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Informationen zur Umwelt und für Naturreisende auf Kreta:
 Information about the Environment and for travellers in Crete:

Excursion to the Psychró-Cave / Lassithi
Grasshopper [short-horned grasshopper] (Caelifera)



Psychró cave (Diktaion Andron) – already discovered 120 years ago – still fascinates today. 30 Years ago, HANS DIEBOW (synonym HANS PARS) praised the cave in his book "But Crete was divine", by recording their detection and research chronicle¹. Today it is described in detail in almost all Crete guidebooks and therefore basically requires no further detail description. With reference to CRETE environmental information leaflets No. 004-04/E, 009-04/E, 016-04/E and the internet pages of www.kreta-umweltforum.de, which also contain detailed information (in particular to the Lassithi plateau), therefore this leaflet introduces in addition only a few images with a brief description of the cave of *Psychró*.

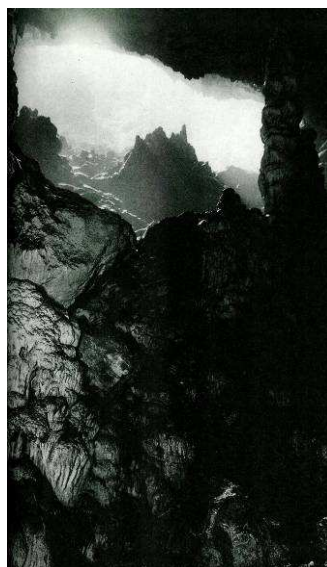
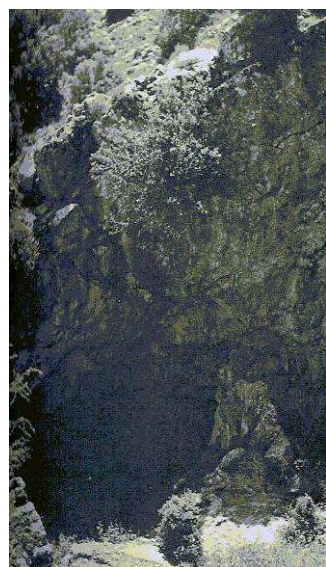


Cave layout of *E.Platakí*

¹ References (German only):

PARS, H. (1957): Göttlich aber war Kreta. – 368 S.; Walter Verlag, Breisgau.

EIKAMP, H. (2003): Die Höhle von Psychró – Entdeckungs- und Forschungsgeschichte. – 4 S., 3 Abb.; Manuskript f. info@slh.gr (s. Abb.):



The images (left & right) show pictures of the Psychró-Cave from the 50ties. The centre image shows a bronze statue of a woman from Minoan time, which was found in the Diktaion cave. It is now kept in the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford - inventory number MM III - SM I
 The height of the statuette is 7.2 cm.



The pictures (left & right) show the entrance of the “Birth cave of Zeus” from outside and inside (08.July 2003). The centre image shows calcite formations from inside of the cave. It is 279 ft long, 121 ft wide and the vaulted ceiling height reaches 49ft in some places. **Photos: H. Eikamp (2003)**

Grasshopper [short-horned grasshopper] (Caelifera)

Worldwide are of approximately 10,000 types of Grasshopper (Caelifera), about 80 species in Central Europe and around 40 species in Germany. Locusts are usually solitary, live quite dispersed, and do not worry about their conspecifics except for the mating season. The Oviposition occurs in the soil, the hole then closed with the hind legs (rarely is laid on plants). Most species are grass eater with a high food need.



Pictures show 2 Grasshoppers (Saltatoria) from subordination Caelifera (Short-horned Grasshoppers): left Nosed Grasshopper (*Acrida ungarica*), photo taken: Gouves / North Crete and right Brown Locust (*Locustra pardalina*), photo taken: Lentas / South Crete. **Photos: U. Kluge (2004/2003)**

Short-horned Grasshopper have relatively thick and short antenna. The females have no ovipositor but only short Valve (ovipositor valvular). The best known representatives of this subordination are the Field Grasshopper. Locusts stand out by their height stately for insects, their large jumping power and their songs. Particularly it indicates their incomplete metamorphosis: there is no puppet stage but a large number of larval stages. There are small, medium and large copies of a locust type that look almost exactly like the adult insects (Imagines) but only the latter can fly.

