

**Informationen zur Umwelt und für Naturreisende auf Kreta:**
Information about the Environment and for travellers in Crete:**A Gorge hike that acts the leisure**
The Galliano Gorge – “unknown beauty at Rethymno”

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Did it also happen to you: You have thought to make a Gorge hike on vacation on Crete but the intended route was too tiring or too crowded?

Now if you are near the city of **Rethymno**, the route through the scenic charming but little-known **Galliano Gorge**, which yet is not mentioned in any known travel guide, will be exactly right for you.

On the highway in **Rethymno**, take the exit to **Atsipopoulo** and follow the signs for *University of Crete* and **Gallos**. The village **Gallos** begins approximately 100 m behind the on the right lying campus. Here you can visit a monastery and a chapel.

You get to the carefully restored monastery of the Apostles Peter and Paul (picture left) by following the main road in the village to a place with bus stop, where a sign directs you to the right. After 200 m turn right again. The little road leads directly to the entrance of the monastery.

After the visit take the way back to the bus stop and turn right, towards the Chapel of our Lady. You come through the village centre with narrow streets, old houses and thick walls.

Keep left up the hill at the square with the Chapel; keep right then until you reach a wide asphalt road, where you must turn left again. After approx 100 m, a sign on the left points to the Galliano Gorge (picture right). It is a narrow but paved feeder which after 200 meters turns left again and will take you to a crossroad. Here you can park your car. The way leads downhill to the gorge.



In front of you is now a hiking trail which seems to be dedicated to the leisure and enjoying nature. Seats are established at particularly promising points seating that invite to rest and examine. They are impressive; the walls with their vegetation (see next page right). And slightly above is a building to be seen on the other side: the former water mill **Saunatsidon** (see fig. left next page). Already on the way there are signs of an earlier settlement, such as for example a deformations hole in a rock with a natural source (see next page right, 2nd row).



The mill itself seems magical enchanted, many parts are grown by plants, but it is still to perceive that it must have been a large installation (see picture below)



Above the mill are remains of a former chapel in a rock niche (picture below left). It is quite difficult to get up there and obviously no one takes this trouble what is certainly appreciated by the current residents (picture below right).



Cross the Gorge ground back to the other side and follow the sign to the chapel *Agios Antonios*. A path leads along the steep Canyon walls with its interesting rock formations. There are also cosy places on its way to the quiet rejoicing. The simple but neat little church nestles on a rock resting on the wall (see below figure).



When I took this pleasant walk, for that you should quote about two hours, in the late autumn, not a single soul met me. If this is also in the summer, I can not to say, but a nice trip in a charming environment is it anyway.



If you then on your way home towards Rethymno would like to avoid the the narrow streets of Gallos, follow the wide asphalt road that leads to the Platia of the village with the well-known bus stop.

Translated by Michael Bloechinger-Daeumling

NR: Schluchten [Art.-Nr. 2.937; Zitat-Nr. 7.871] impr. eik.amp 12/2010

Promotional: Welcome to the “Bergischen (Rhein)Land”



Crest of the family Eikamp

[Gerhard von Eikamp (1294-1326) and Heinrich von Eikamp (1303), knight in Eikamp]. The name “Eikamp” is derived from “eynkamp” which means “fenced ground”: forest and/or willow.

The crest painting was done on reference by *Dagmar Harmsen* (Berlin)

Literature: Gerd Müller: *Odenthal - Geschichte einer bergischen Gemeinde*, Kierdorf Remscheid, 2. Auflage

1987. This book also contains a „directory of inhabitants“ of the earlier, free village Eikamp, from beginning until today a urban district of the municipal Odenthal. Traditional care operates the resident "Theatre and May Club Eikamp eV" s.

u.: [<http://www.theater-und-maiverein.com/>]; the Hotel “Eikamper Höhe” has its own homepage; there see at [<http://www.hotelonline.de/hotels/hotel-eikamperhoehe-in-odenthal.htm>].

