



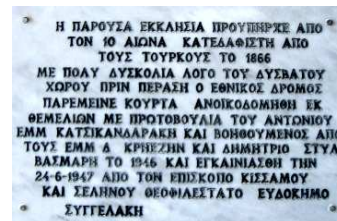
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**Information about the Environment and for travellers in Crete:**

**Cave-Chapel at Limani Kissamos / Prefecture Chania**  
**Cockroach is not equal cockroach – there are differences!**



The Cave-Chapel is located in the west of Crete and can be reached from *Kastelli Kissamos* towards *Platanos*. Not far from Limani Kissamos, something outside, past the fishing harbour (which is in the view of the Chapel, likewise the ferry port) it is located on the left site of the National road (before a left turn) inside a karst grotto. The karst grotto, formerly resulting as a littoral cave <sup>1)</sup>, accommodated the chapel in the left tract which is, except from the front, built nearly completely under the cave roof. The right part of the Grotto accommodates flat wood figures (with icons-like painting), arranged to (3 large) bible scenes: the Nativity together with the “Three Kings”, the “crucifixion” and the “resurrection”.



The pictures show (from left to right): the chapel below the cave roof; the sanctuary (only the front side and the exterior wall are brick-built) and also the rearward church interior, bounded by the cave end.

There was already a chapel here in the 10<sup>th</sup> Century. It has been destroyed by the Turks in 1866. Because of the impassability of the area (before the building the national route) the chapel was again developed only in 1946 and sanctified by the Bishop of Kissamos in 1947.



The picture left shows the cave area, where the wood figures are located; centre pictures show the crucifixion and right the stable scene of Bethlehem.

## GEO-Information II: littoral cave / sea arch

1) Littoral caves are hollow forms in the rock; originate from chemical and mechanical assault of water to a (cliff) coast.

Sea arch's can emerge from them if short passage caves remain standing in the surf area as cave ruins; see accompanying illustration: sea arch at the north coast of Crete, here briefly behind the *GEROPOTAMUS*-bridge at the National road *Iraklion-Rethymno* at *Lavris*.



## Cockroach is not equal cockroach – there are differences!

### Remarks about cockroaches (*Blattidae*)

There are approx. 3,800 kinds of cockroaches known world-wide at present. Nearly all warmer areas of the earth inhabit the insects belonging to the family of the *Blattidae* and are therefore often to be found also in south Europe. With two representatives of this family is to be dealt in the following short description in greater detail: The kitchen-cockroach (*Blatta orientalis*), also known as waterbug and the American cockroach (*Periplaneta americana*), also known as greenhouse-cockroach. Both kinds are domestic also on Crete, whereby the American large cockroach occurs substantially more frequently than the “genuine” cockroach. In Germany we know above all the kitchen-cockroach, comparable with the German cockroach (*Blatta germanica*).

“**Blatta orientalis**” are black-brown coloured and become up to 2.5 cm. The origin of this kind of insect is North Africa. Preferential habitat are warm and humid ranges, like e.g. large-scale catering establishments, laundries etc. The first three larva stages are light brown coloured; starting from the fourth stage the larvae become dark-brown to black. The eggs need 1.5 to 2 months for the development.

Kitchen- and house cockroaches can transfer different pathogens, like e.g. tuberculosis, splenic fever and salmonellae. A further unpleasant characteristic is the spreading of a somewhat sweet, unpleasant smell (“cockroach smell”).



“**American cockroach**” are light to dark-brown coloured and rank to the largest kinds of cockroaches; they become up to 3,6 cm. They originally originate from Cuba and probably became brought to Europe in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century (with sugarcane). Preferential habitats are above all greenhouses, where they can produce damage to young plants, blooms and crusts. The larvae go through 11 to 12 skinnings in 8-9 months up to the Imago. The “egg time” amounts about 1.5 months. The American large cockroach belongs to the fastest insects at the soil; they move with a speed of up to 5.4 km/hr.

The order of cockroaches (*Blattidea*) belongs to the oldest and most primitive insects' orders of the winged insects (*Pterygota*). They already were widespread in the upper carbon (before 250 - 350 millions Years) in large diversity of species and showed all characteristic characteristics of this order already at that time.

**Pictures:** (2) U. Kluge / (7) H. Eikamp (06.05.2005)