



TROODOS  
The Green Heart of Cyprus



**CYPRUS TOURISM ORGANISATION**

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Best Emerging Rural Destination  
Cyprus



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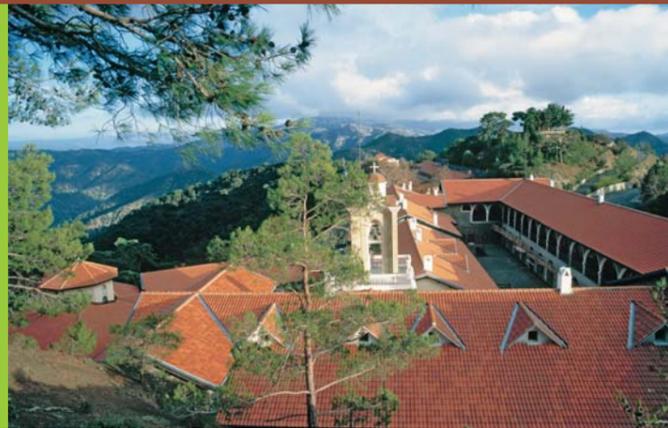


## ABOUT THE EDEN PROJECT

The **European Destinations of Excellence (EDEN)** is a European Commission Tourism Unit initiative calling for submission of proposals from 30 European countries for a pilot project related to rural tourism entitled **Best Emerging Rural Destinations**. The Cyprus Tourism Organisation (CTO) was one of ten National Representatives selected to implement the project. Following a national competition launched by the Cyprus Tourism Organisation, the region of **Troodos**, represented by the 'Troodos Regional Tourism Body' was selected as Best Emerging Rural Destination - Cyprus. The 'Troodos Regional Tourism Body' is a non-profit organisation set up for the sustainable development of tourism in the Troodos region. It represents area local communities, private sector bodies, NGOs and other organised bodies.

For further information on the Cyprus EDEN project e-mail [Maro.Kazepi@cto.org.cy](mailto:Maro.Kazepi@cto.org.cy) or visit [www.rural-cyprus.com](http://www.rural-cyprus.com)

# Welcome to Troodos!



# CYPRUS: Land and People



Welcome to Troodos! The imposing Troodos massif raises its highest peak to 1,952m above sea level, stretching across most of the southwestern part of the Mediterranean island of Cyprus. Nestled within this region are some of the island's most picturesque and tranquil local communities. Charming villages, many with cobbled streets and preserved traditional architecture built on terraced slopes, amid vineyards, almond trees, apple orchards and cherry blossoms!

Troodos was renowned since antiquity for its dense forests and rich mines. It provided timber and copper for the construction of ancient ships and weapons that fought the battles and naval engagements of the classical era. In Byzantine times it became a centre for religious art, as monks and ordinary folk built and decorated superb churches and monasteries, away from the regularly raided and pirate savaged coastal lowlands.

Nature has been particularly generous to Troodos. Its lower slopes alternate between terraced vineyards and the Phoenician juniper maquis, found in abundance near the coast, sprinkled in places with pink rock rose and wild lavender. Bright green pine trees and majestic cedars dominate in the higher elevations. It is an area of extreme natural beauty throughout the year. Whether escaping the summer heat, walking or cycling along scenic routes in spring or autumn or sipping a hot beverage after a demanding skiing descent in winter, Troodos is the place for all seasons.

Troodos provides a wide range of hotels, traditional houses and agrotourism establishments for accommodation and hosting of small scale seminars or conferences. There is a choice of nearly 2,000 available beds, in different types of licensed establishments, from basic village accommodation to 4star hotels. The region offers an abundance of things to do and see. It is an area of fresh air, winding nature trails and scenic panoramas. Walking or cycling through forests in mountain trails, attending local village festivals, experiencing the local traditional gastronomy, or discovering the cultural treasure of UNESCO World Heritage church sites are among the main pursuits. Birdwatchers, botanists, geologists, rambles, bikers, photographers or nature lovers seeking a relaxing break away from the cosmopolitan coastal resorts shall be delighted.



The Republic of Cyprus is the third largest island in the Mediterranean, situated at the crossroads of the continents of Europe, Asia and Africa. It is an EU member state with a long history and rich culture. The island's strategic geographic position has since antiquity played an important part in its turbulent history. Inhabited since prehistoric times, it has been conquered and dominated by many different cultures and civilisations. Phoenicians, Assyrians, Persians, Egyptians, Romans, Franks, Venetians, Ottomans, British, have all left behind visible traces of their passage. On this island once walked Christ's apostles. The Mycenaean Greeks introduced their civilisation 3,500 years ago and permanently installed the island's Hellenic roots. In antiquity, rich copper deposits put Cyprus on the world map. It is widely acclaimed that *cuprum*, the Latin word for copper is derived from the word Cyprus.

The island is an open air museum where one can visit prehistoric settlements, classical Greek temples, Roman theatres and villas, early Christian basilicas, Byzantine era

churches and monasteries, crusader castles, Gothic cathedrals, Venetian fortifications, Moslem mosques and British colonial architecture style buildings.

Cyprus enjoys a typically Mediterranean climate, with long hot summers and mild sunshine-drenched winters with little rainfall. Troodos range occupies most of the southwestern part of the island. The coastal areas of Lemesos (Limassol), Pafos, Polis, Larnaka, Agia Napa and Paralimni have been developed into popular tourist holiday resorts. Lefkosia (Nicosia), the capital, is located inland. In the hinterland villages of Cyprus one may still witness old ways of life, customs and traditions. "Philoxenia", the Greek word for friendliness toward strangers, characterizes the people of the region. Authenticity, warmth and genuine curiosity create a feeling of welcome towards the visitor. Communication is facilitated by the fact that throughout the island the English language is widely spoken.



# Troodos: The Regions



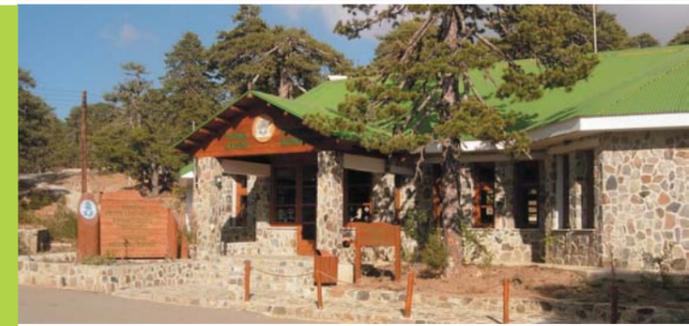
# Lemesos (Limassol) Mountain Resorts



Located around the central higher elevations of Troodos the Lemesos (Limassol) Mountain Resort region features charming pine clad village communities. The region offers a wide network of different nature trails, suitable for all ages and levels of fitness. Skiing is also available in the area during the winter months.

A recommended region attraction is the **Troodos Environmental Information Centre**, located 200 meters west of Troodos square (40 on the Troodos area-Western map). The Centre provides extensive information on Troodos National Park, as well as general information on the geology, flora and fauna of the region.

Another recommended visit place is Platres, where the **Cyprus Tourism Organisation Information Office** is located. Platres (1,230m.) is the largest Troodos resort, situated about 5km from Troodos square. It is the area where most Troodos accommodation establishments are concentrated.



"You cannot sleep in Platres for the nightingales".  
Shy nightingale, hidden among whispering leaves,  
you bring the echoing coolness of the forest  
to the sundered souls and bodies  
of those who know there can be no return.  
Blind voice, fumbling in the dark of memory  
for footsteps, gestures, what I dare not call kisses,  
and the slave-woman's sullen anger.

"You cannot sleep in Platres for the nightingales".

*George Seferis, Greek Nobel laureate  
Helen, Log Book III (1955),  
translated from Greek by John Stathatos (2005)*

## Members of 'Troodos Regional Tourism Body'

The best way to explore Troodos is by car or through an organised coach excursion. The area is divided into five regions, grouped around Olympos, the island's highest mountain:

- Lemesos (Limassol) mountain resorts, around the central higher elevations of the range
- Pitsilia region (North and South), to the east
- Solea valley, to the north
- Marathasa valley, to the west
- 'Krassochoxia' (wine villages) and Koumandaria region, to the south

## Tip

- take along copies of the following CTO publications, available free of charge from any Cyprus Tourism Organisation Office in Platres Resort:
  - A visitors map of Cyprus
  - Map of Troodos Area, many of this brochure attractions are indicated by number on the map
  - European long distance path E4 and other Cyprus nature trails
  - Cyprus: 10000 years of history and civilisation



## Tip

Visit Omodos, a charming cobbled street and preserved folk architecture village.

### Troodos Environmental Information Centre

Troodos Square (Plateia Troodous)  
Tel. +357-25-420144  
Email: troodosvc@fd.moa.gov.cy  
www.moa.gov.cy/forests  
Entrance: CYP 0.50, (€0.85)

### Cyprus Tourism Organisation Tourist Information Office

Platres  
Tel. +357-25-421316  
Email: platresinfo@cto.org.cy  
www.visitcyprus.com

## Pitsilia Region

The region east of mount Olympos is known as Pitsilia. It is home to Machairas National Park. Its highest peaks are Madari (1,612m.) and Papoutsia (1,554m.). Pitsilia is home to some 40 picturesque villages set among vines, almond, hazelnut, walnut and other fruit trees. The interchanging landscape, variety of shapes and colours, old churches and hospitality of the local inhabitants make Pitsilia one of the most charming areas of Cyprus. Hotel or rural house accommodation can be found in the villages of Agros, Askas and Polystipos.



## Solea Valley

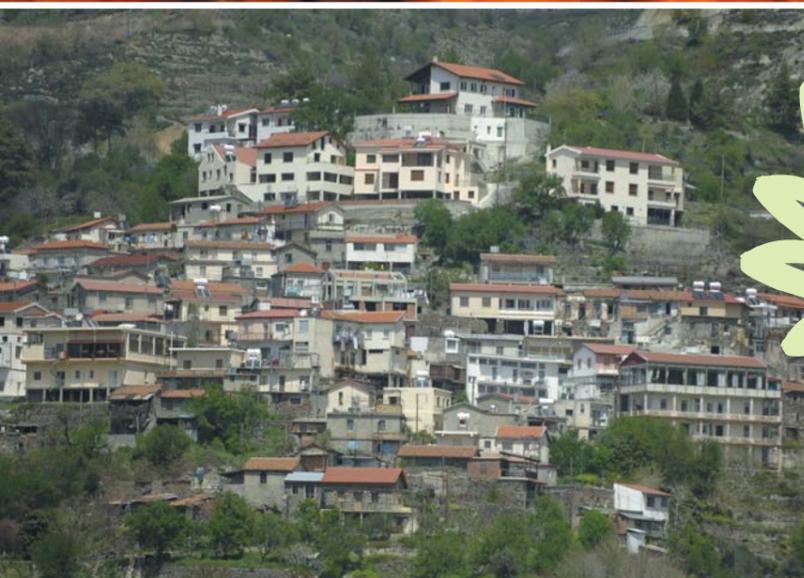
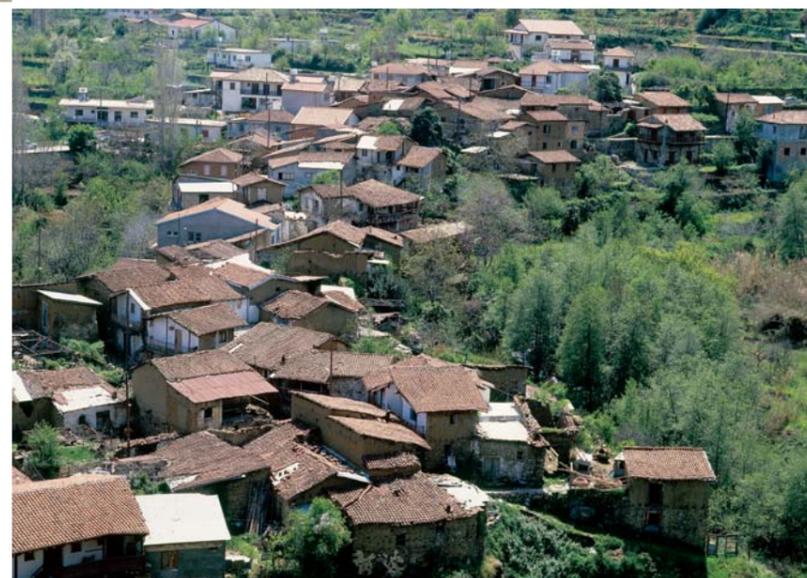
The enchanting Solea Valley is situated along the Lefkosa (Nicosia)-Troodos main road. Solea is home to the picturesque villages of Kakopetria and Galata (730m.), overlooking countless apple trees spread in the valley below, a spectacular sight at blossom time. Both villages are popular hill resorts providing a range of licensed hotels, traditional houses, agrotourism establishments and restaurants.

### Tip

- Try the local fresh water fish trout, a local produce farmed in the area. Served in many Troodos restaurants, it is a gastronomic delight!

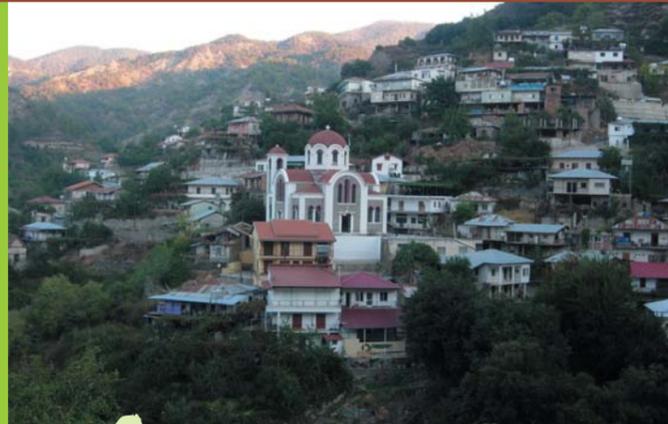
### Tips

- Enter a coffee house (kafenio) in any Troodos village and order a 'Cyprus coffee'. The coffee house is the centre of male social activity. Feel free to chat with the locals and ask for directions or advice on local attractions. They will be delighted to comply and provide hints on things to see and do.
- Taste local delicacies such as "hiromeri" (smoked ham), "loukanika" (spicy smoked sausages), "lountza" (smoked fillet of pork), aromatic rosewater products and "glyka" (preserved fruit sweets).





## Marathassa Valley



## “Krassochooria” (wine villages) and Koumandaria Region



Marathassa Valley is located on the northern slopes of the Troodos range. It is a fertile area, of cherry blossoms and picturesque villages such as Kalopanagiotis, Pedoulas and Moutoullas, where the visitor can be accommodated in small hotels and traditional houses. The area locals are renowned for their traditional arts and crafts skills such as basket weaving and pottery.



### Tips

- Visit Prodromos, the second highest altitude village in Cyprus. At 1,530 meters above sea level it claims one of the healthiest summer climates on the island: cool, oxygen rich and fresh.
- Drink fresh cool water from one of many Troodos natural springs. It is rich in natural minerals and healthy.

Krassochooria' and Koumandaria region is located on the southern slopes of the Troodos range, to the north of Lemesos (Limassol). The region is well known for its local wine production. Traditional forms of viticulture are still kept alive in this region. Some local villages operate small enterprise wineries that welcome visitors. The region vineyards are the source of a sweet wine originally produced by the Grand Commanderie of the Knights of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem during the 14th century. The appropriately named 'vin de Commanderie' or 'Koumandaria wine' is one of the oldest wines in the world, having been referred by its name for eight centuries.



### Tip

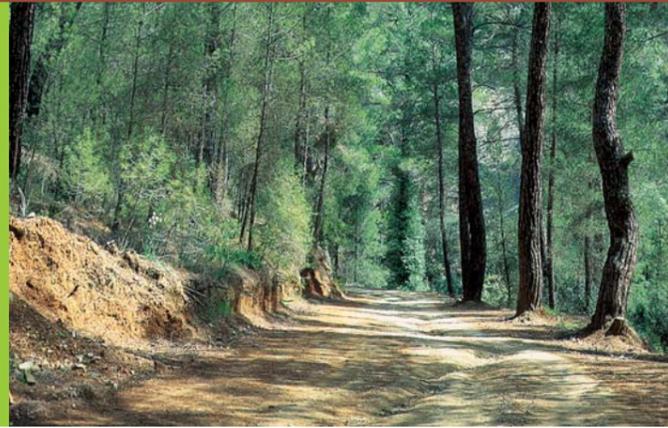
- Spend some time in a traditional house or agrotourism establishment developed by the Cyprus Tourism Organisation under the 'Cyprus Agrotourism Programme'. Region visitors can find such accommodation in the localities of Arsos, Vasa and Vouni. For more information and reservation options on licensed traditional house accommodation in Troodos contact the Cyprus Agrotourism Company.



### Cyprus Agrotourism Company

Tel: +357-22-340071  
E-mail: [helpdesk@agrotourism.com.cy](mailto:helpdesk@agrotourism.com.cy)  
[www.agrotourism.com.cy](http://www.agrotourism.com.cy)

# Escape, Explore, Seek, Discover: Nature at its best



Troodos includes two major national forest parks and five nature preserves:

### Troodos National Forest Park

Troodos National Forest Park covers an area of 9,337 hectares around Olympos mountain. The highest point is Chionistra (1,952 m) and the lowest is Moni forest (700m). The area is of great natural beauty, suitable for such activities as hiking, winter skiing, biking, nature study and picnics.

The area is renowned for its rich flora and fauna. It is home to 750 species of flowering plants, 12 of which are

indigenous within the park. Park animal life is protected. Of particular interest are the Griffon Vulture, Raven, Bonelli's Eagle, Cyprus Warbler, Scops Owl, Treecreeper, and the Cyprus Pied Wheatear. The mouflon (*Ovis orientalis*) is a species of wild mountain sheep with thick sinuous horns that grazes in the wider area.

The region geology includes a well-preserved ophiolite complex, created from oceanic crust about 90 million years ago. Elements of this complex can be viewed walking along one of the many Park nature trails.

### Machairas National Forest Park

Machairas Park in Pitsilia Region contains over 600 plant species, including 27 indigenous to Cyprus. The dominant forest trees are the calabrian pine (*Pinus brutia*), the native golden oak (*Quercus alnifolia*) and other shrubs. Fauna include foxes, hares and hedgehogs, snakes, lizards and rare endemic species of butterflies. Birdlife in the Park include Bonelli's eagle, the Cyprus Warbler, Cyprus Wheatear, Coal Tit, Scops Owl, Jay and the common Chukar and Wood pigeon. The two most important Cyprus rivers, Pediaios and Yialias, spring from the park.

### Nature Reserves – Protected Flora and Fauna areas

In Troodos five Nature Protection Areas have been declared, totalling an area of 1,408 hectares. All areas have been included in the European network of areas "NATURA 2000":

**Chionistra**, the highest Troodos peak includes black pine forests, Phoenician juniper and Serpentinophilous grasslands of Cyprus. It also accommodates large numbers of the Cyprus crocuses included in the EU Habitat Directive.

**Presidential Summer House**, off the Troodos – Platres main road is covered with stands of black pine, golden oak and riparian oriental plane trees. Two other types of flora are also found in the area, the Butterwort and Kennedy's rock-cress (*Arabis kennedyae*), which have been included in the EU Habitat Directive.

**Livadi tou Pashia**, off the Troodos – Karvounas main road contains turfs, wetlands developed in cavities flooded during winter which remain muddy and wet throughout the summer season.

**Pikromiloudi**, off the Troodos – Karvounas main road, extending towards Solea Valley. It includes black pine forests and stands of golden oak. A rare plant found in the area is the Butterwort (*Pinguicula crystallina*). It is included in the EU Habitat Directive.

**Madari**, in the Adelfi Forest (Pitsilia Region) contains important and unique forest ecosystems, such as the black pine forest, the pure golden oak and juniper (*Juniperus excelsa*) stands. Some 40 endemic species of flora and a large number of rare birds are found in the area, among them three endemic species.

### Picnic sites

Troodos has many picnic sites, all managed by the Cyprus Forestry Department. They are located in areas which provide easy access, shade, water, suitable topography and attractive landscapes. Offered facilities include benches and tables, barbecue sites, potable water, sanitary facilities, children playgrounds and car parking. All facilities are provided free of charge.

### Camping sites

Troodos has three camping sites where camping is allowed for a small fee per overnight stay. They provide basic facilities such as barbecue sites, potable water, benches and tables and washrooms.



### Tip

- For a list of all Troodos picnic and camping sites consult the Cyprus Forestry Department website: [www.moa.gov.cy/moa/fd/fd.nsf](http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/fd/fd.nsf)

## Nature Trails and Walking Routes



On your bike!



Troodos is ideal for hiking and rambling, with a wide range of trails suited to all ages and abilities. For a list of available Cyprus trails visitors may consult the 'European Long Distance Path E4 and other Cyprus Nature

Trails' publication, available from any CTO Information Offices. Furthermore, the CTO map of Troodos area marks the Troodos E4 section, as well as 23 area scenic trails. A recommended selection of five trails:

<p><b>Stavros Agiasmati – Panagia tou Araka Trail (Linear)</b> Trail 32 on the Troodos Area (Eastern) map Length: 7km Time: 2-4 hours Difficulty Level: High</p>	<p>The trail is part of the European Long Distance Path E4. It connects two interesting churches: Stavros tou Agiasmati (1494 AD) and Panagia tou Araka (1192 AD) both listed UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The trail runs through dense pine forest, orchards, almond trees, past old stone terraces. It goes past abandoned vineyards and re-enters the forest, reaching the village of Lagoudera (altitude 1,000m), from where it follows roads to reach the church of Panagia tou Araka. The forest comprises of Calabrian pine, native golden oak and other shrubs such as the eastern strawberry tree. The rock formations are exclusively diabase.</p>
<p><b>Artemis Trail (Circular)</b> Trail 46 on the Troodos Area (Western) map Length: 7km Time: 2-3 hours Difficulty Level: Easy</p>	<p>The starting point is 300m from the junction between Chionistra road and the Troodos - Prodrornos main road, at an altitude of 1,850m. Points of interest include the Black pine forest, rare species of flora and area rock formations. Of historic interest are the ruins of temporary fortifications built during the final year of Venetian rule of Cyprus (1571 AD) by a group of Venetian generals who chose the location for a final stand against the invading Ottomans. The route goes round the Chionistra peak, providing spectacular views in all directions.</p>
<p><b>Atalanti Trail (Circular)</b> Trail 47 on the Troodos Area (Western) map Length: 14km Time: 4-5 hours Difficulty Level: Average</p>	<p>The trail starts at Troodos Square and goes around Chionistra peak, at an altitude of 1700-1750m. It travels through dense thickets of black pine and Troodos Juniper Phoenicia. One of the oldest Cyprus Junipers (800+ years old) can be found in the area. There are outstanding views in all directions. At 3km from the Troodos Square there is a spring with drinking water.</p>
<p><b>Persephone Trail (Linear)</b> Trail 54 on the Troodos Area (Western) map Length: 3km Time: 1 hour Difficulty Level: Easy</p>	<p>The starting point is 150m south of Troodos Square. Walkers must either return to the starting point or be picked up at the point where the trail crosses the forest road. Points of interest include rich pine forest vegetation during initial 2km and panoramic views.</p>
<p><b>Kalidonia Trail (Linear)</b> Trail 50 on the Troodos Area (Western) map Length: 3km Time: 1.5 hours Difficulty Level: High</p>	<p>The starting point is about 700m from the main road from Troodos to Platres, near the Presidential summer house. The trail follows a downstream course along river Kryos Potamos. It passes by Kalidonia waterfalls and ends at location Psilo Dendro, in Pano Platres village. Walkers must either return to the starting point or be picked up from either end of the trail.</p>

Troodos is ideal for all year round biking. It provides excellent biking terrain, quiet paved roads, breathtaking scenery and plenty of fresh air.

The Cyprus Tourism Organisation is about to launch 'Troodos cycling routes', a 57km cycling path around Troodos National Park, complete with road surface marking, directional signage, area maps and a comprehensive area bike guide. The project is being co-financed by EU Structural Funds.

Most of Troodos main and loose surface roads are suitable for mountain biking. Two recommended routes, combining a variety of surfaces:

### Troodos square – Agios Nikolaos tis Stegis - Troodos square

Start/finish Point: Troodos square  
Distance: 36km  
Route: Troodos square (1,730m – 0km), Karvounas (1,190m – 9km), Platania (1,090m – 10km), Agios Nikolaos tis Stegis (850m – 18km) Troodos square (1,730m – 36km)  
Surface: Paved and loose surface forest road  
Difficulty Level: High, 21 speed bike in good condition

Description: The route follows the main road, descending from Troodos square past Karvounas main road junction and further down to Platania picnic site and forest station. From there the route swings left along a forest road to reach Agios Nikolaos tis Stegis Church



(number 17 on the Troodos Area – Western map). The church, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is covered entirely in frescoes dating from the 11th-17th centuries. The route then passes briefly along the paved road from Kakopetria to Prodrornos villages, before joining the loose surface road on the left leading back to Troodos. After 12km of steep uphill the route goes past the entrance to the chrome quarry. It then reaches the Troodos-Prodrornos main road back to Troodos square.

### Troodos square – Psilo Dendro – Kalidonia - Troodos square

Start/finish Point: Troodos square  
Distance: 18km  
Route: From Troodos square (1,730m – 0km), Psilo Dendro (1,185m – 11km), Kalidonia waterfall (1,300m – 14km), Troodos square (1,730 – 18km)  
Surface: Paved and loose surface forest road  
Difficulty Level: Low, front fork suspension bike

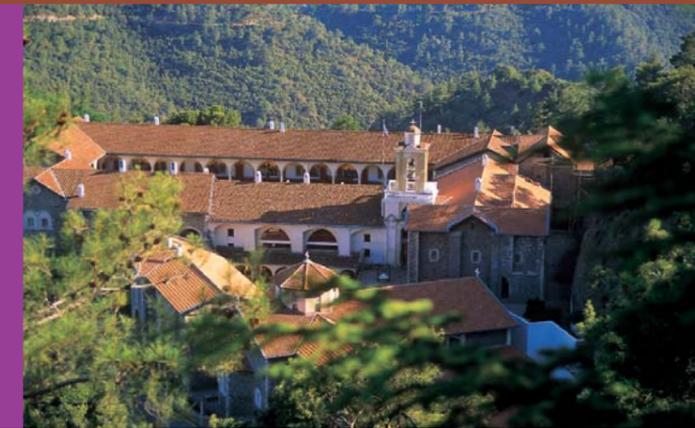
Description: The route follows the loose surface road, past number 54 on the Troodos Area – Western map heading gradually downhill in a southeast direction towards kremmos tis keramis. It then swings westwards to reach Psilo Dendro area. From there the loose surface road goes uphill for about 3km to a fork, where the right road leads to Kalidonia waterfalls and the left road continues to the Platres-Troodos main road, where another right turn leads northwards back to Troodos square.



# The Wine Trails



# Religion and Culture



Cyprus boasts the highest production rate of grapes in the world in proportion to its size and population. Most Cyprus vineyards are located in the Troodos area, predominantly on the southern slopes in the 'Krassochoria' and Koumandaria regions of Lemesos (Limassol) district. Local communities grow many indigenous varieties of grapes, ideal for wine.

Cyprus wines range from very dry, through dry and medium sweet to very sweet. In all, over 100 grape varieties are cultivated.

Scattered throughout the sun kissed southern slopes of

Troodos, a number of small enterprise wineries welcome visitors. It is the perfect opportunity to meet and mix with the locals. It is recommended that prior to a visit, one should make telephone contact to make sure the winery will be open. A list of Troodos wineries is available from the Cyprus Tourism Organisation (CTO) Platres information office.

CTO is currently preparing a series of organised "Wine Routes", including a specialist publication, to introduce visitors to Cypriot wines. The project is being co-financed by EU Structural Funds.

Troodos is where the old painted churches of Cyprus, superb examples of Byzantine art can be found. Ten such churches, with their remarkable pitched wooden roofs, icons and frescoes, are listed UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Situated in beautiful and tranquil settings, they are bound to impress the visitor. Troodos is also host to some of the most divine monasteries, such as Machairas, Kykkos, Trooditissa, Omodos and Mesa Potamos.

CTO is currently preparing a specialist publication on Cyprus religious and cultural routes. The project is being co-financed by EU Structural Funds.



**Tips**

- Grape based gastronomic delicacies. Taste such local treats such as raisins, rubbery 'shoushoukko' seen hanging from roadside stalls, 'ppalouze', or 'zivanja' made from highly distilled grape juice with a very high content of alcohol.
- "The Cyprus Wine Story" brochure as well as a list of local area wineries, available free of charge from any CTO Tourist Information Office.

### Kykkos Monastery

(Reference E3 on Troodos area-Western) map  
 Founded in 1100 and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Its museum houses a priceless collection of icons, manuscripts and other religious items.

### Machairas Monastery

(18 on Troodos area-Eastern) map  
 Founded in 1148 when a miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary was discovered in a nearby cave. The vestry of the monastery maintains a room where old books and manuscripts are kept, exhibition areas and storage rooms with icons and ecclesiastic objects.



UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Community	Site	Location
<i>Kakopetria</i>	<i>Agios Nikolaos tis Stegis</i>	(17 on Troodos area-Western) map
<i>Kalopanagiotis</i>	<i>Agios Ioannis Lambadistis</i>	(16 on Troodos area-Western) map
<i>Nikitari</i>	<i>Panagia Asinou</i>	(16 on Troodos area-Eastern) map
<i>Lagoudera</i>	<i>Panagia to Araka</i>	(17 on Troodos area-Eastern) map
<i>Moutoullas</i>	<i>Panagia (Moutoulla)</i>	(28 on Troodos area-Western) map
<i>Pedoulas</i>	<i>Archangelos</i>	(18 on Troodos area-Western) map
<i>Pelendri</i>	<i>Timios Stavros</i>	(38 on Troodos area-Western) map
<i>Galata</i>	<i>Panagia Podithou</i>	(32 on Troodos area-Western) map
<i>Platanistasa</i>	<i>Stavros tou Agiasmati</i>	(19 on Troodos area-Eastern) map
<i>Palaichori</i>	<i>Metamorphosis tou Sotiros</i>	(13 on Troodos area-Eastern) map



## Tradition, Heritage, Leisure



Tradition and heritage form an important part of daily life in Troodos. Set amid the stunning landscape, small communities and villages have existed for centuries. An integral part of life in the region are local festivals commemorating the patron saint of a village. Other events cover a wide variety of themes such as folk art and crafts festivals, bread, preserved sweets, meat and other local produce exhibitions and wine tasting events. In recent years, the Cyprus Tourism Organisation has been

### Museums and other places of interest, leisure and activity

Troodos is home to many small museums and centres dedicated to traditional skills, environment, iconography and rural life. The visitor is advised to call beforehand to determine whether the museum/centre will be open at the time of the planned visit. A sample selection of such places of interest is provided below:

**Centre for Byzantine iconography** – located in Omodos village, dedicated to the creation of religious icons using traditional methods.

**Pylavakion pottery museum** – located in Foini village, a private museum, it displays examples of local pottery, traditional agriculture tools and early 20th century household items.

**Museum of popular art** – located in Galata village, it exhibits over 500 types of traditional tools and implements, church icons, embroidery patterns and traditional household items.

**Rural museum** – located in Fikardou, a deserted village declared 'ancient monument' and carefully restored to preserve its 18th century houses. Two such houses known as 'Katsinioros' and 'Achilleas Dimitris' residences host an interesting rural museum presenting exhibits from agricultural life in Cyprus as well as traditional weaving. The two buildings have been awarded with the 'Europa Nostra' award for traditional architecture.

**Ecclesiastical museums** – located in the villages of Agridia, Vasa, Koilani, Omodos and Palaichori. They house a collection of icons and ecclesiastical objects.

sponsoring such events as a way of introducing rural Cyprus traditions to the wider public.

In addition to events focusing on local tradition and heritage, Troodos hosts a wide range of special leisure activities catering to all ages and tastes. These range from 'classic motorcar' rallies to active day events where the whole family can try their skills at such activities such as archery, horse riding or mountain biking.

**Folk art museums** – located in Arsos and Omodos villages.

**19th century olive presses** – Restored structures located in Agridia, Pera Pedi and Spilia villages.

**Traditional watermills** – located in Galata and Platanistasa villages.

**Byzantine and folk art museum** – located in Pedoulas village. The Byzantine museum is located a few meters from the Archangelos church. It houses icons and artifacts dating from the 12th century.

**Traditional rose water workshop** – located in Agros village.

**Water dams** – located in scenic areas in or near Palaichori, Xyliatos, Kalopanagiotis and Alassa, these fresh water dams offer ideal relaxing day trip locations for the whole family.

**Sports Facilities** – a variety of indoor sports can be enjoyed in a modern sports hall located in Agros village (tel.: +357-22-897109). Additional sports halls are planned in the villages of Platres (tel.: +357-25-813112) and Kyperounta.

**Skiing** – During normal winter weather conditions, Troodos can offer visitors an enjoyable skiing experience. The location is mount Olympos (Chionistra) at 1,952m, an ideal setting for novice and expert skiers. Ski instruction lessons and equipment rental is available from the local ski club (tel.: +357-25-420104/5, +357-25-420165).



For specific information and updated agendas on events, activities, museums and other Troodos related enquiries contact the Regional Body for Tourism Development and Promotion of Troodos:  
Tel. +357-25-421316  
Email: [papplatres@cytanet.com.cy](mailto:papplatres@cytanet.com.cy)

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