

Getting to Despina Villa (Agia-Marina Village)

From Heraklion Airport

1. From Heraklion Airport, follow signs to "NEW NATIONAL HIGHWAY" E75 (there is an exit from the airport to the new national highway). Drive west following the signs for Rethymno and Chania.

Note: it's not really signposted from the airport to the highway, but don't hesitate to stop and ask.

2. Keep driving for 180km (nearly 2 hours) towards Chania. DO NOT ENTER INTO CHANIA TOWN. Keep driving past signs into Chania Town, and follow signs towards Kolimbari and Kisamos, which are to the west and away from Chania

When you are in Chania GO TO STEP 5

from Chania Airport

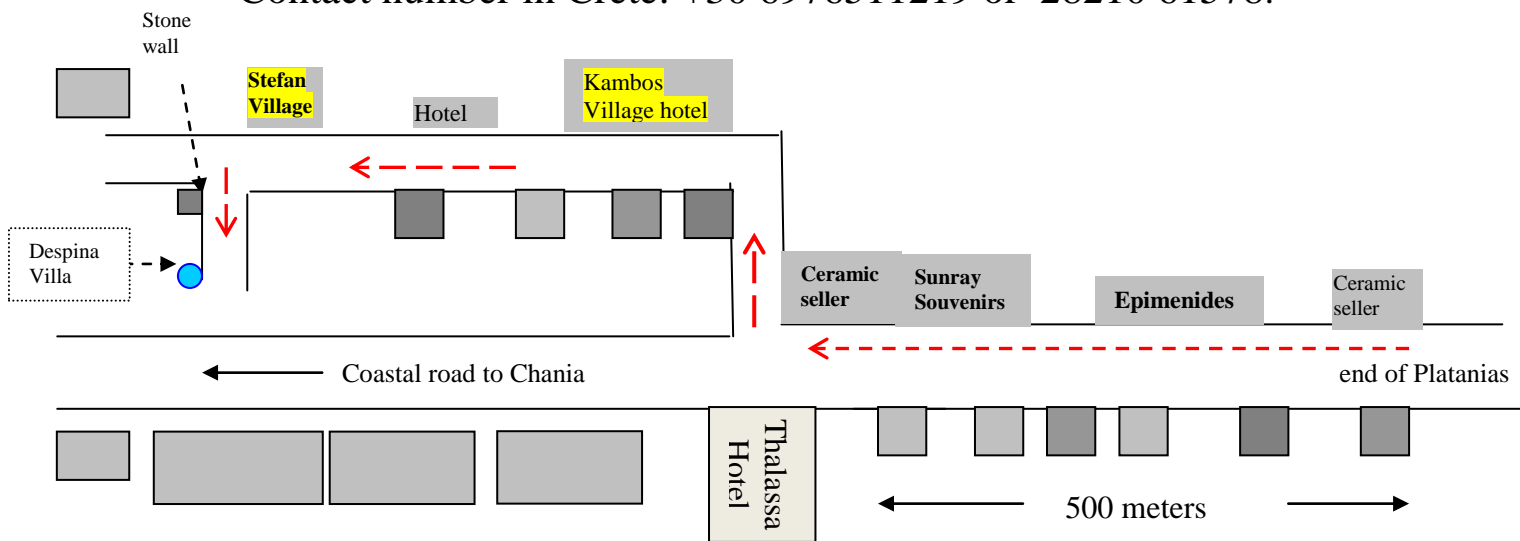
3. From Chania Airport, follow signs towards **Chania** but DO NOT ENTER INTO CHANIA TOWN. Keep driving watching out for and following signs towards **Souda** (it is a small town next to a large harbour).
4. Once in Souda town, follow signs to Rethymno&Heraklion to find the highway. When you find the Rethymno-Heraklion highway, you follow the signs (**eastwards**) towards **Kolimbari** and **Kisamos** (it's a *right turn*). This will take you on the road eastwards through a distance of about 20km.

Note: it's not really signposted from the airport to the highway, but don't hesitate to stop and ask.

5. After 25-30 minutes drive, take the exit for **PLATANIAS** / **GERANI**. Follow this exit road which ends in a T-junction; turn right at the T-junction (**to Platanias**).
6. Continue straight, for 1 mile (1.5 km), passing through a very busy village, Platanias. Once through Platanias (which ends with a long white-washed stone wall on the right), watch out on the right for a blue-fronted hotel called **Epimenides**. After that hotel you will see Souvenirs Sun Ray a small **ceramics** seller and the hotel

THALASSA. Turn right immediately after the ceramics seller and follow the road round (see diagram below).

7. Turn left at the corner mini-market with a stone wall into a very narrow road. The first house on the right is Despina Villa. You can park opposite.
8. If you manage to get lost despite our wonderful directions, please feel free to phone to our mobile phone to guide you,
Contact number in Crete: +30 6976511219 or 28210 61578.



Google map and GPS: 35.517808, 23.921150

House Rules and Information

The card on your front door key should be inserted into the slot beside the front door when you are in residence.

Sockets: Don't overload electrical sockets or appliances.

Please NEVER throw any toilet paper or other man-made materials down the toilets.
Please USE THE BIN.

Please do not move any furniture around yourselves. Check with the owners first if it is ok.

White towels: These may not be taken out of your room to the pool or to beach. Please use the dark blue towels that we provide you for the pool or beach.

Please don't take indoor furniture and fabrics outdoors as it is quickly ruined by sun.

Water; Our water supply normally suffers no pressure problems, except when there is a water shortage generally in the area – something that does occasionally occur in Crete and other Greek islands. If any loss of pressure is experienced, we would like to assure you that it is due to a shortage or fault external to our system and therefore outside of our control. Please do not be wasteful of water; for example, car washing is considered wasteful.

Breakages do happen. We would ask you to report any damages or breakages to a family member (not to the maid) before you leave. This is so that we are aware in order to replace the item for you and before the next guests arrive.

Rubbish Disposal

There is no daily rubbish collection from villas so please put your refuse in any of the many municipal bins located at roadsides. We strongly request that you use bin liners in the kitchen bin. Maids may sometimes remove rubbish when they visit, but since many don't have transport, the amount they can take is limited. Please don't ever leave rubbish outside as this will most certainly attract unwanted pests.

CHECK OUT

During check out. Please make sure all electrical appliances are off.

Check out time at 10:30

If your departure should be delayed excessively an alternative temporary room or rooms may be arranged subject to availability, please contact us by e-mail and we will help you to organise your check out time.

Air Conditioning

There is air-conditioning units installed in each bedroom. When in use please keep bedroom doors closed as they consume great amounts of electricity and the units are designed to cool the rooms only. Avoid setting units to extremely low temperatures

If you have not arranged air-conditioning but would like to have it, please contact the owners to arrange a local payment.

NOTE: a/c are more efficient when the temperature is not lower than 19C.

Barbeques

Enjoy your barbecue but first please:

1. Be very aware of any overhanging vegetation or branches that may catch fire in dry conditions
2. Please be particularly careful in windy weather – sparks could easily fly from the barbecue. Never leave the barbecue unattended and keep a bucket of water close at hand to put out any sparks.

3. Use firelighters with great care. Never add any sort of fire accelerant to the charcoal once it becomes hot
4. Test cooked food carefully to ensure that it is cooked right through, and not just on the outside.
5. **Please extinguish embers carefully once you have finished cooking, and dispose of these once cool.**
6. It would be much appreciated if you would clean the barbeque after each use.

Swimming Pool Safety

We want you to enjoy your swimming pool in complete safety, and ask you to observe the following rules.

If travelling with young children, please be very careful when you first arrive at your villa/Apartment. Ensure that children do not wander around to the pool while you are unpacking the car.

- Before using the pool for the first time, ensure that all members of your party are aware of the depths at all points in the pool. Depths may change suddenly.
- Diving is prohibited at all times. Many pools are either too shallow or too short to allow safe diving.
- Children must be supervised at all times, even when in the children's pool or not swimming.
- Pool water can sometimes become cloudy, particularly following rain or excessive heat. If your pool becomes cloudy, please speak to your House Manager or Concierge who will arrange for the pool to be cleaned at the earliest opportunity.
- Avoid swimming after consumption of alcohol or heavy food.
- Be particularly careful swimming at night. Only swim when the pool and surrounding area are illuminated, and never swim at night when you are alone.
- Please do not take crockery or glasses into the pool area. Wherever possible, use plastic crockery and glasses instead.
- Please be particularly careful when you have wet feet. Tiled terraces around the villa as well as the floors inside the villa become very slippery when wet and especially when bare-footed. We recommend wearing non-slip footwear at all times when not swimming.

Water Heating & Supply

Villa and Apartments have a solar system to heat water. There is an electrical back-up for cloudy days – this is controlled by the owner off-site. Owners watch the weather and will usually put on the back-up on cloudy days.