

A photograph of the ruins of Knossos in Crete. The image shows a prominent structure with several red columns supporting a stone roof. The columns are set on a stone base. In the background, there are more stone walls and trees under a cloudy sky. The text 'KNOSSOS' is overlaid in a stylized, yellow, serif font across the middle of the image.

KNOSSOS

EUROPE'S OLDEST CITY

Knossos is Europe's oldest city.

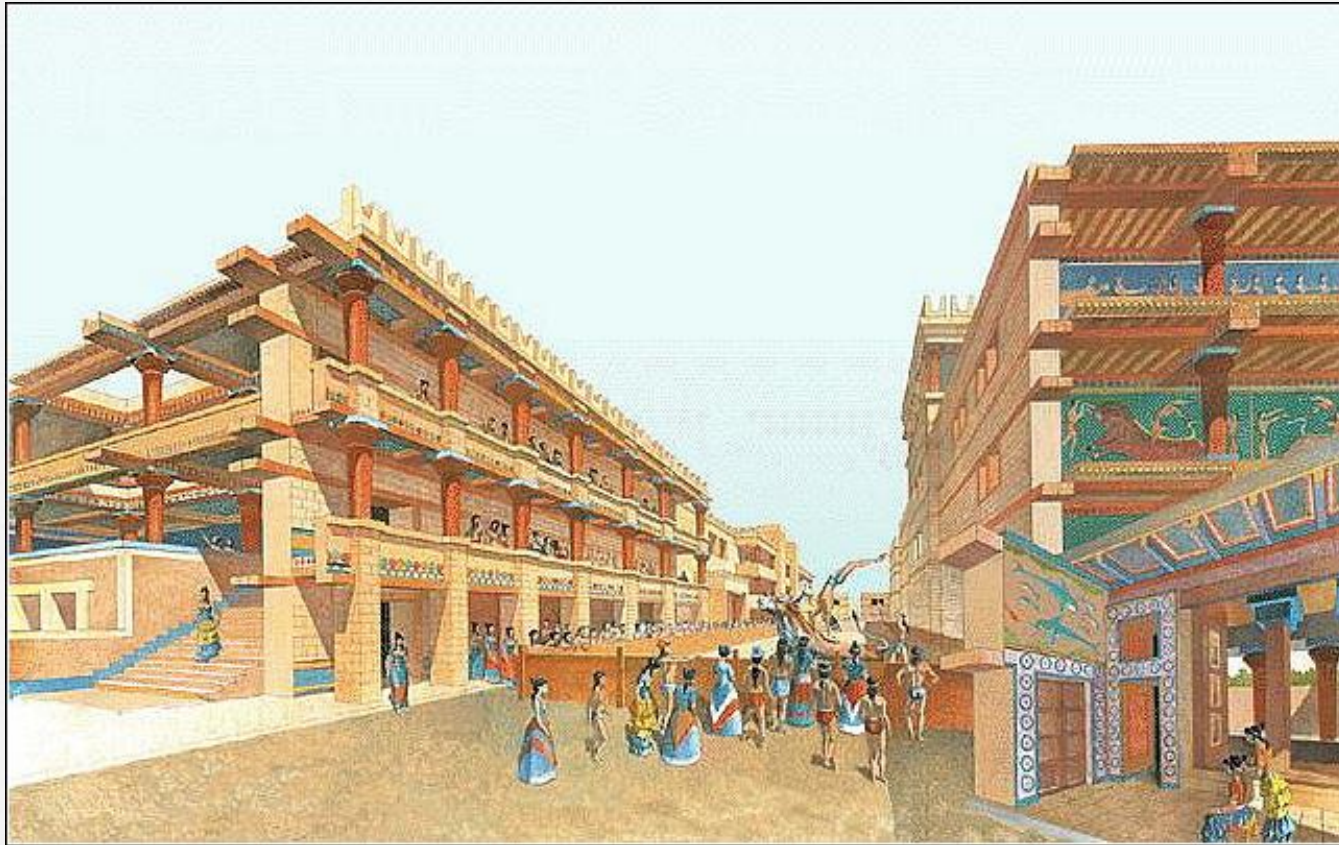
It is situated on the island of Crete, belonging to Greece. It is located on the northcentral coast, 5 km southeast of a big city of Heraklion.



It was an ancient major city of Crete. It was settled as early as Neolithic period. The palace of Knossos became the ceremonial and political centre of the Minoan civilization and culture. The palace was abandoned at the end of the Late Bronze Age, c.1380 - 1100 BC, for reasons which are not known.



In its peak, about 1.700 BC, the population of the palace and the surrounding city counted 100. 000 people.



At the moment Knossos is a Bronze Age archaeological site. The excavations at Knossos began in 1900 by the English archaeologist Sir Arthur Evans and his team. They worked there for 35 years.



The Throne Room in the Palace at Knossos in course of Excavation.

The team discovered two ancient scripts and many Roman coins. They had an image of Minotaur or Labyrinth on them. These are symbols from the myth of King Minos, who is supposed to have reigned at Knossos. Evans called this civilization Minoan.



I was at Knossos in June 2017. It was an unforgettable experience.



Dictionary:

excavations – wykopaliska

abandoned – opuszczony

Bronze Age – epoka brązu

peak – szczyt

image – obraz

Bibliography :

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2. <https://kids.kiddle.co/Knossos>.
3. <https://www.historywiz.com/knossos.htm>
4. <https://pl.khanacademy.org/humanities/special-topics-art-history/arches-at-risk-cultural-heritage-education-series/the-role-of-archaeology/a/conservation-vs-restoration-the-palace-at-knossos-crete>
5. <http://ancientcoinage.org/theseus-and-the-minotaur.html>