



Information about the Environment and for travellers in Crete:

2 ancient mansions in Makrygialos (South Crete): Minoan and Roman building complex

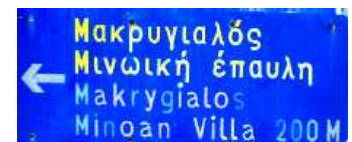


The two ruin remainders of the antique mansions are located on the south coast road of Crete, east of Ierapetra towards Siteias in Makrygialos. The Minoan mansion is on the left of the main street (short before a right curve) in the entrance area of the village and is (well described) about 200 m uphill over an asphalted village road well attainable. The Roman mansion is about 300 m (the main street following) further east (before a link curve) and is likewise well-signposted. It is within reach from the main street turning right after about 100m. Both building complexes are to be recognized only by reconstructed foundation walls and offer only “sparse point of interest” to the visitor. An attendance is worthwhile itself only, if you makes holidays anyway in the region.

The villages Koutsouràs - Makrygialos - Analipsi (on the road map shown “far” apart) actually turn into one another and you notice the change only at the respective place name sign. The place name “Makrygialos” means as much as “more broadly” or also “long” beach; it consists to a large extent of rough sand interspersed with pebbles. The surrounding countryside is strongly agrarian used (cultivation of banana) and the greenhouses usually go over into the villages.

Pictures of the ruins of the Minoan building complex:

The excavation place unfortunately makes a neglected impression and the “unearthed” wall remainders seem “cobbled together”. It is not a point of attraction (for tourists) and also not at all as “advertisement” for the relics of this historical pregnant island. It would be better to remove the signs!



Pictures of the ruins of the Roman building complex:

This excavation place is particularly characterised by the “good parking possibilities”; the parking lot in front of the (open) fenced excavation areas offers even place for an enormous amount of buses. The excavation place is used also as “playground” by the native youth outside of the tourist season. Broken ornamentation brick and many other more (which is scattered in the area) documents the “appreciation”, which comes to this archaeological place. Even here they should abstain from signs!



Fotos: U. Kluge / H. Eikamp (24.12.2006)

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