

Two of the oldest Cretan customs revive at Creta Maris Beach Resort

Opsigias and Xelykisma



Having at the core of its philosophy the **emergence of the Cretan way of life, culture and traditions** of our country, **Creta Maris Beach Resort** organized two special events, **Opsigias** and **Xelykisma**, thus offering to its guests the chance to experience the authentic Crete.

In August, Creta Maris Beach Resort guests and employees guided by the donkey of Creta Maris, participated in the revival of one of the oldest Cretan customs, “Opsigias”, **the traditional production of raisins**, while in October, the guests had the chance to complete the procedure with “Xelykisma”, **the traditional grapes’ cleaning**, custom that tends to disappear in recent years.

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Specifically, the participants of “Opsigias” transported grapes from the vineyard to a central location of the resort, where they performed the immerse “lousidiasma” of the grapes in a large bucket full of water and potash and then proceeded to hang them in “opsigias” (a construction of parallel rows of metal joined together by wires), where they remained hanged until they became raisins.

In October, the event of “Xelykisma” was held. The participants collected the raisins from opsigias and cleaned them. At the end of the action the participants completed the **authentic Cretan experience** by tasting local raisin-based dishes accompanied by aromatic tsikoudia from the Cretan vineyard. These two actions were performed in the context of Creta Maris Beach Resort “**We do local**” philosophy and “**TUI Care Foundation/Futouris project**”, offering to the guests a valuable experience of the Cretan culture.



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About Creta Maris Beach Resort:

Creta Maris Beach Resort, member of Metaxa Hospitality Group, has been originally launched in 1975 and is situated next to Hersonissos, just 24km from the Heraklion Airport. With a capacity of 680 rooms, suites and bungalows, 6 restaurants, 2 snack points, 9 bars, 7 swimming pools, waterpark, open-air cinema, fitness center, Hammam spa, Asterias Children's Club, and a great space for outdoor and indoor activities, Creta Maris is a blend of tradition and luxury together on a beautiful beach with crystal clear waters where guests can experience the authentic Cretan hospitality.

Please find pictures on high resolution on the below link:

<https://we.tl/t-x1PEr2dWgF>

Please find pictures of Creta Maris Beach Resort on high resolution on our site:

<https://www.cretamaris.gr/media-and-photo-gallery-crete-hotel/photos>

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