

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO KHANIA AND WESTERN CRETE, GREECE

LOCATION: The island of Crete is the largest of the Greek islands, and the southernmost of any of significant size. It is located in the Aegean Sea south of the Cyclades Islands, from which it is separated by the Sea of Crete. Khania (Hania) is situated on the shores of the Gulf of Khania, near the northwestern end of the island, and at the western base of the mountainous Akrotiri Peninsula. It is the second-largest (after Iraklion) city on Crete, and a former capital. Many visitors use Khania as a base of operations for the famous hike through the Samaria Gorge, a National Park.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	10:04	10:53	11:57	13:04	14:02	14:31	14:19	13:31	12:27	11:20	10:21	9:49
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	3:50	4:24	5:48	7:45	9:53	11:34	12:18	11:42	9:40	6:25	5:18	3:57
AREA OF BLUE SKY	32%	35%	43%	52%	62%	81%	92%	91%	79%	54%	44%	36%
LOW FOR MONTH	37 °	37 °	39 °	45 °	50 °	57 °	64 °	64 °	58 °	52 °	45 °	40 °
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	46 °	46 °	48 °	52 °	59 °	66 °	70 °	69 °	65 °	60 °	54 °	49 °
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	58 °	60 °	62 °	68 °	76 °	83 °	86 °	86 °	81 °	74 °	68 °	61 °
HIGH FOR MONTH	68 °	72 °	76 °	84 °	90 °	98 °	100 °	97 °	94 °	88 °	79 °	71 °
FROSTY MORNINGS	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90 °	0%	0%	1%	2%	5%	23%	32%	31%	11%	3%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	65%	63%	60%	55%	51%	43%	44%	46%	53%	60%	63%	66%
NEARBY WATERS	60 °	59 °	59 °	61 °	65 °	71 °	76 °	77 °	76 °	72 °	68 °	63 °
DRY DAYS	57%	54%	69%	81%	90%	98%	99%	99%	95%	81%	66%	57%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	72%	73%	82%	90%	96%	99%	99%	99%	97%	88%	79%	73%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.86	0.74	0.46	0.20	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.17	0.36	0.65	0.86
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	8%	7%	6%	3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	3%	9%	7%	10%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	1%	3%	6%	8%	6%	6%	9%	8%	10%	7%	4%	2%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 63% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 38% in January, to a high of 87% in August. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to ° on some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 102° on some sunny and windless summer afternoon. Sensible temperatures (the ones you actually feel) will be fairly close to actual ones. Below-freezing temperatures are rare along the coast, occurring about one year in three. Back inland, however, they are common during the winter months, and snow often caps the higher mountains throughout the winter. The hike through the Samaria Gorge to the beach resort of Ayia Roumeli, is closed from late October or early November (depending upon when the rains come) until late in April due to high water. Wading through the stream is necessary in the early part of the season, and the water is cold.