

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

**The museum of Papa Michalis Georgoulakis at Asomatos**  
**- an amazing journey through times in the daily lives of the Cretans**

A article from our member *Maria Eleftheria*, Agios Nektarios / South Crete.



A visit to a museum could be a quite sober, unemotional matter. But now and again I find real beauty spots in Crete, which show history in a pleasurable and diversified way making it understandable in the literal sense. Love of the collector is palpable and the atmosphere is appealing.

So is the museum of *Papa Michalis* in *Asomatos* []. If you plan a trip to the monastery of *Preveli* and drive from the North through the *Kourtalis* canyon towards South, then treat yourself the small detour to the village of *Asomatos*. From the main road the way to the museum is well sign. It is located in the pretty home of Papa Michalis who was born in 1921 in Asomatos, already discovered his love of collecting ancient equipment in the age of 15 and collected throughout his life a large and extraordinary collection of commodities from all aspects of daily life of the Cretan's.



Already the external walls of the building are decorated with all sorts of finds. Same applies for the inner yard over which you reach eight elaborate arranged rooms.

In the entrance area, as everywhere else within the museum, every possibility to present toppers is used. Objects of the Greek Orthodox Church give an idea of this faith. Tools and equipment from agriculture in another room.

One room has been designed as office with desk, books, documents and phones.

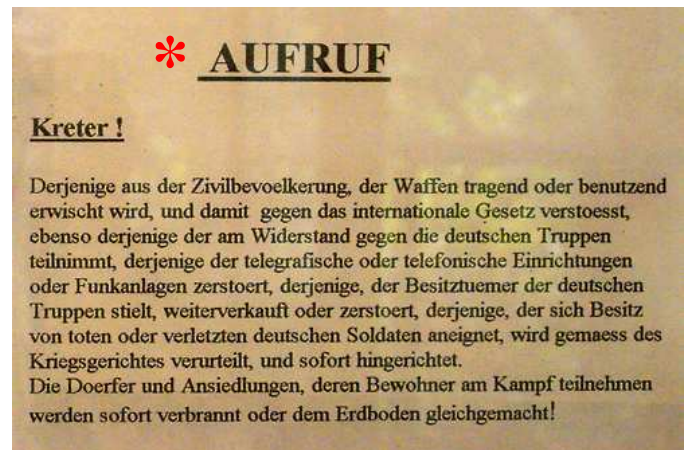
Here also is the impressive family tree of the family which contain several names of Cretan folk hero's.



While a small, down to the smallest detail fitted Cretan kitchen is showing household appliance from former days another area is devoted to handcrafts.



And of course a collection like this includes also weapons and documents from the time of the Cretan resistance in World War II. In addition to many other flyers, also a proclamation of the German occupiers, available in Greek and English as well, a rather inconspicuous exhibit, which still has in itself.



It was a long journey for *Papa Michalis Georgoulakis*. Unfortunately it ended after 87 met Earth years last year (remark of translator: 2008). I met him the last time in March 2008, when he came through the streets of *Asomatos* with a new find over the shoulder. The Museum was closed, but when he felt my and my companion's interest, he opened happily and gave a private tour and invited us afterwards to a cup of coffee. With pride he told how he had extended and expanded his own home, and created place to achieve his dream of a museum.

The Museum of Papa Michalis is today led with great commitment by his son and whose German wife; the family Georgoulakis is pleased to welcome you. Opening times: daily between 10:00 and 15:00, Kids (until 16) are free, Adults pay 2.50 €

© Photos: 9 x *Maria Eleftheria*, 1 x *U. Kluge*

**\* Proclamation: Cretans!**

*Those of the civilian population, who is caught carrying or using weapons, and thus contravene against international law, also those which participates in the resistance against the German forces, those who destroy telegraph or telephone equipment or radio equipment, those who steals possessions of German troops, resell or destroy, those who acquires possession of dead or wounded German soldiers, will convicted according to provost court and executed immediately.*

*The villages and settlements, whose residents take part in the fight will immediately burned or razed to the ground!*