

Παραλία Τρεις Εκκλησίες

(Tris Ekklies Beach)



On the south coast of Crete, over the Asterousia Mountains, directly south of Heraklion. Some feel-good problems on a lovely pebble beach. The bouldering centres around a crag which splits the main village beach from the ones further east. The fine-grained pebbles mean that a beach towel works well as a mat. The approach road from the North is twisty-turny, but there is asphalt all the way.

The What3words reference for the climbing is //intervene.bullion.toot – there is ample free parking in the village.

1/ **Μπλε Ακρη** (mple akri) 5+ The arête forming the right side on the cave. Sit start at the bottom of the arête but turn left on good ledges to exit onto the upper slab.

Continuing the last problem into the lip would make a good committing problem.

2/ **Βαρύς Οπλίτης** (baris oplitis) 7a *** The overhanging face direct. Hang a ledge and campus out with urgency. *Photo above.*

There is a good looking line of holds just right but a fall from these would result in a fall onto the boulder behind.

3/ **Θέσεις** (theses) 5+ Sit start from helpful slots.

4/ **Νιφάδες** (nifades) 6a Sit start the centre of the wall. Flake systems abound.

5/ **Κανάτακι** (kanaki) 6b+ Next to the sea from a sitter. Contort up to a good jug over the lip.



Around the main rock to the next section of beach – this involves wading.

6/ **Ανατολική Όψη** (anatoliki opsi) 4+ ** The fine arête of the East face. Take an easy sit start and trend left on good holds. Finish at the jug rail at 3 metres. Not a deep water solo as the water is shallow and there are rocks in it.

The next climbs are on a boulder on this next beach. Some of the rock is friable.

Πέτρα της εστίας (petra tes estias) or Hearth Rock

7/ The delicate slab. 3

8/ **Φωτιές** (foties) 6b Sit start. Up the arête and face over the former firepit. Beware crumbling rock. *Photo on the right.*



John Hunt 21st July 2025.

Photos by Rachel Hunt.