



villa Helios · villa Thalassa

Almyrida, Crete, Greece



Dear guests!

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Almyrida soon!

In the following pages you can find the driving directions from the airport to your villa in Almyrida.

You will find the keys in the small key-safe that is placed at the wall in the arched terrace area at the right of the house door. The combination to the key-safe has been sent to you by Email. Please leave the key in this safe before your departure.

The maid will visit mid-week after 10:30 to sweep and mop, clean the bathrooms and change the towels. The pool will also be maintained on the same day. Since we have second keys to the villa, you do not have to be present.

Check-in is possible after 14:00 and check-out before 10:00.

Please note that we provide bed-linen, hand and bath towels but no beach or pool towels.

Please note that the roof-terrace is not part of the rented property and the access to it is not allowed for safety reasons.

In case of any problems during your stay (related to the villa or not) you can contact David, our house manager, at +30 69 4555 2980 (or us at +30 69 79 388 778).

With kind regards,

Anna and Steffen



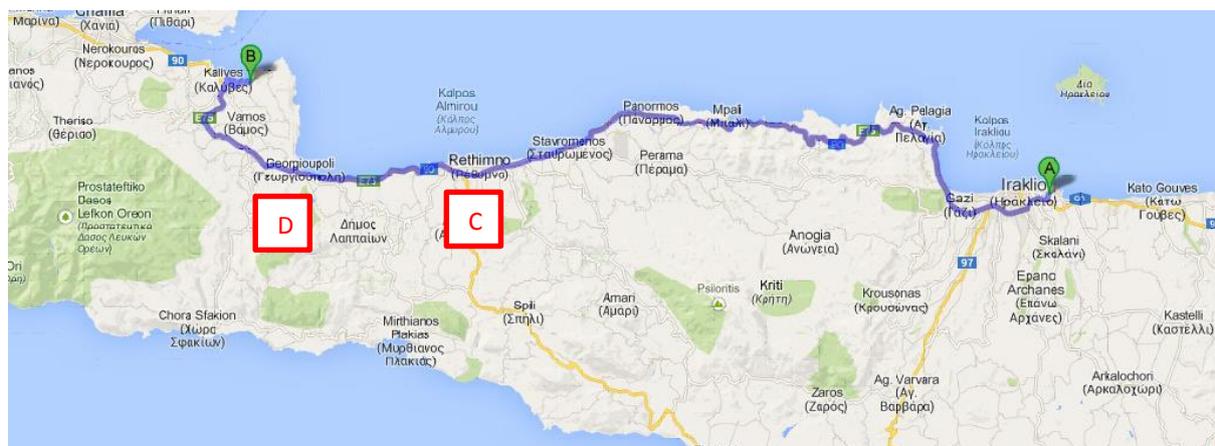
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Directions from the airport Heraklion!

The airport of Heraklion, is about 135 km away from Almyrida, an easy 2 h drive with gorgeous views. Enjoy it, but please drive carefully, since the roads and the driving style in Crete are probably different from what you are used to!



Before you start, remember to reset the car's trip meter to zero (A).

There are two roads that lead out of the airport area. One runs parallel and another vertical to the airport building. You have to take the latter. After about 300-400 m you turn right (B), entering the National Road (highway) marked by green traffic signs, in the direction to Heraklion/Rethymnon.

For the next 120 km you drive just straight on, following the National Road. The general direction is to the west, with the mountains at your left side. Soon after leaving Heraklion behind you, you will see the sea at your right side. Most of the journey is along the northern coast-line of the island.

After passing the small city of Rethymnon (C, your trip meter showing 70 to 80 km) and the touristic region of Georgioupolis (D), the road turns inland. The landscape changes, with high eucalyptus and pine trees on both sides of the road. You are now in the Apokoronas region!



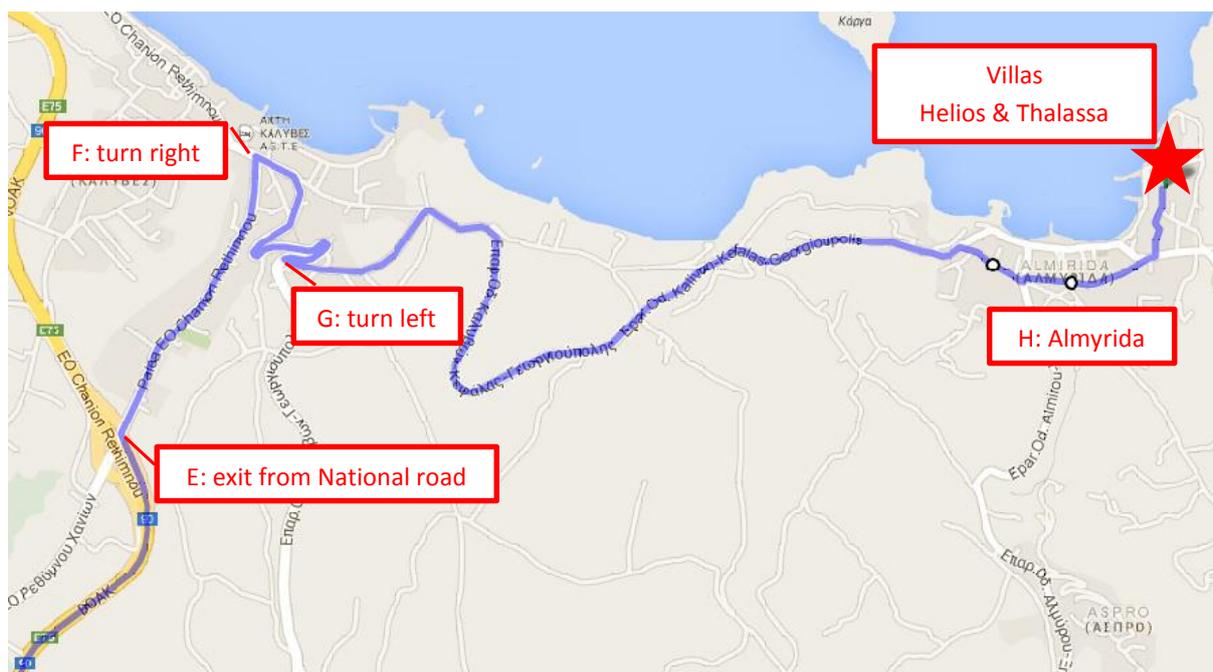


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You continue following the National Road and soon you will see the sea again. A short time later you will see your exit (E, trip meter at around 110 kms). It is marked 'Καλύβες' in greek, and 'Kalives' with latin characters.



Entering the village of Kalyves you have to drive slowly, because there are pedestrians, including children and old people walking on the street and practically no side-walks.

You just drive straight on, until you can either turn right or left (F). Turn right and follow the main street, a road full of sharp curves which leads you uphill.

There is a last junction (G) with the possibility to go straight ahead to 'Vamos, Tsivaras' (Βάμος, Τσιβαράς) or left to 'Almyrida, Plaka' (Αλμυρίδα, Πλάκα). Turn left and after ca. 3 km you enter the village of Almyrida (H).



Detailed instructions for Almyrida!

You enter Almyrida through point A. Do not follow the road along the coast, but turn right at the first opportunity. Follow the road until you reach a crossroads **(1)**. Here you will see two roads going straight on: please take the left road. You will cross a bridge at point **(2)**. At the end of the village turn left into a narrow road which leads up the hill **(3)** towards Pegasus Apartments, Villa Dina, and others. You will find your villa at point B on the right side.



reference: Google Maps

We wish you a safe journey,

Anna and Steffen Spanoudaki-Thurm



Driving on Crete!

Crete has fantastic drives through green valleys, amazing gorges and wild mountains or along the beautiful coast-line. Driving in Crete, though, requires a lot of attention. We have gathered here some points that might be helpful to know before you start:

- ✓ The streets may be at some points, especially in the mountains, in a bad condition. There are a lot of sharp curves and the roads have often no protective barriers. There are often pedestrians as well as animals (goats, sheep, dogs and cats) walking at the side of the road or even crossing. For all these reasons, drive slowly and expect the unexpected!
- ✓ Observe the speed limits, even if everybody else seems not to! Not only for your safety, but also because of the very frequent traffic police controls.
- ✓ The direction signs are most often both in greek and in latin characters. Be nevertheless prepared for varying spellings of the same name (for instance, Hania or Chania, Almirida or Almyrida) and get acquainted with the greek alphabet in case you are driving to a not very touristic destination.
- ✓ At a roundabout the car which comes from the right (entering the roundabout) has priority, unless there are traffic signs ordering the opposite!
- ✓ The national road has no barrier between the two directions and there is often only one lane per direction. Necessarily, it is almost impossible to take over a car without entering the opposite lane. As you will notice, in order to facilitate a safer overtaking most drivers stay at the far right, often driving with half of the car on the emergency lane. This is usual and in practice increases safety but it is not strictly legal. Obviously you should avoid doing so, where due to the curves the visibility is low, since a car or pedestrians may be on the emergency lane behind a curve.
- ✓ Never drink and drive! (Luckily, Helios and Thalassa are a 3 min walk from the great tavernas and bars in Almyrida!)



We would like to stress, that the list is by no means full and includes only some of the possible dangers and difficulties. Driving remains, of course, your responsibility!