

Heraklion & Elounda, Crete

July 2016

It's many years since we have had a holiday in Greece and we jumped at the chance to attend Graham and Susannah's wedding in Elounda, Crete. The wedding was postponed until next Spring but a crowd of us still turned up to enjoy a terrific 12 hour party (2pm – 2am).



We spent the first two nights in the excellent, centrally located Hotel Kastro in Heraklion. The town centre was buzzing with loads of restaurants and shops.



The fountain in the centre of the old city



The busy, bustling Port



Scooters and bikes everywhere.



Impromptu dancing in the newer parts

We called it the "City of Beards" as almost every man had one, we had to give up counting. Our taxi driver said that Greek women found them manly and most men with the exception of police, service men and professionals grew one. How lovely for it to be over 20 degrees at midnight.



The Palace of Knossos, the first Minoan palace built 1900 BC. They were advanced in those days and lots of the artefacts, many in excellent condition, are in Heraklion Archaeological Museum which we visited the same day. Very hot at the Palace with deafening sounds of the crickets.



On to Elounda Bay where we stayed at Akti Olous, a great little family run hotel right on the beach. Much to Rick's delight you could take your breakfast tray to the restaurant that was over the sea and feed the fish in the crystal clear water.



1 Dynasty Yacht was moored in the bay for the first couple of days.
Its owned by Alijan Ibragimov from Kazakhstan who is worth 1.7 billion US dollars



Elounda Marina



Spinalonga seen from Plaka



Spinalonga -the Leper Island from 1904 - 1957



Although the wedding had been postponed until the Spring but Graham, Susannah, her two daughters Issie and Amber, their friend Jaq, Aunty Mamps, Godfather Kit, Isle of Wight Graham, Annabel, Nyree, Chris and Leah and Sam and Lou were there to celebrate. Susannah's friend Charlie who lives in Elounda also joined us.

Party begins 2pm



Lots and lots of fun



Cigar Time – a very bent one



Graham and Susannah having a practice run before the real wedding next Spring



Girls being girls



Singing along with IOW Graham



Party ended 2am

A romantic supper at a fish restaurant where helicopters flew guests in



Last night – Melissos Restaurant again, they even entertained us.

