



Crete is the **largest island** in **Greece**, the

The island is **260 km long** and varies in width from **60 km** (measured from the Dion cape to cape Stone)

, at only

12

km

on the Isthmus of Ierapetra in eastern Crete.

The coastline

has

deep

geographic

division

, giving

Crete

over

1,000

km of coastline

.

Crete is located

about

160

km

south of the Greek mainland.

Surrounded

by the

northern

Aegean Sea

, south
by the
Libyan
.

The island is extremely **mountainous** and is defined by a high mountain range crossing from West to East, formed by three different groups of mountains

.
These
are:

- Leuka Oroi (White mountains) (2.452 μ).
- Psiliritis (Idi) (35.18° B 24.82° A 2.456 μ).
- the mountain Deiktis (2.148 μ).

These mountains offer gifted Crete with fertile plateaus like **Lasithi Plateau**, **Omalos** and **Nid**
a,
caves like
Dikteon
and the
Ideon
cave, and
gorges like
the famous Gorge of
Samaria,
Imbros
Gorge,
the
canyon
Kourtaliotiko
etc.

Crete was the **Minoan civilization** (about 3000-1400 BC), one of the first civilizations in Europe.

It is part of the regional government of Greece. Divided into four prefectures of **Heraklio**, **Cha**

nia
Rethymnon
and
Lassithi
.

Administrative division of Crete :

- Heraklio
- Chania
- Rethymno
- Agios Nikolaos

