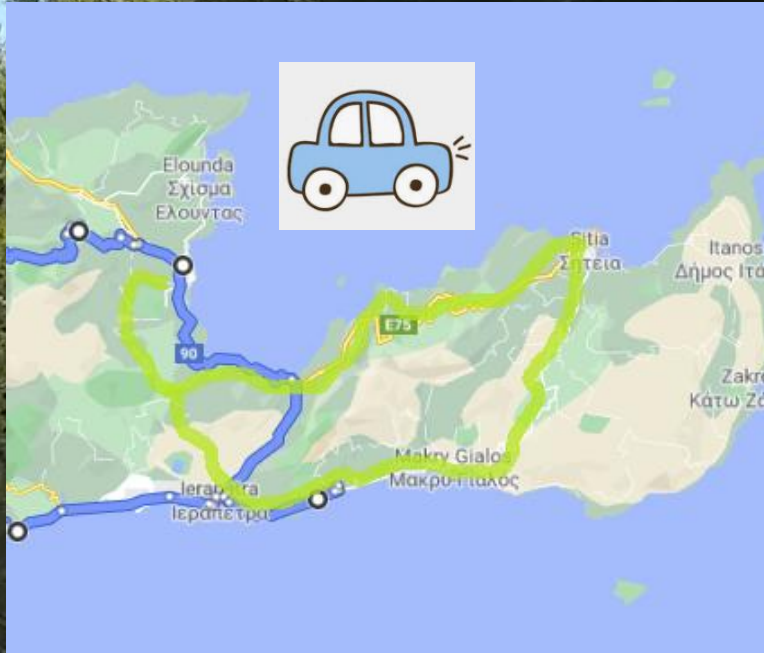




Agios Nikolaos



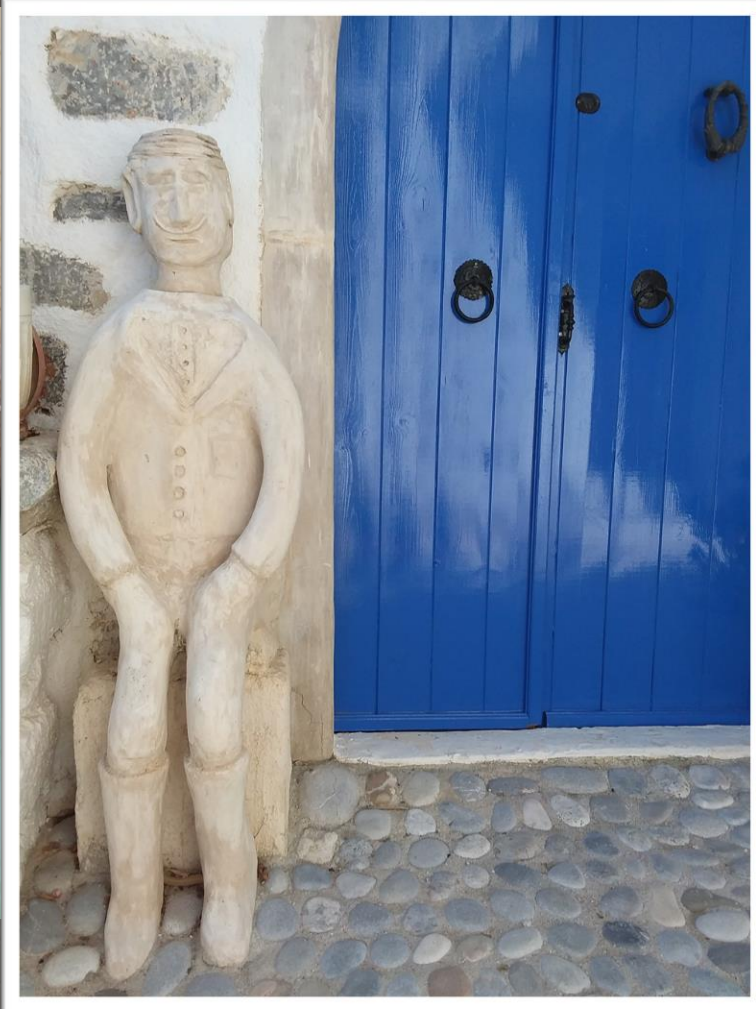
A side trip by car

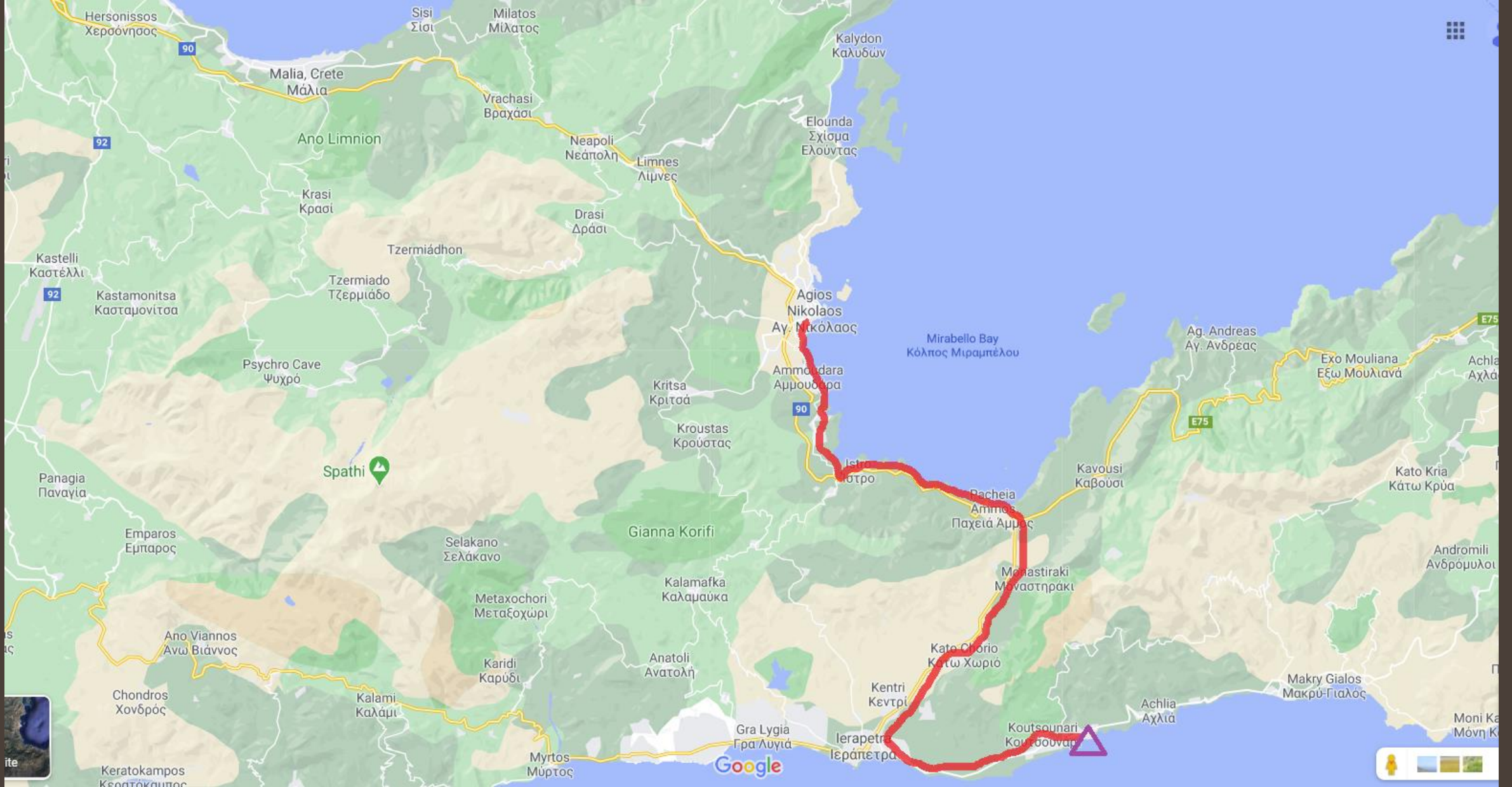




Kritsa Village







Cycling Day 4 The Libyan Sea 66 km



Gulf of Mirabello




The Libyan Sea at Koutsounari and some stormy weather





! Orange Warning for Wind english: STRONG GALE FORCE WINDS (9 B) →

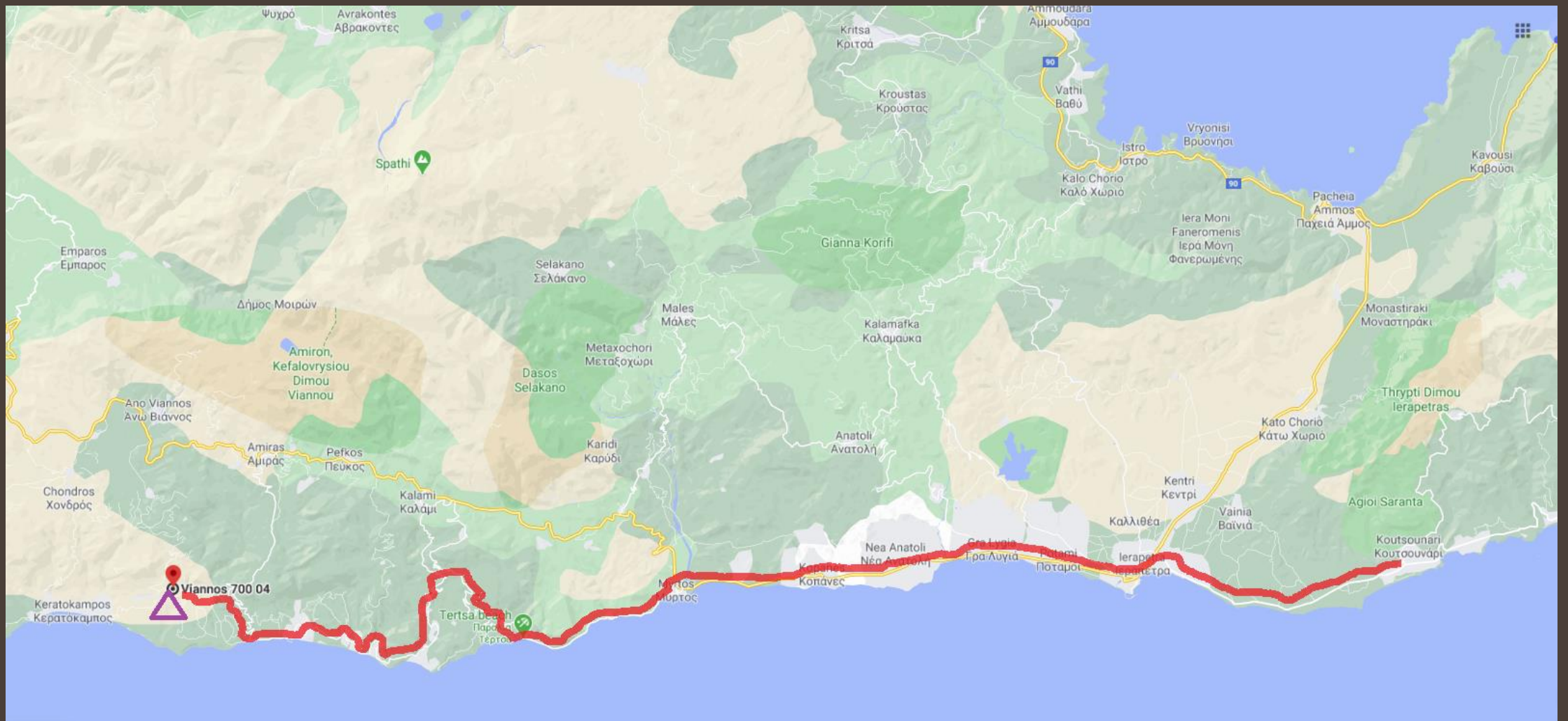
Severe Weather Alerts - Koutsounari, Crete

 **Orange Warning for Wind**
Orange Warning for Wind in effect until Thursday, 1:59 AM EEST. Source: Hellenic National Meteorological Service

english: STRONG GALE FORCE WINDS (9 B)
Time delays between this website and the www.meteoalarm.eu website are possible, for the most up to date information about alert levels as published by the participating National Meteorological Services please use www.meteoalarm.eu

Gale Force Winds
and a day in camp



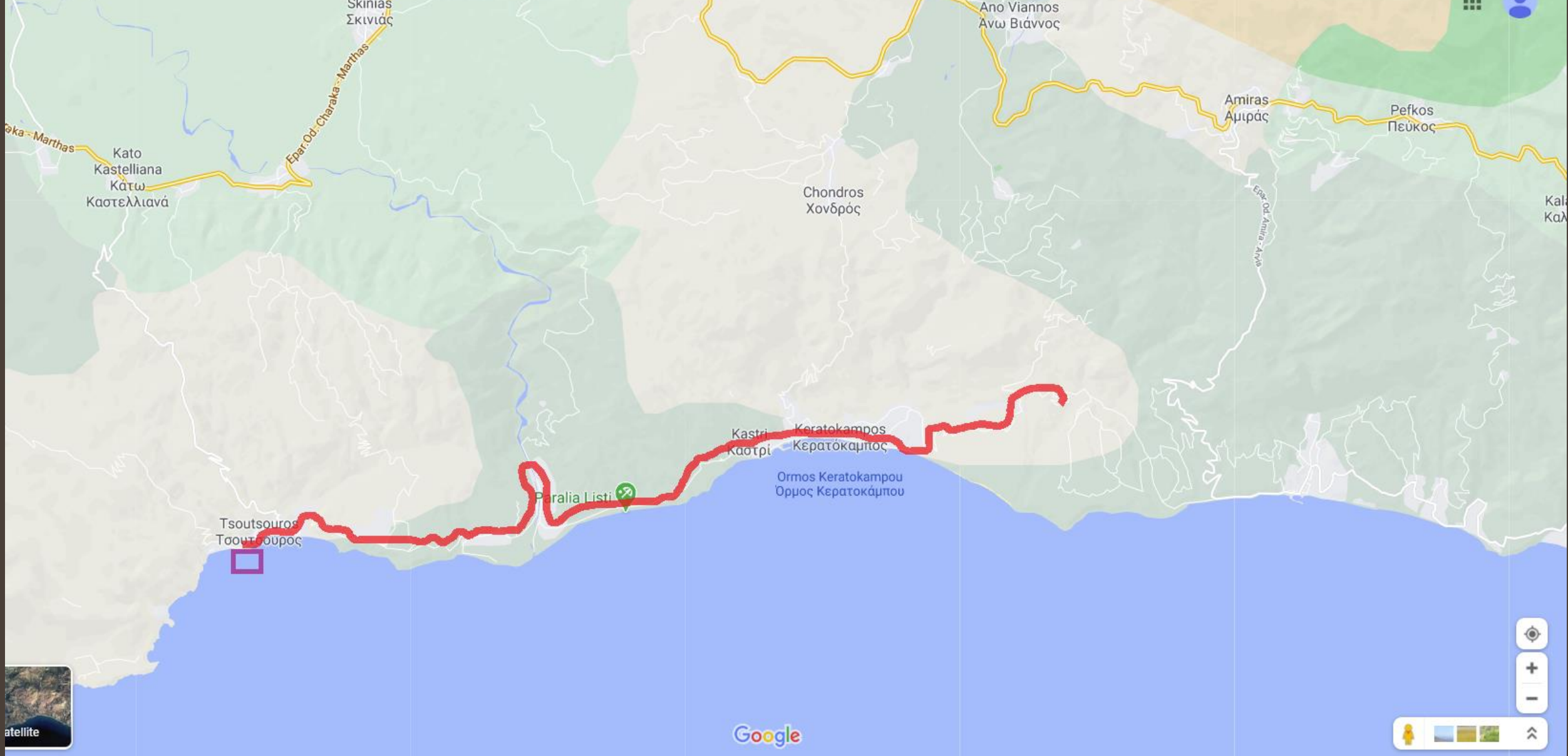


Cycling Day 5

Along the sea, lots of greenhouses

47 km





Cycling Day 6

More ocean vistas

16 km





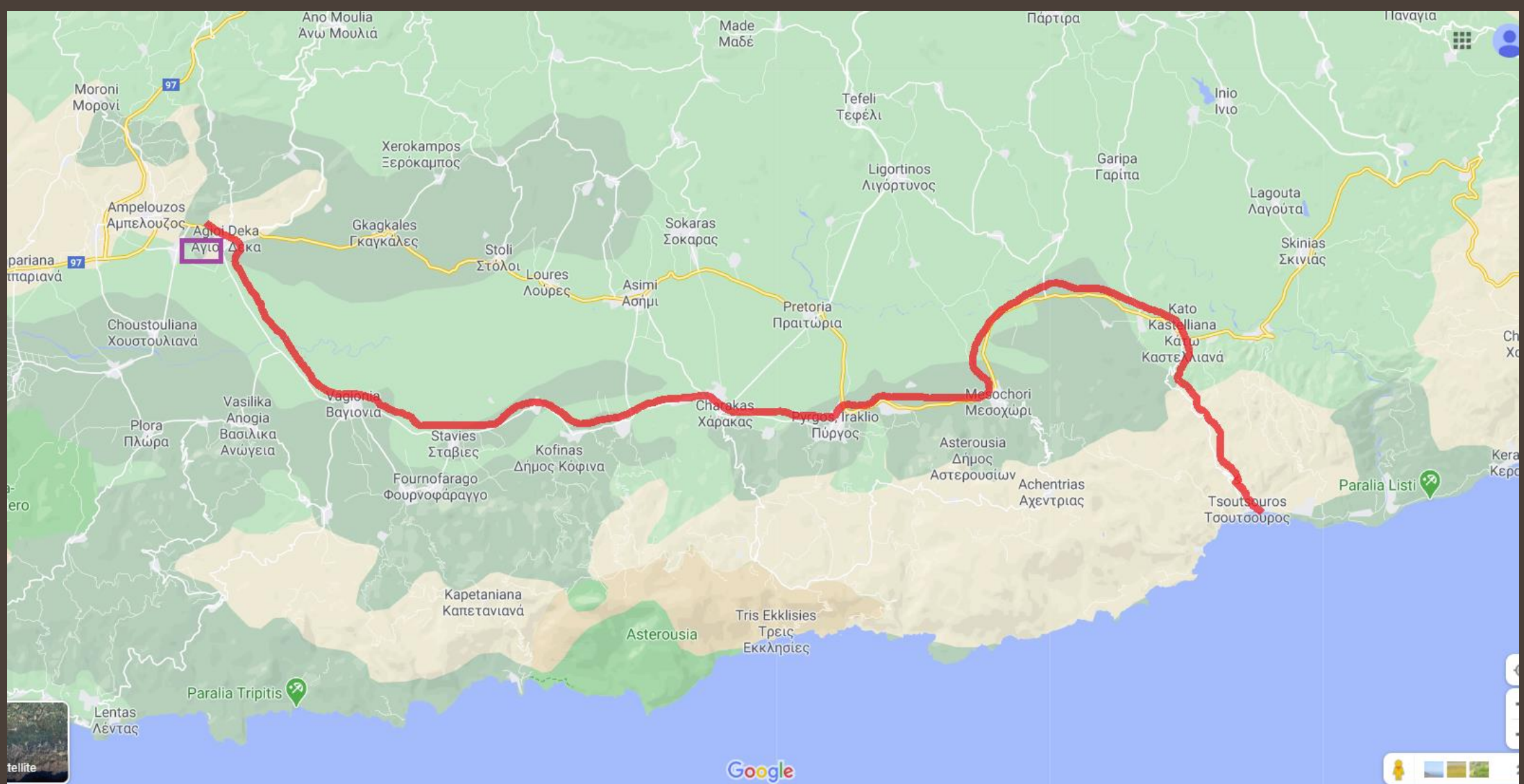
Tsoutouros



Chillin' in Tsoutsouros Sat Sep 29th







Cycling Day 7 Switchbacks & Great Hospitality 50 km



The climb up from Tsoutsouros



Over the hill



Village Hospitality



FOOD



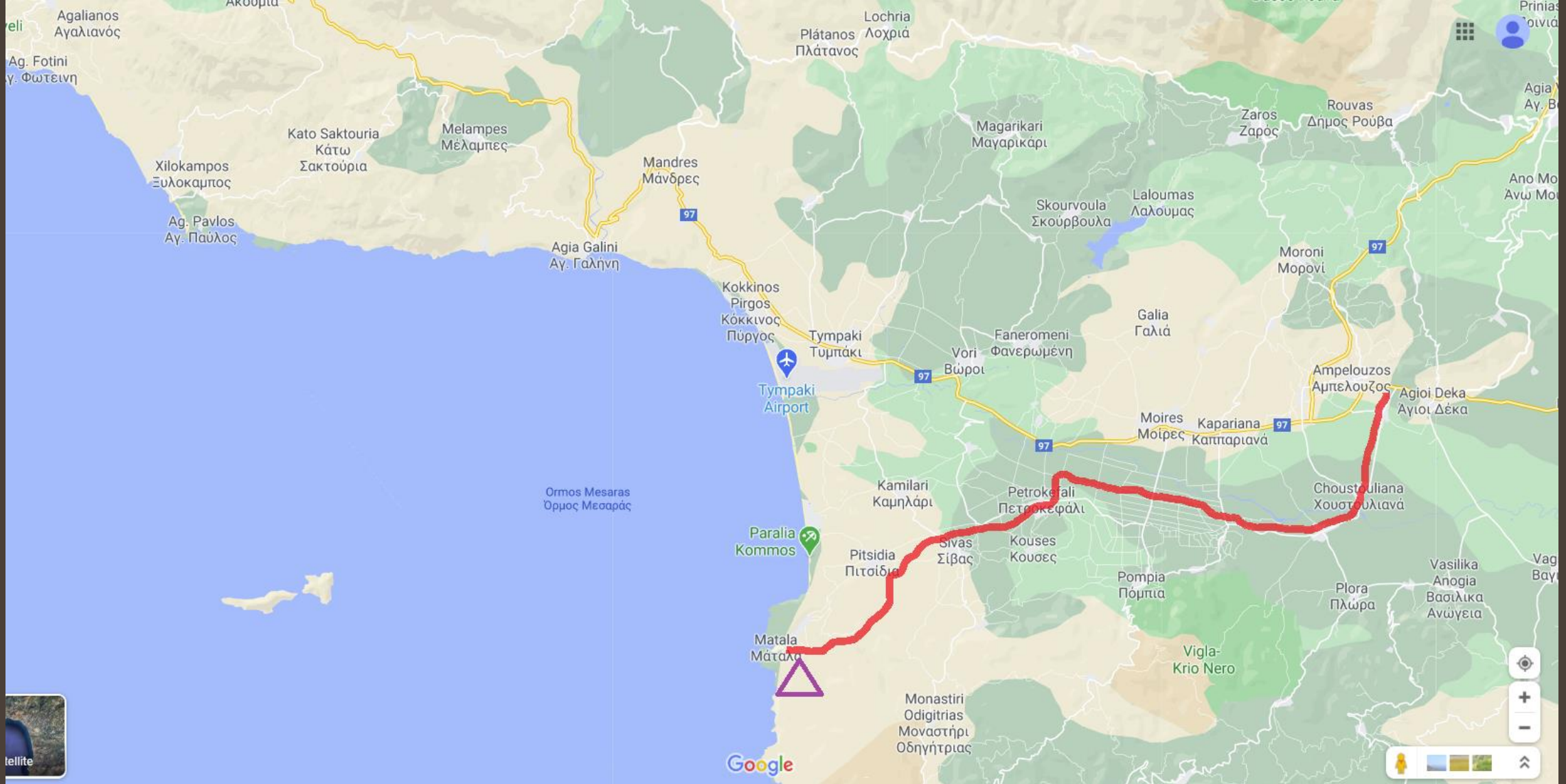






Sfakia pie





Cycling Day 8 History & Hippies 30 km



Gortyn Archaeological Site

Ancient Roman settlement
Law Code of Gortyn

[Translation of the Law Code of Gortyn](#)

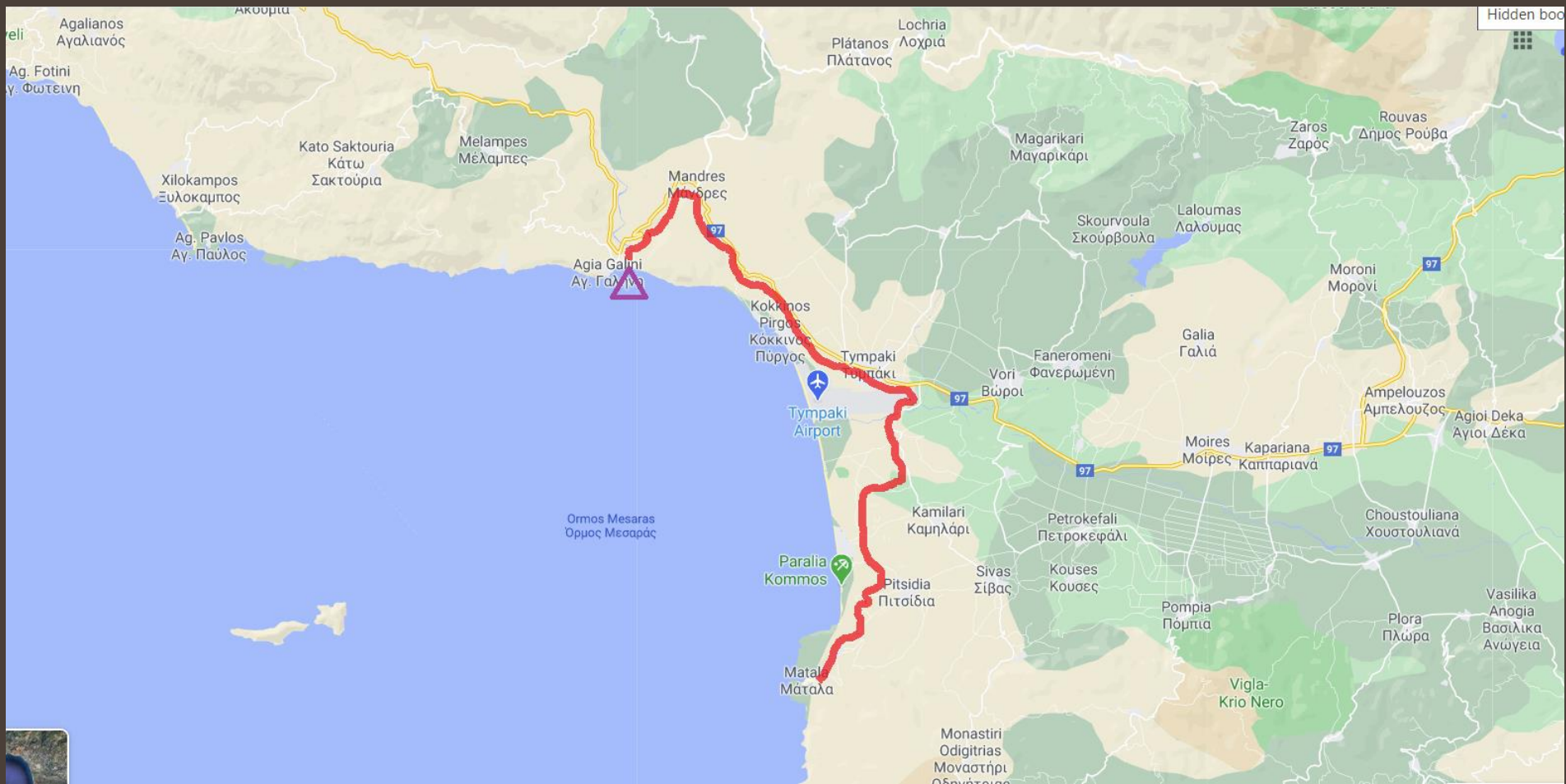


Matala



Red Beach, Matala

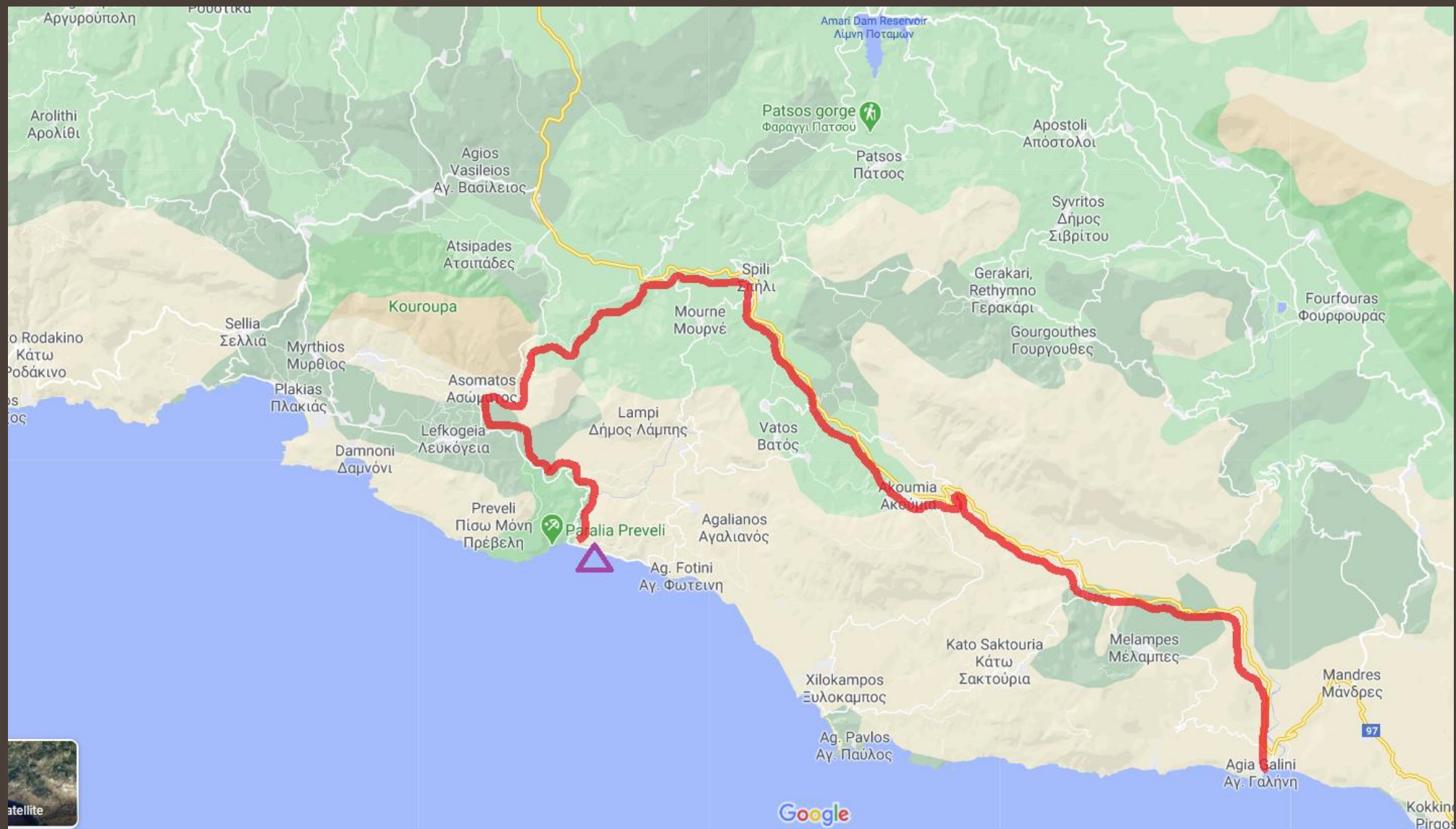




Cycling Day 9 “Camping No Problem” 31 km

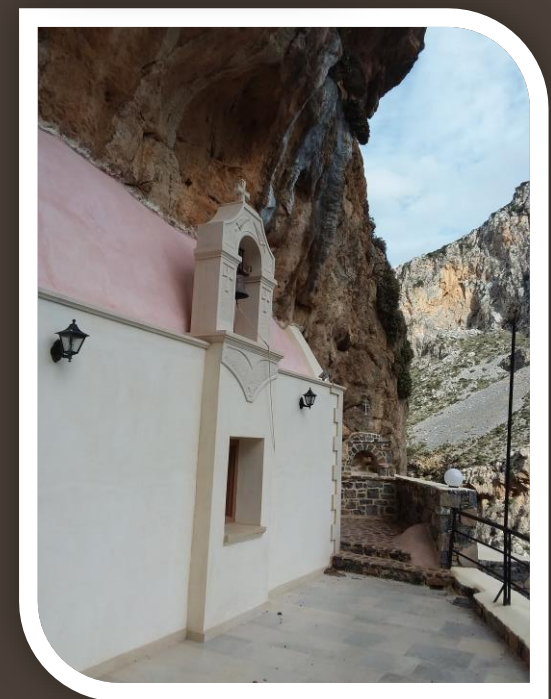


Agia Galini



Cycling Day 10 Headwind, gorge and gravel 49 km

Kourtaliotiko Gorge





Preveli beach

Παραλία Πρέβελη

4.5 ★★★★★ (998)

740 60
Greece



DIRECTIONS



SAVE



LABEL



SHARE PLACE

Remote, well-known beach where the Kourtaliotis River meets the sea, with palm groves & stairs.



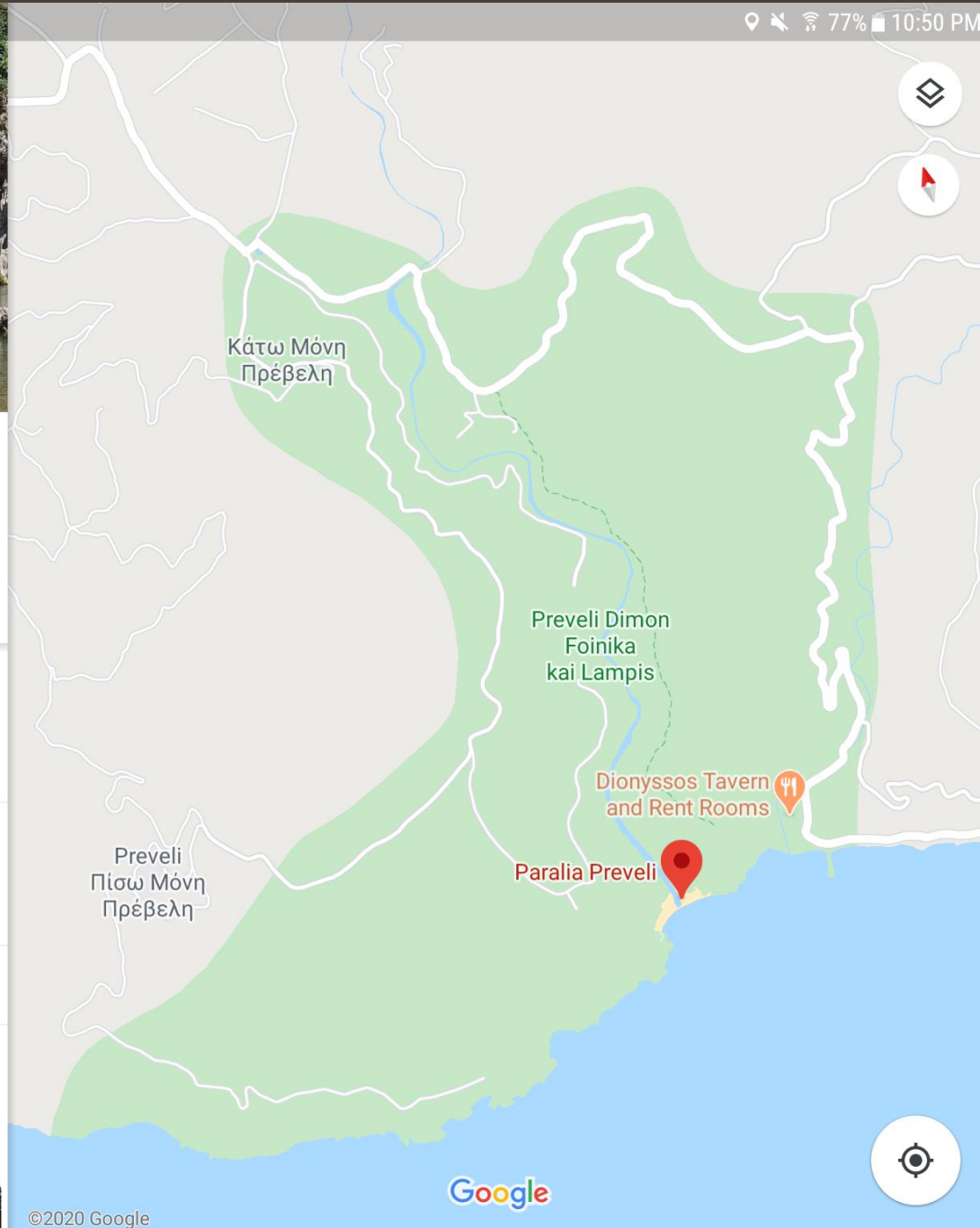
Local time Sunday 7:49 AM (GMT+03:00)

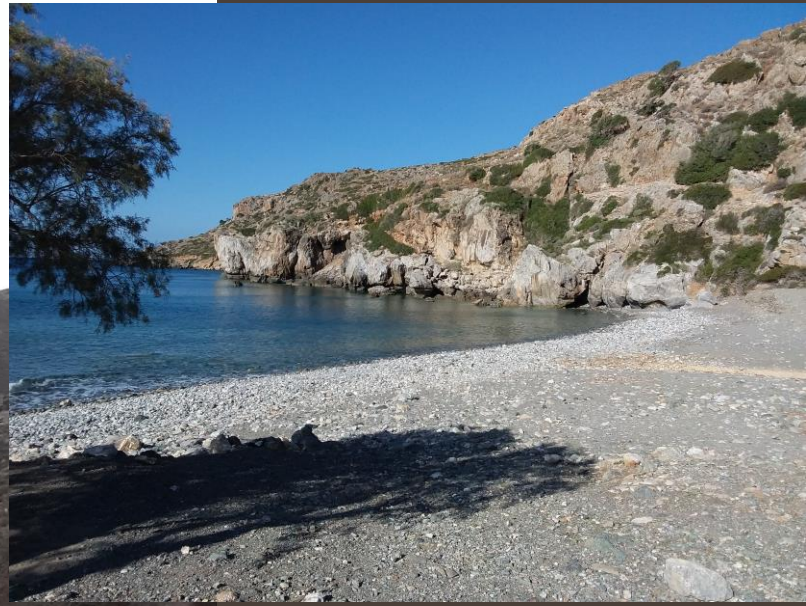


740 60, Greece



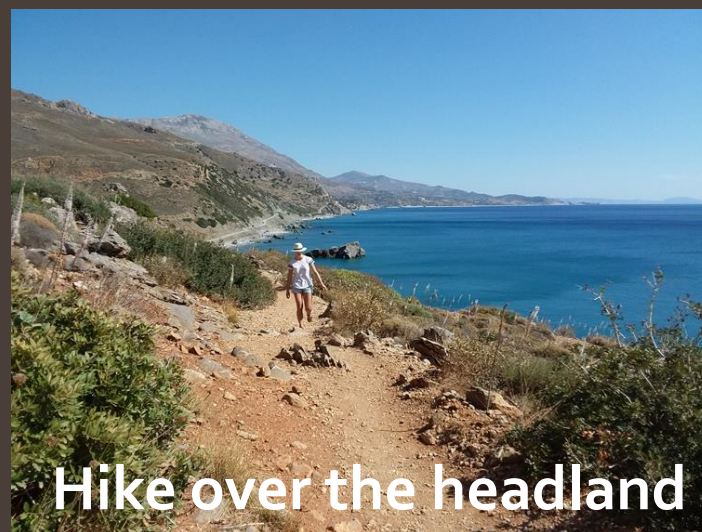
Measure distance





The end of Day 10

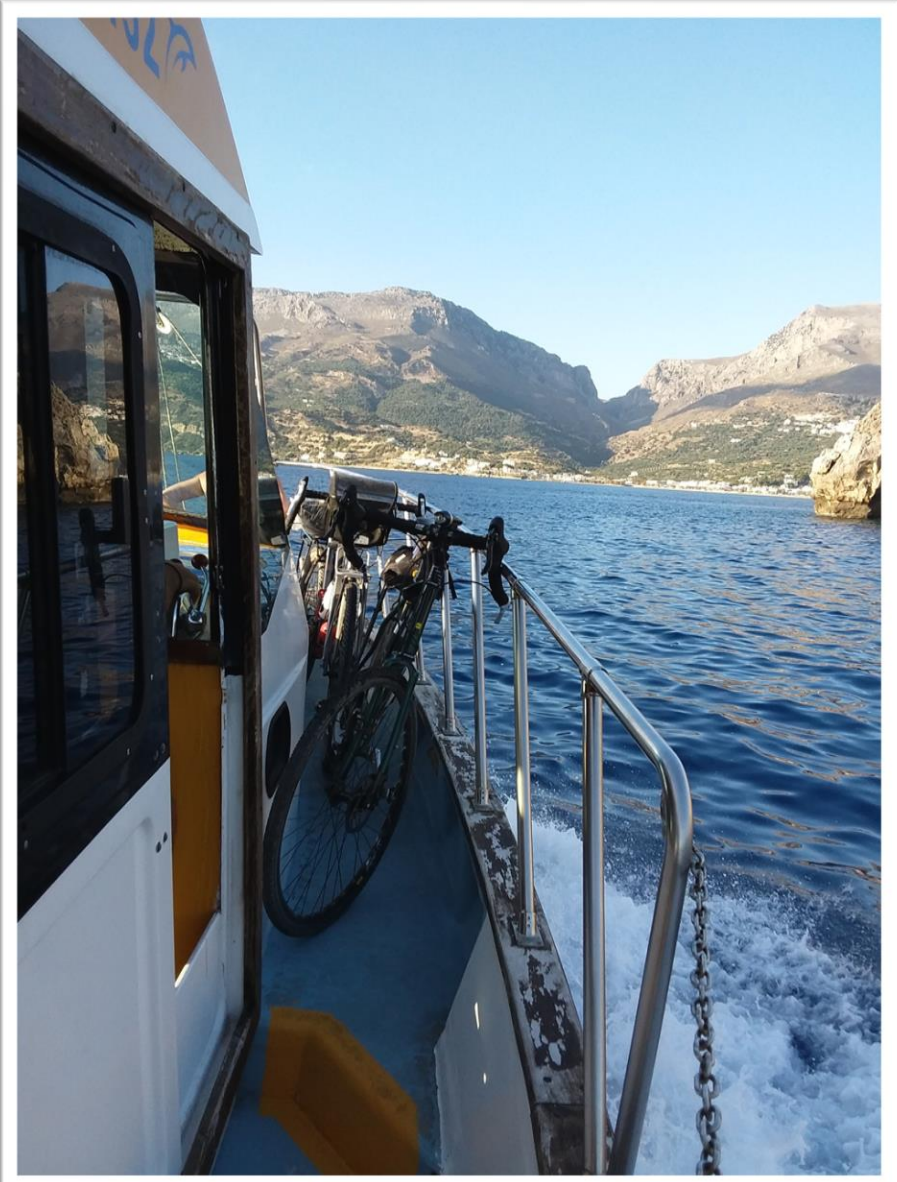
Preveli Beach



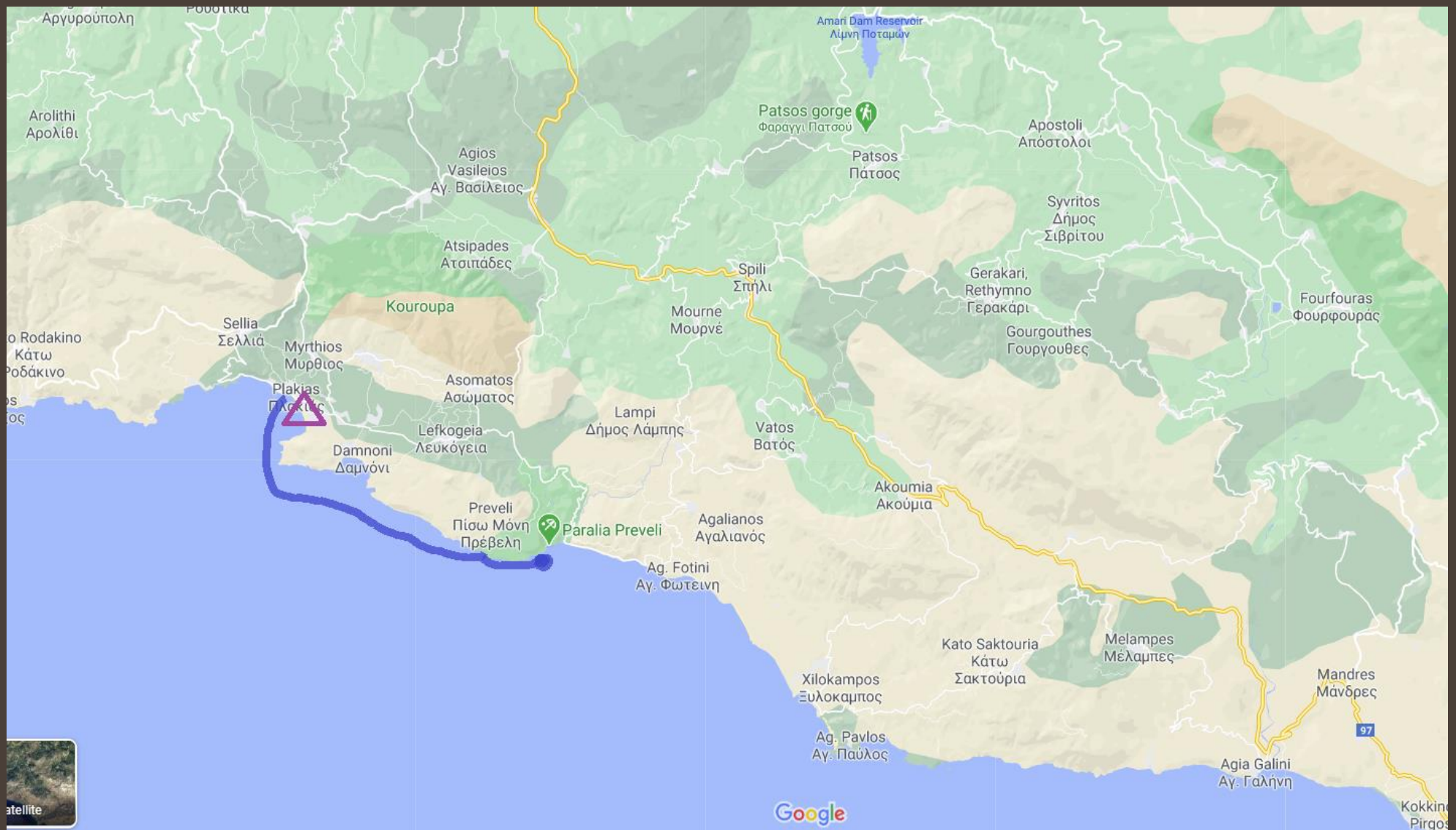
Hike over the headland







Saved by a boat



“Cycling” Day 11 Cheating

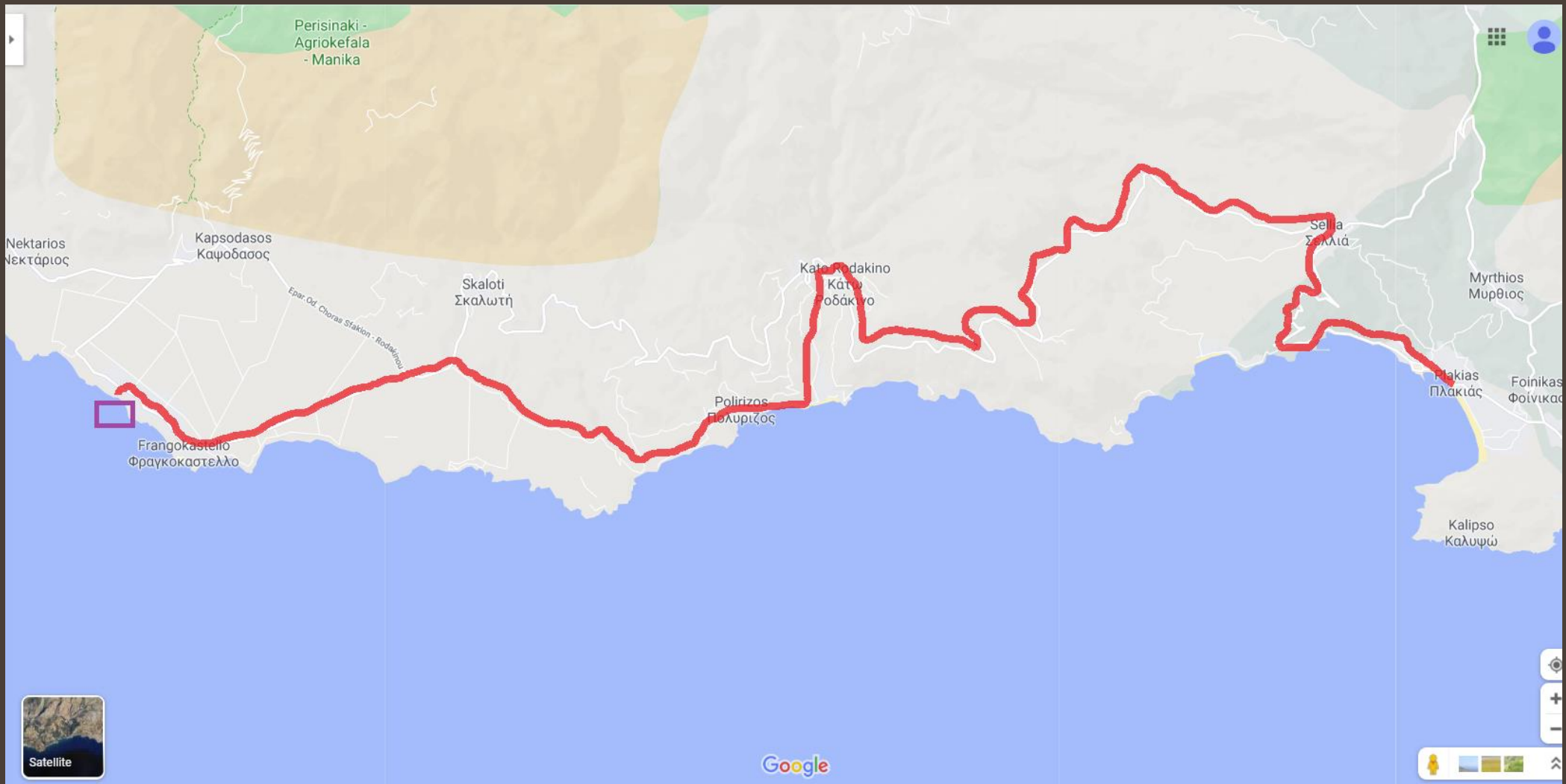
Oct 8th Thanksgiving Day



Raki

Crete's
symbol of
friendship and
hospitality





Cycling Day 12 Character-Building! 29 km

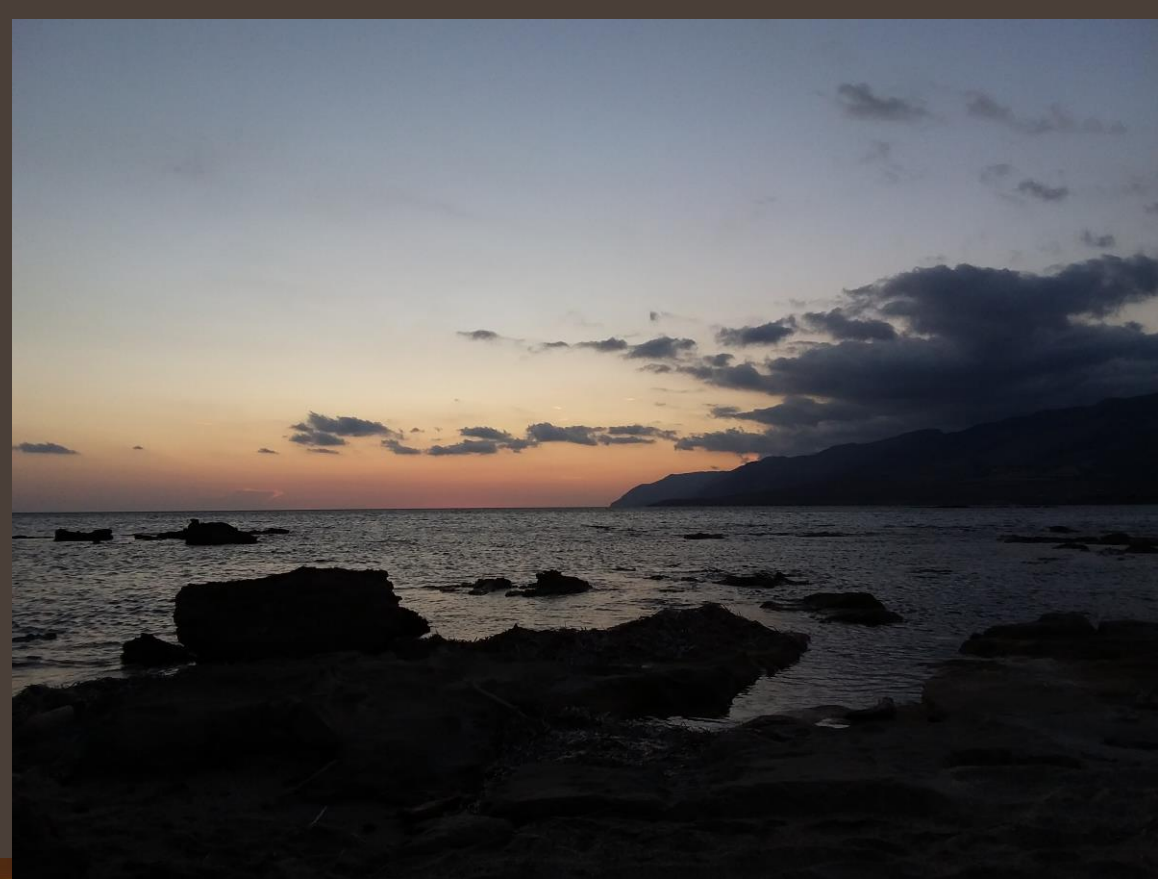


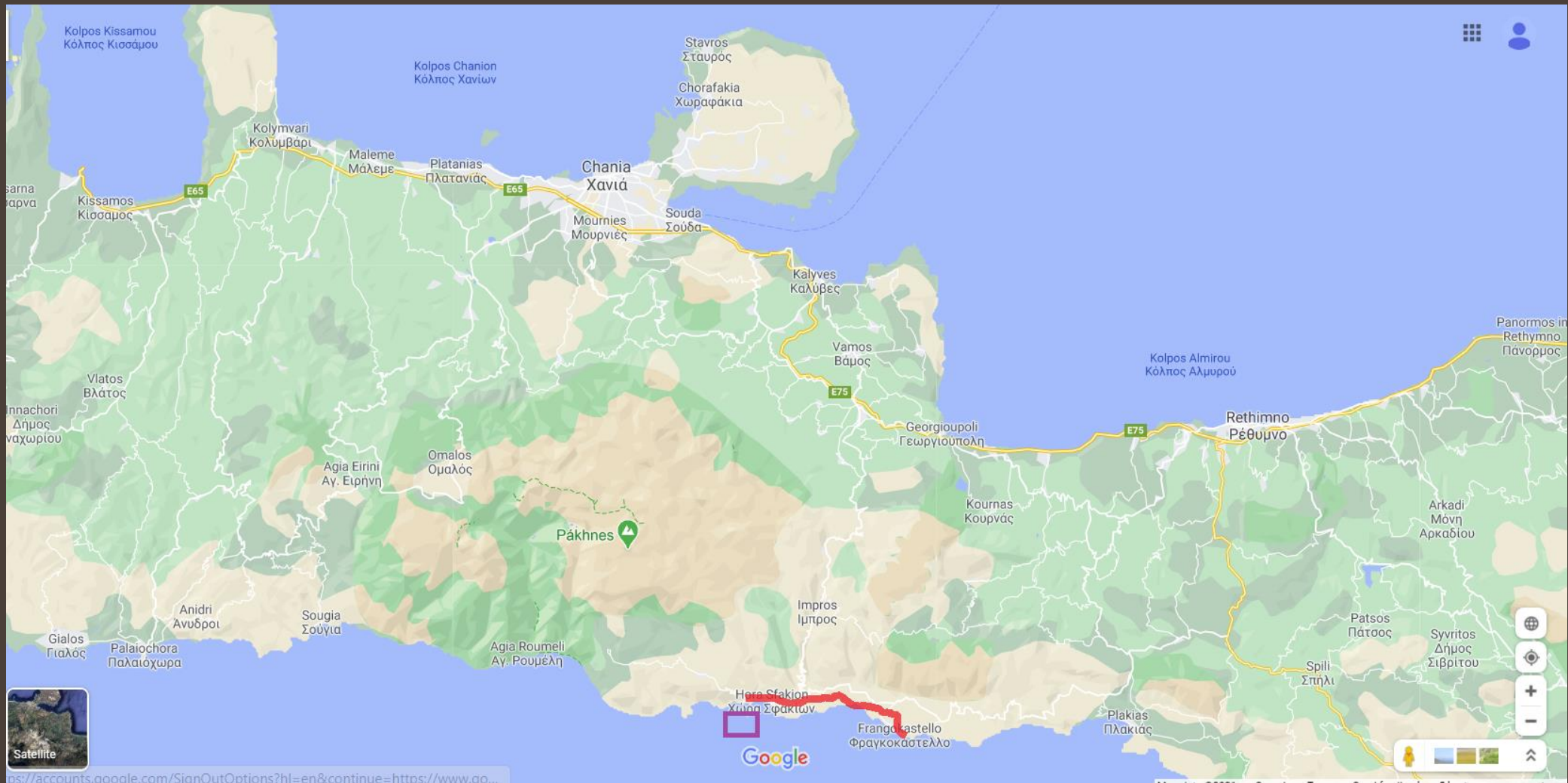
Leaving Plakias







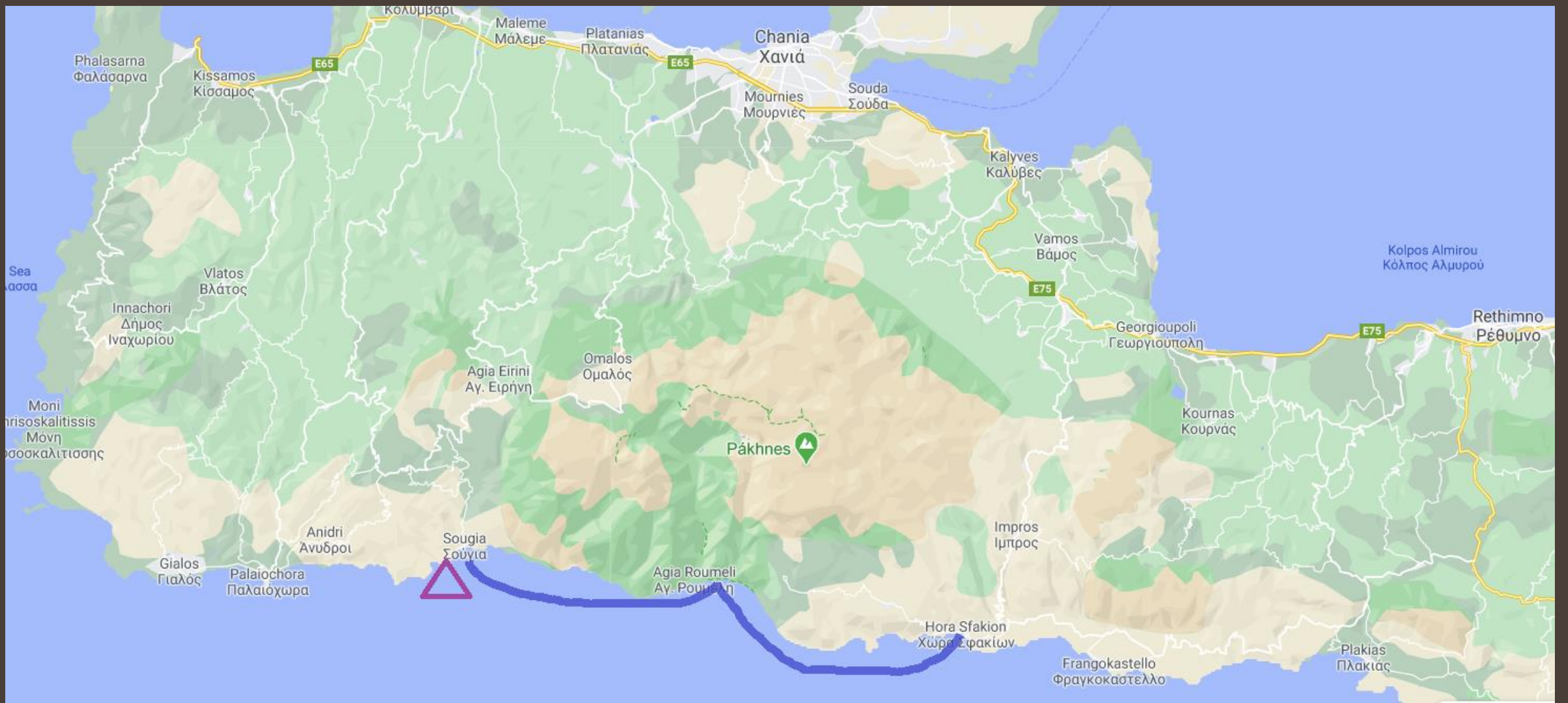




Cycling Day 13

Short ride to Hora Sfakion

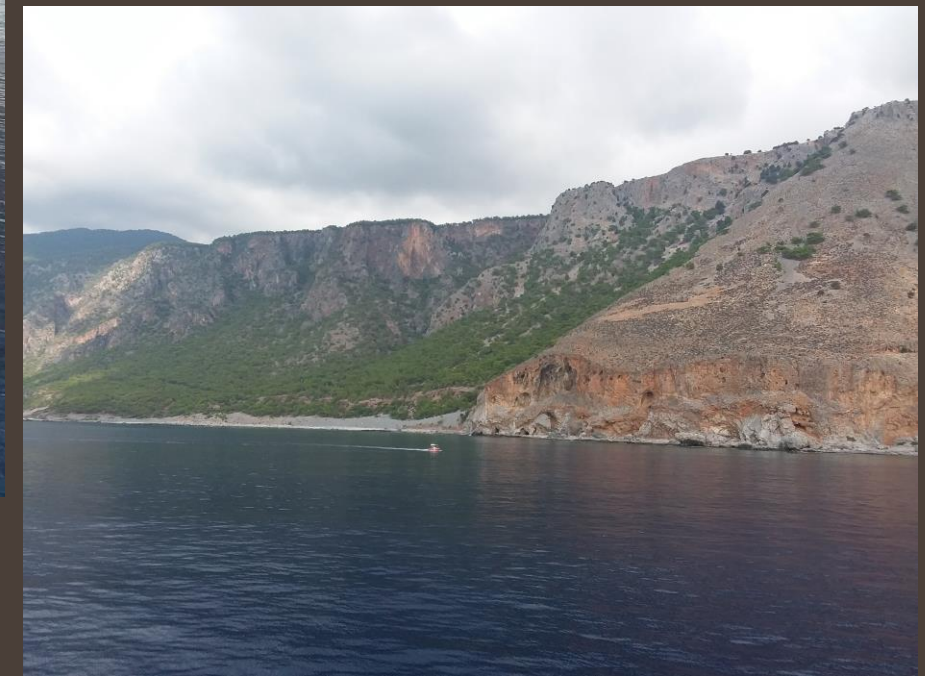
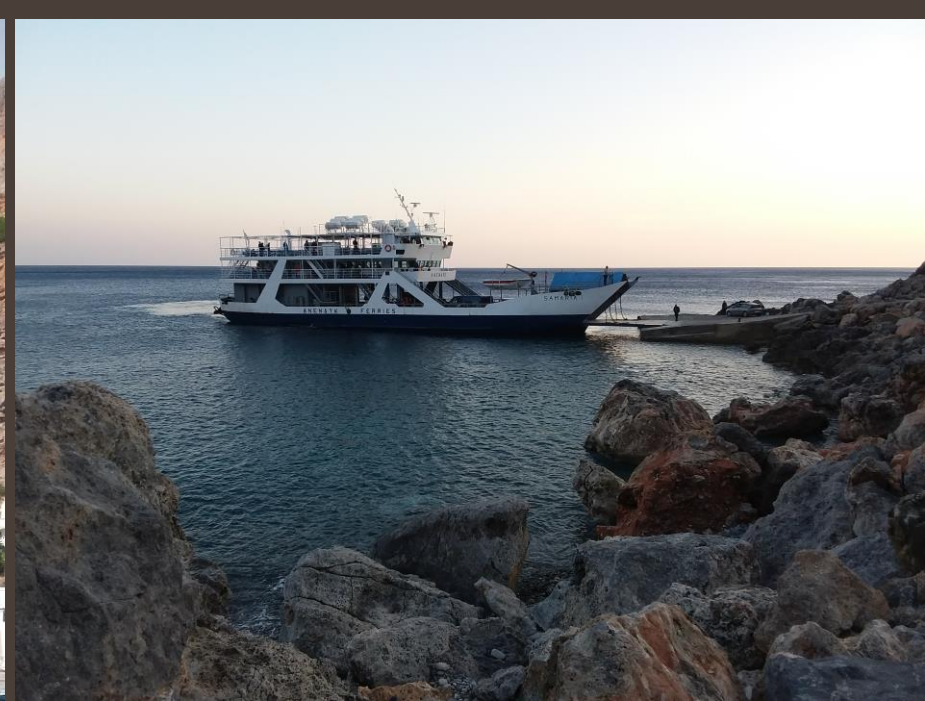
15 km



“Cycling” Day 14 Boat and Beach camping

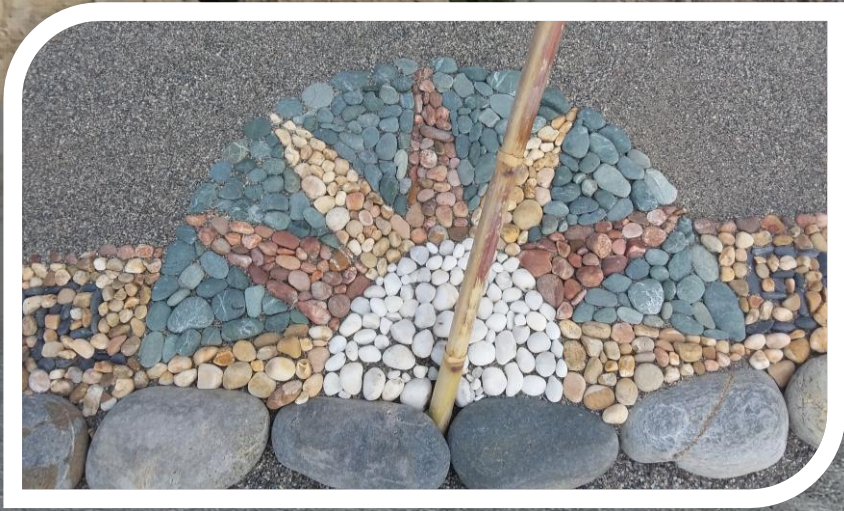


The village of Loutro





Beach camping at Sougia









Hiking to Lissos





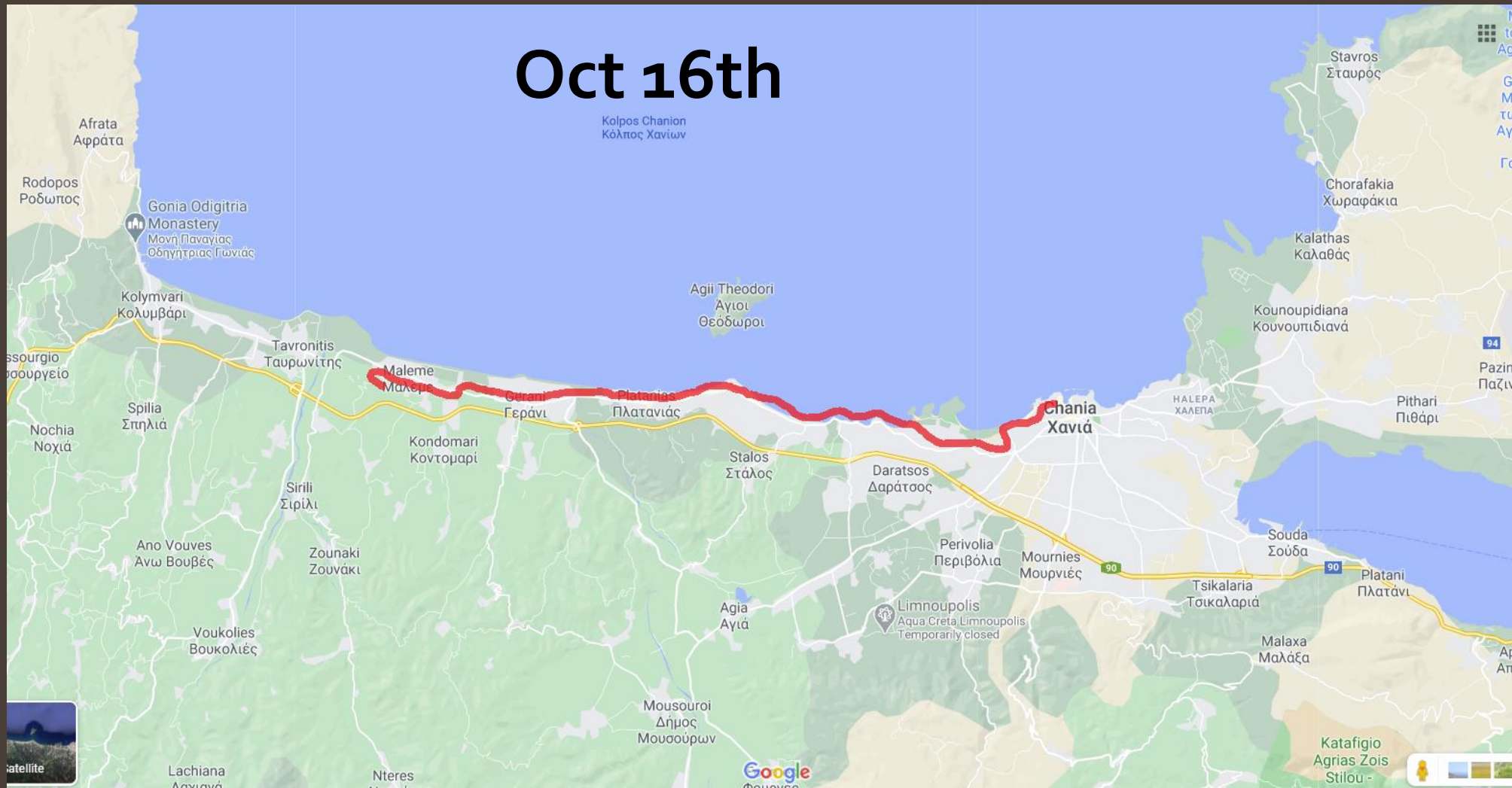
Cycling Day 15

South to north

66 km



Oct 16th



Cycling Day 16 History and Remembrance 40 km

German Military Cemetery at Maleme

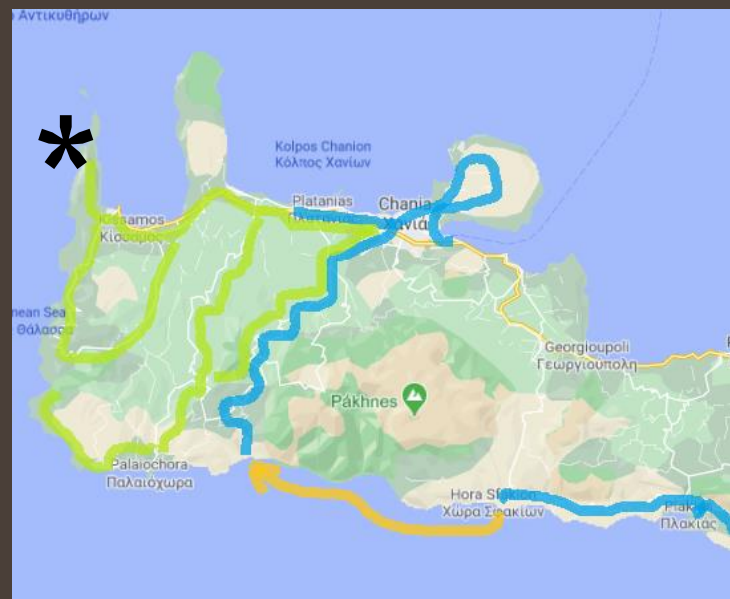


Chania



10 Days of Family time touring western Crete

Balos Beach





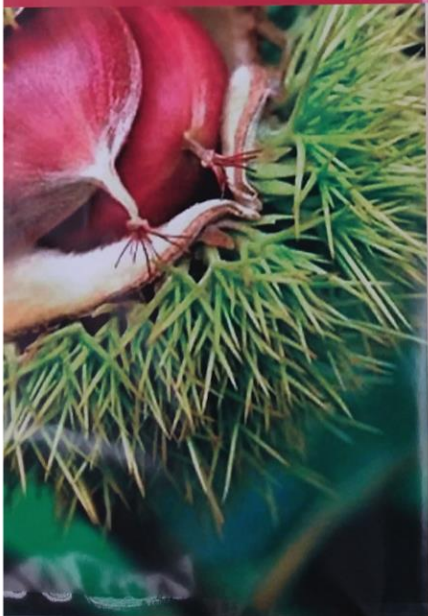
Δήμος
Κισσαίου

Γιορτή Καστανίου



Έλος Κισσαίου

20 & 21 ΟΚΤΩΒΡΙΟΥ 2018



• ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ 20/10 ΩΡΑ 17.30

ΑΙΘΟΥΣΑ ΠΡΩΗΝ ΔΗΜΑΡΧΕΙΟΥ ΙΝΝΑΧΩΡΙΟΥ

- ΕΣΠΕΡΙΔΑ: "ΤΑ ΤΟΠΙΚΑ ΠΡΟΪΟΝΤΑ ΚΑΙ Η ΟΙΚΟΤΕΧΝΙΑ ΩΣ ΔΥΝΑΜΙΚΗ ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΗΣ ΤΗΣ ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΤΗΣ ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΑΣ"

- ΠΑΡΟΥΣΙΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΑΔΟΣΙΑΚΩΝ ΦΑΓΗΤΩΝ ΜΕ ΚΑΣΤΑΝΟ

- ΤΡΑΓΟΥΔΙΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΗ ΦΙΛΑΡΜΟΝΙΚΗ ΙΜΚΣ ΤΟΥ ΔΗΜΟΥ ΚΙΣΣΑΜΟΥ

• ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ 21/10 ΩΡΑ 12.00

ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΗ ΠΛΑΤΕΙΑ ΕΛΟΥΣ

- ΟΜΙΛΙΑ: ΔΙΑΤΡΟΦΙΚΗ ΑΞΙΑ ΚΑΣΤΑΝΟΥ

- ΘΕΑΤΡΙΚΟ ΔΡΩΜΕΝΟ ΑΠΟ ΤΟ ΔΗΜΟΤΙΚΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ ΕΛΟΥΣ

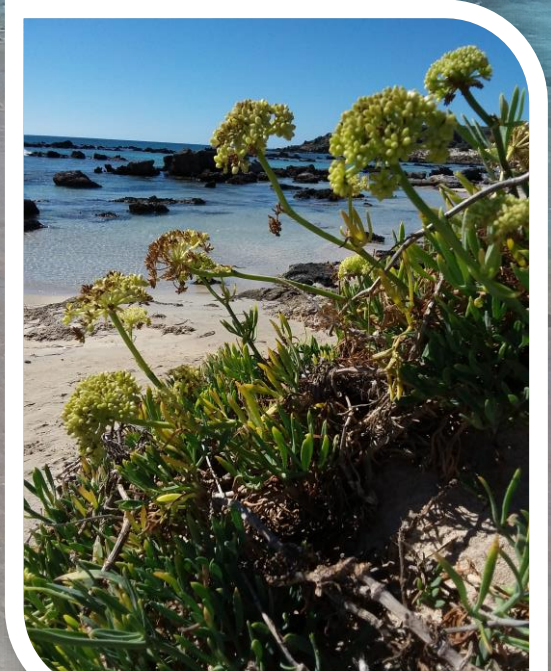
- ΡΙΖΙΤΙΚΑ ΤΡΑΓΟΥΔΙΑ

- ΠΑΡΑΔΟΣΙΑΚΟΙ ΧΟΡΟΙ ΑΠΟ ΚΡΗΤΙΚΑ ΣΥΓΚΡΟΤΗΜΑΤΑ

ΕΙΣΟΔΟΣ ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΗ



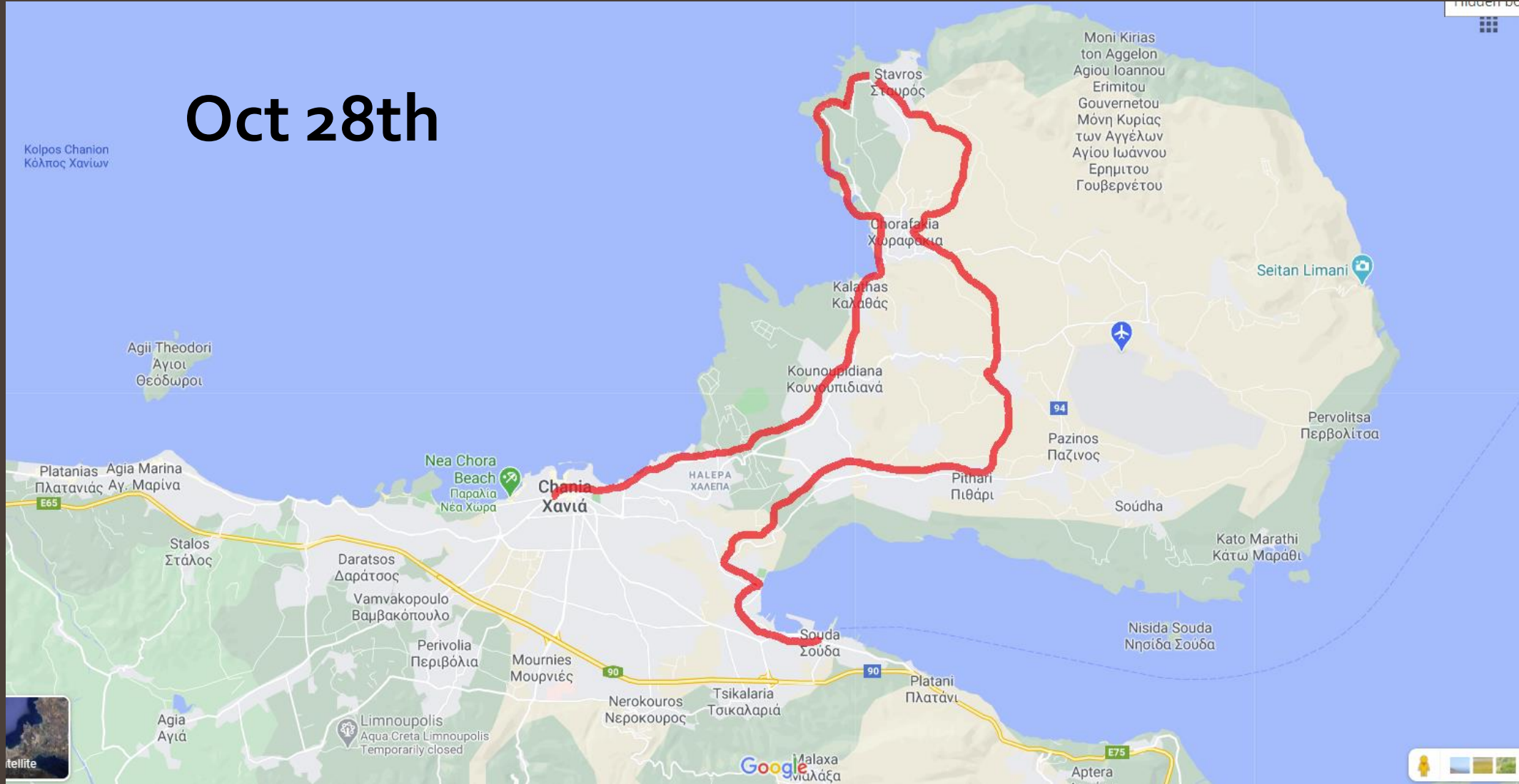
Elos Chestnut Festival



Elafonisi

Oct 28th

Κόλπος Χανίων
Kólpōs Chaníōn



Day 17 Going out in style! 46 km



Stavros and scene from "Zorba the Greek"





The Raki Party





332935 CORPORAL
F. BEASLEY
 THE MANCHESTER REGIMENT
 199 TRENCH MORTAR COMPANY
 DIED 17 JUNE 1941 AGE 22

18th Bn., New Zealand Infantry, 25 May 1941. Age 22. Son of Catherine Jamieson (nee King), of Auckland.
 21st Bn., Australian Infantry, 26 May 1941. Age 22. Son of Albert S. Jarvis and Florence, of Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand.
 28th Bn., Australian Infantry, 21 May 1941. Age 22. Son of Victoria Violet Emma Jennens, of Glamorgan. Grave Ref. Sp.
 20th Bn., New Zealand Infantry, 20 June 1941. Age 22. Son of Auckland City, New Zealand.
 26 May 1941. Age 22. Son of Queensland, Australia.

Canterbury, New Zealand. Grave Ref. Sp. Mem. 11. B. 3.
JOHNSTON, Private, ALAN GEORGE, 3178, 18th Bn., New Zealand Infantry, 25 May 1941. Age 21. Son of Frederick and Alison Emily Johnston, of Hamilton, Auckland, New Zealand. Grave Ref. 12. A. 14.
JOHNSTON, Gunner, ROBERT, 1463566, 154 Bty., 52 Lt. A.A. Regt., Royal Artillery, 2 June 1941. Age 26. Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Jones, of Darwen, Lancashire. Grave Ref. 7. D. 1.
JOLLY, Lance Corporal, ARTHUR CAMPBELL, 6896841, 9th (1st Bn. The Rangers) Bn., King's Royal Rifle Corps, 27 May 1941. Age 24. Grave Ref. 4. C. 2.
JONES, Gunner, STANLEY NORMAN, 21057, 5 Field Regt., New Zealand Artillery, 29 May 1941. Age 21. Son of Idris Stanley and Ivie Winifred Jones, of Wangarua, Wellington, New Zealand. Grave Ref. 6. E. 4.
JONES-PARRY, Captain, IVAN, 170462, Mentioned in Despatches, Cheshire Regiment, 22 July 1946. Age 26. Son of William and Margaret Jones-Parry, of Pen-y-Grates, Cheshire. Grave Ref. 14. C. 1.
JORDAN, Lance Corporal, ARTHUR LEONARD, 2735, 18th Bn., New Zealand Infantry, 2 June 1941. Age 35. Son of John Jordan and of Rose Jordan (nee Tindall), of Wood Green, Middlesex, England. Grave Ref. 2. B. 9.
JOSSE, Deck Hand, KENNETH S.S. Logistician (Liverpool), Merchant Navy, 16 May 1941. Age 16. Grave Ref. Sp. Mem. 9. B. 14.
KAIN, Sergeant, BRYAN WOLSEY, 7406, 27th, New Zealand Machine Gun Battalion, 28 May 1941. Age 28. Son of Wolsey and Hilda Kain, of Winchester, Canterbury, New Zealand. Grave Ref. 12. B. 6.
KARORA, Private, TERE, 39668, 28th (Maori) Bn., New Zealand Infantry, 25 May 1941. Age 26. Son of Joe and Mary Poi Karora, of Whirinaki, Auckland, New Zealand. Grave Ref. 15. E. 17.
KATENE, Private, TAKA, 39368, 28th (Maori) Bn., New Zealand Infantry, 21 May 1941. Age 22. Grave Ref. 15. D. 6.
KEANE, Private, HAROLD GEORGE DONALD, 2598, 18th Bn., New Zealand Infantry, 2 June 1941. Age 28. Son of James and Emma Maria Keane, of Papatoetoe, Auckland, New Zealand. Grave Ref. 12. A. 17.
KEEBLE, Private, EDWARD JOHN (TED), 5132, 19th Bn., New Zealand Infantry, 26 May 1941. Age 23. Son of William Edward Keeble and of Emily Keeble (nee Marshall), Marton, Wellington, New Zealand. Grave Ref. 6. E. 7.
KELLY, Private, HILTON FRANCIS, NX7690, A.I.F., 2/1 Bn., Australian Infantry, 20 May 1941. Age 23. Son of James and Mary Kelly, of Lithgow, New South Wales, Australia. Grave Ref. 1. C. 10.
KELLY, Corporal, JOHN, NX3877, A.I.F., 2/1 Bn., Australian Infantry, 22 May 1941. Age 23. Son of Robert and Mary Kelly, of Lithgow, New South Wales, Australia. Grave Ref. 1. C. 10.



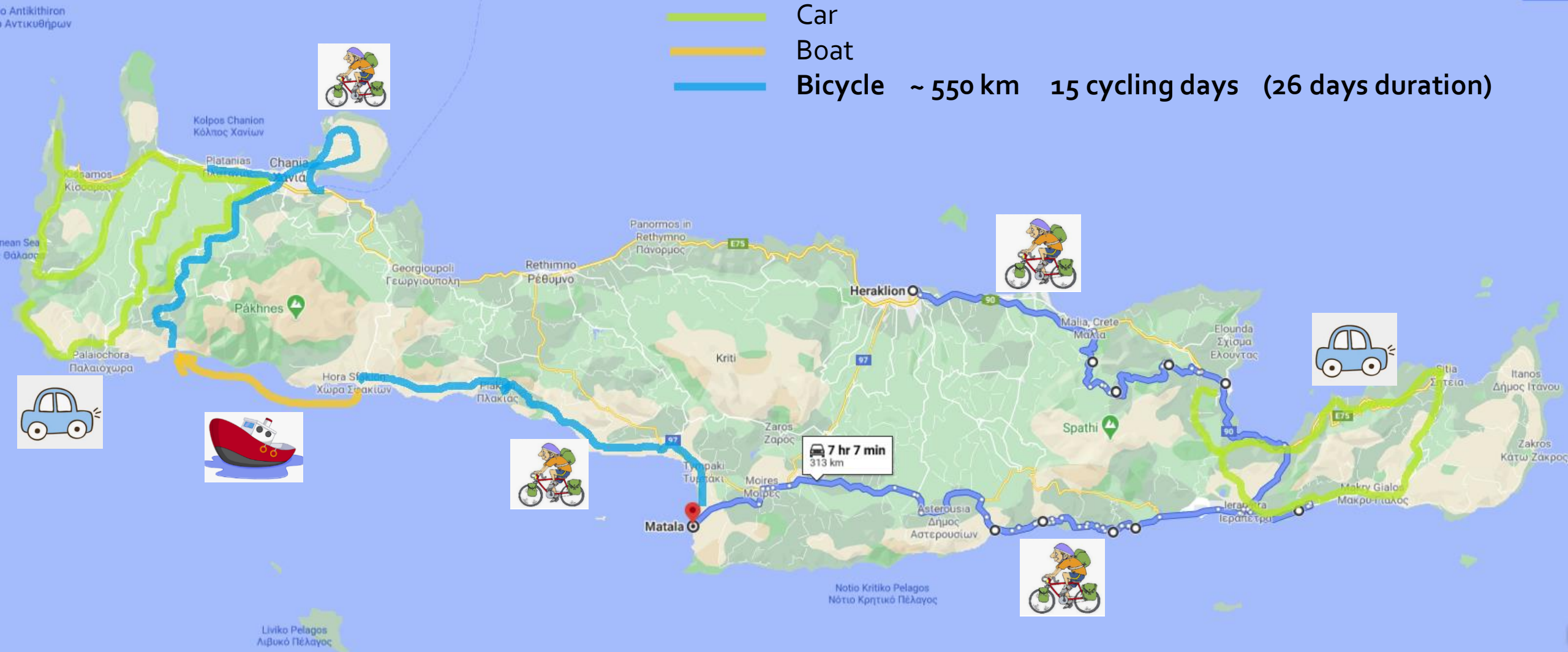
Souda Cemetery





Sign in

-  Car
-  Boat
-  Bicycle ~ 550 km 15 cycling days (26 days duration)



Our routes

Camping

Average price 16-20 euros for 1 tent and 2 adults
(open ~ May 1 – Oct 31)



Chania Campground



Matala



Kitchen and dining area in Koutsounari



Koutsounari campground





Camping No Problem, Agia Roumeli



Camping Apollonia, Plakias

Crete Weather

Heraklion - Average temperatures						
Month	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Mean (°C)	Min (°F)	Max (°F)	Mean (°F)
January	9	16	12.5	48	61	54.5
February	9	16	12.5	48	61	54.5
March	10	17	13.5	50	63	56.3
April	12	20	16	54	68	60.8
May	15	23	19	59	73	66.2
June	19	27	23	66	81	73.4
July	21	29	25	70	84	77
August	22	29	25.5	72	84	77.9
September	19	27	23	66	81	73.4
October	16	24	20	61	75	68
November	14	21	17.5	57	70	63.5
December	11	18	14.5	52	64	58.1
Year	14.8	22.3	18.5	58.6	72.1	65.5

Heraklion - Sea temperature		
Month	Celsius (°C)	Fahrenheit (°F)
January	16	61
February	15	59
March	15	59
April	16	61
May	19	66
June	22	72
July	24	75
August	25	77
September	24	75
October	22	72
November	20	68
December	18	64
Year	19.7	67.5

LINKS

[Sisi camping](#)

[Chania Camping](#)

[Camping Koutsounari](#)

[Camping No problem, Agia Gallini](#)

[Greek Travel Pages](#) good for planning ferry routes

[Santorinidave.com](#) Great website about Greek ferries

[Ferryhopper](#) One of the best websites for ferry info and booking

Daphne's YouTube Videos

[Cycle Touring Crete and a Taste of Santorini](#) Episode 1

[Cycle Touring Crete](#) Episode 2