

# Off-Grid Homes in Crete.

Live Off The Grid in Crete, Greece

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At ARENCOS, we see off-grid and carbon-neutral design as an opportunity to challenge the status quo of the residential construction sector in Crete. We design off-grid homes in Crete that are purposeful, sustainable, efficient and spectacular.



Off-Grid Homes in Crete. Photo by Bernard Hermant on Unsplash

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## Off-Grid Homes in Crete

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ARENÇOS understands the critical impact that structures and buildings have on climate change and carbon emissions. Never has there been a time where it has been more important to adopt dedicated strategies to mitigate the effects of climate change, adapt the way that we've been doing things, and prioritize a zero-emission, resourceful and resilient building stock in Crete, Greece.

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# our approach



At ARENCOS, we believe that modern architecture is living in comfort without compromising the natural environment or depleting the natural resources available. Our sustainably designed and energy efficient focused homes minimise negative environmental impacts whilst ensuring and maximising comfort and wellbeing.

Constructed with precision and by integrating the latest technology with locally sourced and time-tested natural materials, our eco-friendly properties draw inspiration from the Cretan nature with a delicate yet modern aesthetic, elegance and practicality.

## We specialise in building architecturally inspiring, eco-friendly off-grid homes and buildings in Crete, Greece.

### Off-Grid Properties

We designed and launched ARENCOS *ecoliving*™ to synergistically integrate all the elements of a building: the construction that holds it up; the facilities that allow it to function; its ecology; the off-grid features; the natural light and ventilation in architecture; the way you move through or around it; and last but not least its ability to establish comfort and wellbeing.

The plus symbol in our *ecoliving* logo symbolizes the added value of sustainability that we strive to accomplish for our clients in every project we participate in.

Go Off-Grid ↗

### Commercial Off-Grid Properties

At ARENCOS, we design and construct off-grid, sustainable and highly energy-efficient properties without compromising on refined aesthetics, practicality and understated elegance. Ingenuity, know-how, creativity and fine workmanship always assist us to deliver an outstanding result.

We offer creative, precise solutions for complex off-grid buildings, shaping intelligent, yet comfortable living spaces from the initial concept to ultimate use that challenge the status quo and shape the future of constructions in Crete, Greece.

### Eco-friendly Buildings

Everything we do is grounded in our purpose to design, build and manage sustainable, eco-friendly and of exceptional quality properties. We strive to make our mark in leaving Crete a better place for future generations by designing, planning and constructing eco-friendly and sustainable residential and commercial buildings.

Through a rigorous site assessment and by integrating engineering with Big Data, our design response is unique – inspired by local insights, financial, environmental and spatial constraints as well as the social and historical distinctions each project presents.

This assures sustainable and aesthetic solutions with lasting value for clients, inhabitants and society.

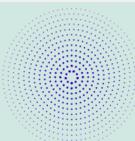
Learn More ↗



## Off-Grid Homes in Crete: Reliable. Sustainable. Efficient. Exceptional.

<p><b>Energy Efficient</b></p> <p>We integrate high-performing building designs and bioclimatic architecture practices to offer climate-responsive and operationally efficient properties.</p> <p>The final proposal is based on the adoption of suitable parameters for building orientation, structural profile, passive heating and cooling mechanisms, shading, and glazing to ensure a healthy indoor and outdoor living environment.</p>	<p><b>Sustainable Building</b></p> <p>At ARENCOS, we assist clients discover pragmatic solutions that match their own objectives toward building sustainability.</p> <p>To make structures really sustainable, we design for better performance from every angle – this way we help our clients create properties that are practical, affordable to build and operate, pleasant to inhabit and exceptional to their context.</p>
<p><b>Carbon Neutral</b></p> <p>We have helped many clients realize their sustainability aspirations in residential and commercial buildings.</p> <p>We strive to create carbon-neutral buildings and we know that this is only possible by synthesizing the latest design trends with locally sourced building materials and state-of-the-art renewable energy applications toward carbon neutrality.</p>	<p><b>Comfort + Wellbeing</b></p> <p>We want to create buildings that motivate and delight, and which are responsive to the owner's needs.</p> <p>From detached houses to larger deluxe properties, we take pride in creating a competitive and innovative design attitude.</p> <p>From concept to operation, our decisions and actions are intended to produce safe, inclusive, high-performance and sustainable properties.</p>
<p><b>PMDE</b></p> <p>This framework is based on our <b>Project Management &amp; Delivery Excellence Folder</b> and it outlines the initiatives, methods and strategies for carbon reduction in the construction, obstacles and challenges faced by similar residential projects.</p> <p>Moreover, it also includes the mechanisms and methodologies that helped us overcome the difficulties, and low-carbon solutions applied to the design, construction, and operation of off-grid properties in Crete, Greece.</p>	<p><b>Integrity + Dedication</b></p> <p>At ARENCOS we constantly strive to redefine the standard of excellence in everything we design and manage. Therefore, we are open to ideas that challenge conventional views and drive innovation.</p> <p>As a team, we are sharing our knowledge and lessons learned. We support and encourage innovation and we also set big goals and high expectations, but we are appreciative, grateful, and supportive of our successes.</p>

**Ingenuity** – There are more ways to keep cool than turning on the air conditioning. From naturally cool materials to clever ways to harness wind and sunlight, we design buildings with total sustainability in mind ...



## Our Off-Grid Homes in Crete are Fully Nature-Powered.

Building an off-grid house in Crete, Greece is a dream for many people. The ability to choose the exact layout, structural orientation, off-grid systems and finishes when you build an off-grid property is an exciting and rewarding process yet, daunting, complicated and stressful. Not everyone is well-matched to the amount of decision-making and risk tolerance or uncertainties involved.

We've simplified the building process for an off-grid house making it an easy, transparent and enjoyable journey where you know exactly what to expect.

read more about our process ↗

## Good for you & the Environment.

ARENÇOS was founded on the principles of sustainable building design and total architecture that holistically support the well-being of inhabitants and long-term energy efficiency of the construction, to achieve a zero-carbon, equitable, resilient, and healthy built environment.

Subsequently, we view design as a process of discovery. Dedicated design research and off-grid assessments, enable us to experiment, to improve – and to design smarter properties for our clients. That's particularly important as we strive to create a more resilient future.

With a background in civil engineering, ARENCOS founder and manager Maria Gkika had seen too many poorly planned properties built with little consideration for the environment and local character.

We design our properties to take advantage of the site and surrounding environment, make the most of energy efficiency, and utilize natural resources and sustainable materials.

See our off-grid project in Stavros, Chania ↗

Would you considering building your new home in Crete sustainably? ↗  
Contact us

## Our Team

ARENÇOS is owned and managed by Maria Gkika, a senior civil engineer professional with two decades of experience in the construction sector. The firm consists of a dedicated team of engineers, architects, researchers and surveyors.

meet the team ↗



Senior Civil Engineer, Maria Gkika is a Certified Passive House Designer (CPHD). She is one of a few professionals in Crete, Greece who have been accredited by the Passive House Institute (PHI) to design truly energy-efficient, comfortable and affordable spaces.

This achievement provides ARENCOS with the ability to offer exceptional in-house expertise to our clients.



**Designing and delivering the best possible living space takes a team committed to a common goal.**

# ASK THE EXPERTS

# ARENÇOS

## OFF-GRID HOUSE IN CRETE: HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Fully off-grid covers places where there is no mains grid connection at all. This could either be down to the costs or purely as a personal choice.

Installing solar panels is not enough to be considered off-grid, and most people who use solar energy still rely on electricity from an outside source.

Read More

Functionality. Practicality. Sustainability. Inclusivity.

Using our critical thinking, knowledge, motivation and passion to deliver lasting value for our projects – that's our approach to sustainability. We have the motivation to do it, and we believe we have the responsibility to do it. **It's that simple.**

## Why ARENCOS?

How we **think** discover more ↗

Our **values** discover more ↗

creativity/ innovation/ transparency

expertise & **ethos**

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