

Dear friends,

After the extremely successful organization of the 3rd Alternative Tourism and Experiences Festival - 260Kmemories, the Municipality of Chania continues the actions that aim to highlight and promote the hinterland as well as the alternative experiences that locals and visitors can experience in our country.

We invite you to participate and gain unique experiences!!!

- A. Saturday 31 May 2025 Astronomy Trail of Drakona, Keramia
 - B. Sunday 1 June 2025 Diktamos Gorge
- C. Saturday 7 June 2025 Chania Trail Event in Nerokourou

(Info below)



A. Saturday, May 31, 2025 - Astropath of Drakona, Keramia

The Astropath of the Municipality of Chania, "welcomes" adventure lovers again, on a unique hiking & stargazing route. The Astropath, designed and implemented in 2023 by the Municipality of Chania in collaboration with the Crete Astronomy Friends Clyb, is located in the area of Drakona, Keramia, Chania and is a passable, circular walking route at an altitude of 1,000 meters. It is an idyllic hiking & stargazing route, where one has the opportunity to observe the starry sky and photograph the constellations, in an area with extremely low levels of light pollution.

The route we will follow this year will be more accessible as we will start from Drakona's Square and will ascend from asphalt and a passable dirt road to the an altitude of 1000m. Four (4) points - stargazing stops, star charts and information in Greek and English, are met during our walk and are there to make it easier to locate the major constellations, such as Ursa Minor and Ursa Major, Cassiopeia and Draco. Afterwards, we will return by the same route back to Drakona's Square, where the local Cultural Association of will provide a traditional treat.

PROGRAM SATURDAY 31/5/2025

16:30 BUS DEPARTURE FROM CENTRAL BUS STATION https://maps.app.goo.gl/JLZziYoYZAmNUpUR9

17:30 MEETING-INFORMATION AT DRAKONA'S SQUARE https://maps.app.goo.gl/ameWbfEFek3XSskj6

17:45 DEPARTURE - Ascent to "THE TOP OF THE DISK" (EL. 1000m)

19:15 ARRIVAL AT "THE TOP OF THE DISK" https://maps.app.goo.gl/Xa4akrucVG3Rehfz5

19:45 DEPARTURE - Descent to the STARGAZING stations

21:45 RETURN TO DRAKONA'S SQUARE

22:45 BUS DEPARTURE TO CENTRAL BUS STATION

FREE REGISTRATION AT: 28213-41626, 6937247929, entoukakis@chania.gr



B. Sunday, June 1, 2025 - Diktamos Gorge

The Diktamos Gorge is a relatively accessible but also special gorge, as it is one of the few on the island that does not have a north-south direction. Its entrance is located near the village of Katochori in Keramia, 21 kilometers south of Chania and at an altitude of approximately 300m, and ends in the village of Stylos in the province of Apokoronas (17km from Chania and at an altitude of 40m), i.e. in a west to east direction. It is lushly green along its entire route with many species of typical Cretan flora and impressive plane trees, offering a pleasant and idyllic nature-loving experience. The gorge is also called Stylos Gorge or Katechori Gorge, from the villages it connects, but its most common name is from the well-known Cretan herb DIKTAMOS, which grows high along its sides.

We will gather at the square in Katochori, Keramia where there will be an "energy treat" from the Katochori Cultural Association. Then we will enter the gorge from the village and reach the halfway point. Then we will return to Katochori, collecting waste along the way and cleaning the gorge.

PROGRAM SUNDAY 1/6/2025

08:00 MEETING – INFORMATION AT KATACHORI'S SQUARE - "ENERGY" TREAT FROM THE CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF KATACHORI https://maps.app.goo.gl/QUR94cXicPWqpXiy6

08:30 DEPARTURE - ENTRANCE TO THE DIKTAMOS GORGE

10:15 ARRIVAL AT THE HALF OF THE ROUTE - REST STOP

10:30 DEPARTURE TO KATACHORIOS KERAMIA AND CLEANING OF THE GORGE

12:30 RETURN TO THE SQUARE OF KATACHORIOS KERAMIA

FREE REGISTRATION AT: 28213-41626, 6937247929, entoukakis@chania.gr

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C. Saturday, June 7, 2025 - Chania Trail Event in Nerokourou

In 2024, the Municipality of Chania and the Mountain Running Athletic Association "Arkalos", created in Nerokourou, Chania two introductory races in mountain running:

- the Rafioli Run & Fun with 6.3Km and +340m of positive elevation, without technical difficulties for beginner runners who want to try running on a trail as well as on a dirt road!
- the Malaxa Ups & Downs with 11Km and +560 positive elevation for slightly more experienced runners

as well as two children's races.

This year the Chania Trail Event is being held for the 2nd year and participation for athletes under 18 years old is free on any route they choose! The children's races are free and no registration is required. Afterwards there will be a souvlaki & Charma beer party!!!

17:30 Start of the Malaxa Ups & Downs 11km +560m race

18:00 Start of the Rafioli Run & Fun race

19:30 Children's Race for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Grade Primary School Students 800m

19:45 Children's Race for 4th, 5th, 6th Grade Primary School Students 1100m

20:00 Souvlaki and Charma Beer Party

20:30 Awards

(The race secretariat will be open from 16:00 noon for bib collection. Access to the start area will be from here:

https://maps.app.goo.gl/U7gZLMhieDgLXSUa7

INFORMATION - REGISTRATION AT: www.arkalos.gr

Please forward it to your friends and colleagues who may be interested.

We look forward to seeing you!