



Optional Full-Day Excursion

Discover Western Crete (Aptera, Rethymno, Argyroupoli & Lake Kournas)

Date: 17 June 2026

Time: 8:30 – 18:00

Location: Western Crete

Price: €80 per person. Limited places are available for this excursion. We recommend booking your spot during the conference registration process or by contacting the conference organizer.

DETAILS:

i. Archaeological Site of Aptera (entrance ticket €10 per person not included)

Perched on a hill overlooking Souda Bay, Aptera is one of western Crete's most significant ancient city-states, with a history stretching from Minoan to Roman times.



Visitors can explore impressive ruins including a well-preserved Roman cistern, a theater, ancient walls, and monasteries from later periods. The site offers breathtaking panoramic views, making it both a historical and scenic highlight of the excursion. Comfortable walking shoes and sun protection are recommended.

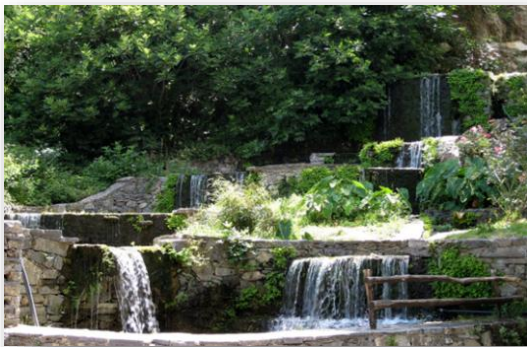
ii. Rethymno Old Town

A charming blend of Venetian and Ottoman heritage, Rethymno Old Town is known for its narrow-cobbled streets, colorful facades, and vibrant atmosphere. Participants can stroll past historical landmarks such as the Fortezza fortress, the Rimondi Fountain, and picturesque harbor areas. The town is also ideal for browsing local shops, enjoying a coffee, or sampling traditional Cretan delicacies.



iii. Argyroupoli – Lunch at Palios Mylos (included)

Set in a lush green landscape rich with natural springs, Argyroupoli is built on the site of ancient Lappa. The village is famous for its flowing water, small waterfalls, and shaded terraces.



Lunch at Palios Mylos offers a relaxing setting surrounded by nature, where guests can enjoy authentic Cretan cuisine—often featuring fresh local ingredients, grilled meats, and traditional dishes—accompanied by the soothing sounds of running water.

iv. Lake Kournas

The only natural freshwater lake in Crete, Lake Kournas is a serene and picturesque stop framed by mountains. Visitors can take a leisurely walk along the shore, enjoy a coffee at one of the lakeside cafés, or even rent pedal boats to explore the calm waters.

The lake is also home to local wildlife, including turtles and various bird species, adding to its tranquil charm.

