

# Spinalonga: The Island of Lepers Photo Gallery



## Spinalonga. The Island Of Lepers. Photo Gallery

by Dmitriy Ganich

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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The ruins of the leper colony on Spinalonga



A view of the church on Spinalonga





A view of the beach on Spinalonga

Spinalonga is a small island located in the Gulf of Mirabello, Crete, Greece. It is best known for its history as a leper colony, and is now a popular tourist destination.

The island was first settled in the Neolithic period, and was later occupied by the Minoans, the Greeks, and the Romans. In the 13th century, the island was captured by the Venetians, who built a fortress on the site. The fortress was later captured by the Ottomans, who used it as a prison.

In 1903, Spinalonga was declared a leper colony. Leprosy is a chronic infectious disease that causes disfigurement and disability. At the time,

there was no cure for leprosy, and those who contracted the disease were often ostracized from society.

The leper colony on Spinalonga was home to over 1,000 people at its peak. The colony had its own hospital, school, church, and cemetery. The residents of the colony were largely self-sufficient, and they grew their own food and made their own clothing.

The leper colony on Spinalonga was closed in 1957, after the development of a cure for leprosy. The island is now a popular tourist destination, and visitors can explore the ruins of the leper colony, the fortress, and the church.

Spinalonga is a reminder of the tragic history of leprosy, and it is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit. The island is a beautiful place to visit, and it is a must-see for anyone interested in history or culture.



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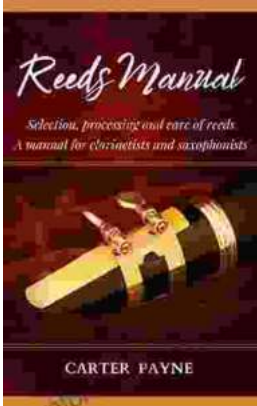






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