

House Guide

Villa Oλους

72053 Pigaidakia
Elounda, Crete

[Maps 35.235247, 25.734899](#)

Georgia Arnaoutaki - House Manager
+30 698 390 4244

Wifi
VILLA OLOUS
Password: 22417244

This House Book contains important information on the house and the surrounding area, along with contact phone numbers and directions so please do remember to take it with you, and if you have time, just read through it before you go.



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Directions

How to get to Villa Olous

Coordinates on Google Map [Maps 35.235247, 25.734899](https://www.google.com/maps/place/35.235247,25.734899)

The drive from Heraklion Airport will take approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes - 70 kms

Take the New National Road from Heraklion Airport to Agios Nikolaos. After about 60 kilometres (the last 20 km or so are dark without streetlights) turn left at the traffic lights 2 km outside of Agios Nikolaos signposted Elounda. Turn right at the next traffic lights and check your odometer.

After 6.2 kilometres on a winding road, turn right at the sign for the Elounda Mare and Elounda Porto hotels. At the bottom of the hill you will be facing the Elounda Porto hotel. Turn right and, after 300 meters (the end of the hotels), take the fork to the right. After 180 meters, take the fork to the left. Villa Olous is on the left after 500 meters.

If you get lost, we are on the same road as the major Elounda hotels (Elounda Beach, Elounda Mare, Elounda Porto, the Peninsula, then as described above, our house) so asking for directions to them will get you back on course.

Should you have any problems please contact:

House Manager, Georgia - +30 698 390 4244

Checking In and Checking Out

Checking-in at the villa

You will be greeted on arrival by Georgia. Arrival time is normally after 4pm, which allows enough change over time between guests. In some circumstances we can be flexible but this must be arranged beforehand. Georgia will manage her day according to the arrival time you agree with us so please let them know if you are going to be late. Either way, please would we ask you to phone them from Heraklion Airport once you have arrived as a courtesy.

Checking-out at the end of your stay

Departure time is by 10am. Again, your villa manager will ask you in advance at what time you plan to leave your villa. If you have damaged anything in the villa, please notify her.

House Manager, Georgia - +30 698 390 4244

Services

House manager

Georgia will show you how the house works and will assist you with any queries you may have during your stay. Please let them know if anything is not to your satisfaction or if something in the house is not working properly.

WIFI

Network – VILLA OLOUS

Password – 22417244

Maid service & washing

The Housekeeping team will work 6 hours a day, 7 days per week.

Washing

The house team can organise laundry for guests at an extra cost: 15 euros per hour.

Gardening & pool maintenance

The gardens and pools are looked after three times a week, 6 hours a day.

Chef service

The house team will prepare breakfast, it is possible to order eggs. The cook will prepare lunch and dinner, menu suggestions are on the following pages which can all be discussed with the cook once you are in the villa.

Soups

- Carrot soup with cumin
- Asparagus soup
- Tomato soup
- Mushroom soup
- Cold beetroot soup
- Mixed vegetable soup
- Cauliflower soup
- Broccoli soup
- Gazpacho soup, Greek edition!
- Potato soup smoked bacon
- Lentils soup
- Green pea soup with Greek aromatics
- Chicken soup
- Fish soup

Starters

- Two colours quinoa, lentils, green apple, herbs and honey dressing
- Vegetables orzo
- Napoleon of grilled veggies with halloumi
- Greek pasta with garlic fresh tomato and basil
- Stuffed mushroom with veggies cheese and sausage
- Greek salad
- Mixed green salad with sunflower seeds orange fillets and croutons
- Fisherman's fresh salad
- Smoked salmon with avocado salad
- Fried feta cheese with fig marmalade & baby salad
- Shrimps soganaki
- Fried calamari
- Octopus with fava beans
- Stuffed sardines with baby onion, fresh tomatoes, and oregano
- Aubergine rolls with feta, and coloured peppers
- Green salad with avocado, baby tomatoes and manouri cheese
- Greek appetizers/spinach/cheese pie/tzatziki/hummus aubergine salad
- Variety Greek cheeses and cold cuts

Mains

- Stuffed tomatoes and peppers with dried grapes and pine nut seeds
- Vegetable moussaka or traditional
- Aubergine's Imam (aubergines stuffed with sweet onion and feta cheese)
- Vegetable risotto
- Mushroom risotto
- Vegetable burger
- Traditional briam (oven baked vegetables)
- Beef stew with baby onions and French fries
- Beef fillet with pepper mashed potatoes and vegetables
- Braised lamb in the oven with rosemary, garlic and baby potatoes
- Lamb chops with sauteed vegetables and mint tomato sauce
- Fresh fish with vegetables olive oil and lemon
- Grilled grouper with celery root cream and dried tomatoes
- Lobster with garlic butter and herbs (wild rice vegetables)
- Grilled shrimps with saffron rice
- Chicken sauté with basmati rice and lemon sauce
- Chicken and sausages risotto with gravyera cheese
- Pork fillet with mustard sauce and potatoes
- Pasta of your choice

Desserts

- Chocolate salami with ice cream and chocolate syrup
- Mixed sorbet
- Marinated strawberries with Grand Marnier
- Fresh fruit salad
- Fruits flambe
- Vanilla mousse with almond crumble
- Greek pastries
- Halvas with walnuts and cranberries
- Loukoumades
- Chocolate souffle
- Cheesecake with forest fruits
- Brownies with ice cream
- Vanilla millefeuille
- Kantaifi with mastiha ice cream
- Baklavas with vanilla ice cream
- Yogurt with rose petal syrup

Pre-arrival shopping

The house does not have a pre-arrival shopping list, however if there are things you would like to find in the house on arrival (and for the first 24hrs), the villa manager will try their best to have them have them prepared for you. * These items will need to be paid in cash on presentation of invoices at arrival.

We usually recommend to setup a house float prior to your arrival to cover additional costs during your stay. The villa manager will discuss this with you.

Airport transfers

The house team, work with a network of local companies, please do not hesitate to ask about airport transfers. It is about 110 euros for a standard car to the airport, and 180 euros for a minivan (12 pax).

Nannies

Nannies can be organised by the house team.

Swimming and tennis coach

Private lessons can be organised as per the guests needs.

House Notes

Air Conditioning

Please ensure that the air conditioning is switched off when you open the windows as the condensation will damage the walls.

Breakages

Any breakages must be reported to concierge and may be charged depending on repair/replacement costs. However, reasonable minor accidental breakages will not generally be charged.

Pool

The infinity pool is set on a terrace below the main house, please ensure that children are always supervised.

Sea Platform

The sea platform goes directly into deep water, it is only suitable for confident swimmers.

Gardens

The house is situated on a hilltop and surrounded by manicured gardens, some of which are terraced, children must always be supervised.

Activities

The island of Crete is well-known for its aquamarine sea, old towns and roman relics.

Beaches

Crete boasts over 1,000km of coastline with sheer cliff faces and postcard-perfect swathes of powdered sand.

CN Travellers 11 best beaches in Crete - [11 best beaches in Crete](#)

Voulisma beach – This pretty half-moon-shaped beach is only 20 minutes from the house and a top recommendation from Georgia. Soft sand, warm pristine waters with lounge chairs available to rent.

Kolokytha beach – Aquamarine waters, soft sand, and a perfect view. This beach is best reached by boat great for a day out.

On the water

Greece and in particular Crete is all about boats and daytrips, Georgia and the house team are great at organising trips for everyone.

Water sports are also available nearby.

Historic sites

The Minoan Palace of Knossos

Dating back to 7,000BC the Minoan Palace of Knossos is the epicentre of Minoan civilisation.

[Knossos Palace](#)

Spinalonga

The island of Spinalonga in the Gulf of Elounda is an important part of Cretan history. Covered with fortifications from the Venetians and Ottoman occupations. The island became a leper colony in the 20th century that was finally closed in 1957.

Chania's old town

On the northwest of the island, Chania is a picturesque town well-known for its Venetian port dating back to the 14th century.

Restaurants

Plaka

Plaka is a small fishing villa north of Elounda (6km from the villa), with plenty of little seafood tavernas and wonderful views of the bay.

Paliria – A little seafood taverna on the coast, located in the fishing village of Plaka. Great seafood, modern cuisine. [Paliria](#) +30 2841 042120

Gorgona – A traditional seafood taverna along the waterfront in Plaka. [Gorgona](#) +30 2841 041073

Ostria – A Greek taverna on the pebble beach of Plaka, enjoy traditional Greek food with the sea at your feet. +30 2841 041530

Elounda

Kanali – A fabulous little restaurant near the pretty dianiskari beach. [Kanali](#) +30 2841 042120

Ferryman Taverna – Chef Yannis Baxevanis has created the most refined restaurant in Elounda with the Ferryman. Traditional and delicate cuisine, delicious fish and seafood. +30 2841 041230

Despina – A delicious Greek Taverna with fabulous views. +30 2841 041350

Useful Information

Bank Holiday in Greece

New Year's Day	1 st January 2023
Epiphany	6 th January 2023
Orthodox Ash Monday	27 th February 2023
Greek Independence Day	25 th March 2023
Good Friday	14 th April 2023
Easter Sunday	16 th April 2023
Easter Monday	17 th April 2023
Labour	1 st May 2023
Whit Monday	5 th June 2023
Assumption	15 th August 2023
Ohi Day	28 th October 2023
Christmas Day	25 th December 2023
2 nd Day of Christmas	26 th December 2023

Useful Information Emergency Contact

Country phone code:	+ 30
Local Police	100
Tourist police	171
Fire Brigade	199
Ambulance	166

General Guide and Information

Concerns

Every effort is made by us to ensure that your holiday is fabulous but please bear in mind that Villa Olous is a privately owned and managed family home and not a five star hotel and should be treated as such. There are certain things that are beyond our control. If there are any particular concerns about the property or anything else, please let Georgia and/or your agency know **immediately** in order to give us the chance to sort things out if at all possible.

We would be very grateful if you could take time to read this before you start your holiday.

Villa Maintenance

Please note that we will endeavour to arrange someone to repair or replace any broken / damaged equipment or items in the property as quickly as possible, but it may be impossible for this to be done immediately. Please remember that island properties in particular may have to wait for spare parts to come from the mainland and this is particularly difficult in Europe in August when many stores/warehouses/repair teams are closed for the annual break.

In principle, all our properties are **non-smoking**.

Villa Security

It is the client's responsibility to make sure that all windows are shut, and doors locked securely whenever you leave the property and please remember to take the keys with you! We also highly recommend that when you go out you put the alarm on if there is one. Your personal effects are not covered by the owner's insurance. We would also suggest that you are sensitive to local staff and don't leave valuables such as cameras, iPads, iPhones, computers, handbags, jewellery etc... lying around. In many tropical countries these goods represent more than a months' wage. Please remember to lock all doors at night.... a good rule of thumb should be to do whatever you would do at home.

Water & Electricity

Please bear in mind that many countries have less efficient electricity and water supplies than in the UK. In some cases, during periods of drought, local authorities can cut mains supplies at certain hours of the day and, during peak season, demand for water can exceed supply leading to lack of pressure in properties. Electricity cuts are rare and normally never last for more than a few hours. Solar power is increasingly used as a source of energy in hot countries, particularly for hot water, but problems can arise, especially in 'upcoming' areas that suddenly see a rise in seasonal visitors. It is clearly impossible for us to do anything about this kind of problem.

Bedrooms

Please note that bed sizes and standards of mattress vary greatly from country to country. For example, certain European beds can be shorter than 6'3" and slightly narrower and in the Algarve it is quite common for mattresses to be laid on hardboard rather than on springs. In addition, European cots do not necessarily comply with British Safety Standards having lower and wider bars. It is always better to take your own travel cots. Please travel with waterproof sheets for your children if necessary.

Satellite Television – Telephones - WiFi

Please note that a TV in a property does not necessarily cover the full range of English-speaking programmes available in the UK. Only CNN and Eurosport may be available in English. We cannot guarantee that there will always be a signal for your mobile phone, especially in remote, rural areas. Consistent internet access is beyond our control.

If this is a problem please let us know immediately and everything possible will be done to make it right.

Animals & Wildlife

Mosquitoes, ants, wasps, and other insects are found in hot countries, particularly in July and August in Europe and are attracted by the proximity of water and food. Occasionally (and unfortunately) wasp and/or bee infestations can occur inside a house through chimneys or open windows and frogs, toads and small animals may find their way into and drown in the swimming pool. The resident housekeeper, maid or gardener will try to remove any offending insects or animals but please remember that this occurrence may be considered perfectly normal by the locals and not as urgent as you may wish! To minimise the possibility of any of the above, please try to keep food covered at all times, all refuse disposed of properly and any stray dogs/cats in the vicinity should not be fed.

Beaches

When we specify the distance to the nearest beach it is an estimate and not a precise measure. Please note that not all beaches are sandy but may be rocky, or of local stone. We cannot accept responsibility for the condition of local beaches. We do try to indicate when sea swimming is particularly dangerous, but it is entirely an individual responsibility to follow local advice, rules and regulations.

Tennis Courts

Proper tennis shoes should be worn to avoid marking or damaging the surface.

Swimming Pool

Please note that security is your responsibility and children must be supervised at all times.

Pools are maintained and cleaned by the owner's staff or contractors who will endeavour to be as unobtrusive as possible. All pools are freshwater and unheated unless otherwise stated on our website. Pool heating, if available, is on request and may be payable as a supplement. SJ Villas cannot compensate for any mechanical failures affecting pool heating. All chemicals in pools are very carefully regulated. However, this chemical

balance can easily be affected by such climatic conditions as thunderstorms, heavy rainfall or even too warm water. If this should happen, please inform any resident staff immediately as it can take 2/3 days to clear. You will appreciate that this is beyond our control and, whilst we will do our utmost to sort out any difficulties as quickly as possible, we cannot pay compensation for the effects of adverse conditions on pools.

Please note that pool liners and accessories such as pool covers, springboards, pool toys, etc. must be treated with care and any damage will be charged. When leaving the house even for a short time, please put down the parasols and secure garden furniture, cushions and mattresses, and bring everything indoors in the evening as a sudden storm or overnight watering systems cause damage.

Distance & Noise

We have tried to indicate such things as proximity to towns, villages, main roads, airports, etc. in the descriptions of the individual properties on our website. These distances are estimates only and depend on traffic and also different drivers! We do endeavour to signal when four-wheel drive cars are preferable and/or when the drive in to a villa is particularly tricky and needs a confident driver.

It must be accepted that clients have their own idea of what they consider “noise”. A property in the middle of a town will inevitably get late night noise from the surrounding roads, restaurants, etc. whereas a country property might be affected by farm labourers, machinery and animals waking up early!

Whenever possible we will endeavour to let you know of any events or situations that might cause a disturbance but it must be accepted that sometimes circumstances arise which are beyond our or the owners’ control eg. Local building works, digging a hole for a new swimming pool nearby, use of noisy machinery in the vicinity, local feast days etc. Unfortunately we do not always receive prior notice of any intended works planned and, whilst we realise that your holiday peace is a precious commodity, we cannot be held responsible for noise or disturbances outside the property boundaries.

Health & Safety

All properties are built and furnished to the standards and specification of the owner but, in certain circumstances, features may become a hazard. For example infinity pools will have an unguarded drop, closed glass doors cannot easily be seen in bright sunlight, roof terraces and balconies may have low walls and marble floors may be

slippery. We do endeavour to indicate when we think a house is not suitable for very small children.

Staff & Tipping

It goes without saying that we expect all staff to be treated with respect by all members of the holiday group. If you have any problems whatsoever with staff do call the office and we will endeavour to sort out any misunderstandings. In these days of litigation we no longer source babysitters/nannies. Should you come to an arrangement with local staff for babysitting this is entirely under your own responsibility.

Gratuities are not mandatory but are much appreciated.

For European houses a good tip for a daily maid or a waiter, starts at €50 and for a good cook, concierge, butler or housekeeper/manager, as from €100 (depending on service received of course) for a one-week rental.

Please talk to your agent if you are not familiar with what would be expected. Staff normally have Saturday afternoon and/or Sunday off, but please check with us before your arrival as it can vary. Often it is possible to ask for extra hours but this would be by arrangement with them directly and you would settle with them either weekly or at the end of your stay for extra hours. We are happy to help organise that. If you have a cook or have asked for some pre-arrival shopping to be done, you will need to arrive with cash to settle the bills (if you do not want to travel with cash you can always use the cash machines at your destination airport). We strongly suggest that should you have a daily cook, you provide them with a cash float for the weekly shopping, they will provide all shopping bills at the end of each week.

Directions

Please **do not** turn at the restaurant “Teresa” after the “Mirum” office as directed by Google Maps. Keep going down the hill as per written directions.

Description: Villa Elounda

Sleeps: 12 + 4

Service

- Daily maid service 6 days per week
- Professional chef & waiter for 3 meals
- House manager
- Concierge service

Accommodation

- *First Floor:*

Master suite (king size), 2 bathrooms & private balcony

Double bedroom (king size), en-suite bathroom & balcony

Double/twin bedroom (king size), en-suite bathroom & balcony

- *Lower Ground Floor:*

2 double/twin bedrooms, shared bathroom & sitting room, covered terrace

Large twin suite, en-suite bathroom, sitting room with sofa bed & private terrace

- *Cottage:*

Twin bedroom, en-suite bathroom

Double bedroom, en-suite bathroom

Shared open-plan kitchen, dining & living area

Facilities

- Infinity pool (12m x 6m) - heating on request
- Sea bathing terrace for rock swimming with fridge & sun loungers
- Barbecue & outdoor dining for 12+
- Tennis court, boules pitch, croquet lawn & billiards room
- Private chapel (Greek Orthodox), Study/library with Steinway grand piano
- Air conditioning, TV, DVD & WiFi

General

- Crete airport 1 hr drive
- Nearest beach 10 mins drive
- Elounda 10 mins drive