



## Tour Name

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Crete from Gorge to Gulf

## Tour City

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Crete

## Tour Snapshot

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Be prepared to fall in love with Crete! You will hike, swim, eat, and cruise your way around the island during this action-packed day. Soak up awe-inspiring scenery, eat traditional Cretan food, and explore old fortresses on the tiny island of Spinalonga. This is the best of the Cretan countryside all in one day!

### Highlights

- Hike through one of the prettiest gorges on the island with a local guide who knows the way
- Hop on a speedboat to explore a Venetian fortress island in the Gulf of Elounda
- Learn the art of making traditional Greek *dolmades* and eat the fruits of your labours during a traditional Greek lunch
- Taste some of the best olive oil or 'green gold' as locals call it, at a local olive farm

Inclusions: Local English-speaking guide, roundtrip transportation via private 4x4 vehicle, speedboat ride with professional driver, olive oil tasting, dolmades, traditional Greek lunch (seasonal dishes), 1 glass of wine and shots of raki (a local spirit),

coffee, water, and refreshments (iced tea, seasonal fruits, energy snacks).

Exclusions: Entrance ticket to Spinalonga archaeological site (EUR 8), additional food and drinks, souvenirs or personal shopping, tips/gratuities for your guide and driver.

### Schedule details

- Duration: 7 hours
- Meeting point:
  - Plaka: At 9:15am at the Agia Marina church, next to the Blue Palace hotel. [View map](#)
  - Elounda: At 9:25am at the square and roundabout at the church side. [View map](#)
  - Agios Nikolaos: At 9:45am at the bridge in front of the tourist information office. [View map](#)
- Find the exact meeting point with what3words: [///centuries.foamed.refills](https://www.what3words.com/centuries.foamed.refills)
- Starting time: 9.15 AM-9.45 AM
- Ending point:
  - Same as meeting point.

### Full Itinerary

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Your immersion into the heart of Cretan life begins with a drive away from the coast, through lush olive groves and ancient woodlands. Our first stop will be the traditional village of Kritsa, the gateway to the stunning Kritsa Gorge.

Kritsa Gorge isn't as well-known as other gorges on the island but it is just as beautiful, if not more so because the peace and tranquillity of the place is rarely disturbed by large groups of tourists being herded through it.

The entrance to the gorge is spectacular, almost as if the mountain has been torn in two. Following the old donkey path, we will reach the middle of the gorge, a valley full of olive groves. The trail is approximately four kilometres long and is relatively easy apart from one or two boulders to climb over.

The gorge ends at an ancient Minoan path, which we will follow past shepherd huts and fields. From here we will take a drive

out to a traditional Cretan olive oil farm. Our hosts will show you around the farm, sharing their knowledge of the green gold, including how to cultivate it and what to look for when tasting different varieties. We will finish with a tasting accompanied by some delicious local wine.

Next you will learn the secrets of making one of the most famous and beloved dishes in all of Greece, *dolmades* (vine leaves stuffed with rice). Enjoy your culinary creations alongside a traditional and delicious Greek lunch of salads, tzatziki, *dako* (rusks with dressing), and other small seasonal plates, with a glass of wine or shot of local *raki*, of course.

With our bellies full, we will leave for the village of Plaka where speedboats will be waiting to whisk you off to the fortress island of Spinalonga, located in the Gulf of Elounda.

Here you will have time to wander around by yourself and discover the turbulent history of this tiny islet; conquered by the Venetians in the 16th century, the ancient fortifications were built to act as first line of defence in the ferocious wars with the Ottoman Turks.

After an hour, our speedboat will pick you up and take you for a refreshing spin around Spinalonga. If you feel the need to cool off, jump in for a swim at Spinalonga or at the beach in Plaka village, where we board the boat. (There are cabins there for you to change into your swimwear.)

After all that fun in the sun, your speedboat will escort you back to your start point. But before you say goodbye, talk to your in-the-know local guide if you want the inside track on where to eat, drink, and visit during the rest of your stay on magical Crete.

*Note that we also offer this experience as a private tour. For private tours, we will pick you up at your hotel in Plaka, Elounda, Agios Nikolaos, Kritsa, or Kalo Xorio. Please indicate at the time of booking where you will be staying; if you don't have your hotel yet, you can email us later at [info@creteurbanadventures.com](mailto:info@creteurbanadventures.com).*

### **Additional information**

**Inclusions:** Local English-speaking guide, roundtrip transportation via private 4x4 vehicle, speedboat ride with professional driver, olive oil tasting, dolmades, traditional Greek lunch (seasonal dishes), 1 glass of wine and shots of raki (a local spirit), coffee, water, and refreshments (iced tea, seasonal fruits, energy snacks).

**Exclusions:** Entrance ticket to Spinalonga archaeological site (EUR 8), additional food and drinks, souvenirs or personal shopping, tips/gratuities for your guide and driver.

**Dress standard:** Please wear comfortable shoes for walking, and bring a hat and sunscreen in the summer months.

**Your Trip:** For your Urban Adventure you will be in a small group of a maximum of 4 people.

**Confirmation of booking:** If you have your voucher, your booking is confirmed. We'll see you at the start point. Get in touch if you

have any concerns or require more information via the email address or phone number (business hours only) on your voucher.

Child Policy: This is a child-friendly tour. Children between the ages of 6 and 11 inclusively are permitted on this tour at the rate listed above. Please select 'child' above when booking. Children under the age of 6 are not permitted to join this tour.

### **Dietary Notes**

This tour can be customised to cater for vegetarian/vegan and gluten-free customers. Please notify us in advance if you have any allergies or dietary restrictions. You can do so in the 'Additional Information' box at checkout, or by emailing us at [info@creteurbanadventures.com](mailto:info@creteurbanadventures.com).

### **Local contact**

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