

# creative encounters in paleochora in retrospect

*creativity and economics*

**it** takes courage to risk venturing into the unknown.  
prior to paleochora, I had never been to crete.  
I had never been on a “creative encounter” working holiday  
where there was no agenda or obligation.  
work was work.  
play was play.  
on the other hand, I had always wanted to go to crete.  
I had always been curious about artistic retreats.  
was the week going to be work or play?

**the** levka ori site is high above the village of paleochora, crete.  
the drive takes an hour on winding roads up the mountains.  
the further up you go, the farther away you get from civilisation.  
at the top, you hear only the bells and bleats of goats  
that appear to be freely roaming in search of grass to eat.

**on** my way from the netherlands to crete,  
I was reading a book about using economic arguments  
to analyse topics not generally discussed.  
I was wondering about the peculiar economics  
of art and music.  
I had made my hobby and passion into a profession  
when I moved to the netherlands.  
I wanted to know what it took to succeed  
in earning a living from music.  
would being with other creative individuals  
help me find the answer ?