



Educational programmes

The Centre is part of the Network of Environmental Education Centres of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth of the Republic of Cyprus.

The Centre is currently offering one-day and all-day training programmes on the environmental particularities and characteristics of the area, such as biodiversity, sea, geology and soil, water, energy, sustainable tourism, culture and local society, local crops, etc. These educational programmes are offered throughout the year to schools and other educational institutions, to pupils and students, as well as teachers from all levels of education.

Opening hours

The Kavο Gkreko Visitor Centre is open all year round. From October to March from 10:00 to 15:00 on weekdays except weekends, in April from 10:00 to 15:00 on weekdays and 10:00 to 18:00 on weekends and holidays and from May to September from 10:00 to 18:00 on weekdays and weekends. Interested parties may find further information on the Department of Forests website (www.moa.gov.cy/fd) or by calling 23814412.

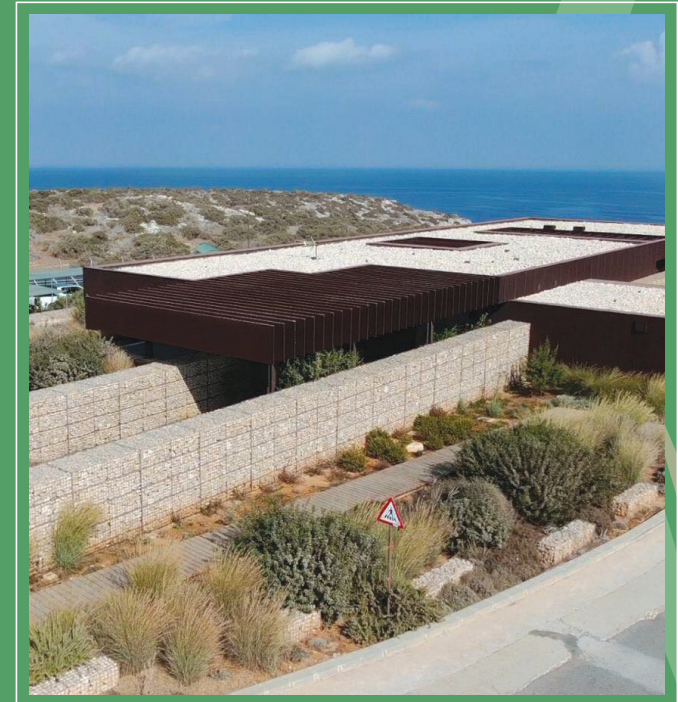
Entry fees

Children up to the age of 6: Free of charge
Children aged from 6-12: €1
Persons aged 12 and over: € 2



Kavο Gkreko

Environmental Information and Education Centre



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The Kavο Gkreko Environmental Information and Education Centre is located at the southeast end of Cyprus, within the Kavο Gkreko National Forest Park (NFP).

It has been operating since 2016 and is one of the most modern and well-organised environmental centres of the island. It functions as an exhibition area as well as an educational and information centre for the public. It is included in the Network of Environmental Education Centres of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth. It was established by the Department of Forests of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment under the 2007-2013 Rural Development Programme. It was co-funded by the European Union and the Republic of Cyprus and it operates in cooperation with the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute.

The building is located in a protected area within the Natura 2000 network of protected areas and it is unique for both its architectural concept and construction materials, which are a combination of local stone and oxidised steel. The building was awarded the Republic of Cyprus State Architecture Award 2016.

The establishment of the Centre is an important project, which contributes greatly to the upgrading of the Park, based on the principles of sustainable development, as well as to the protection, preservation and efficient management of the area's environmental wealth.

The Centre's mission is to highlight and promote the uniqueness of both the Kavο Gkreko NFP and the Kokkinochoria area, by the active involvement of the local population and the utilisation of all the fields of the area as essential educational and pedagogical tools.

The Centre is based in a brand new building adapted to the natural environment of the area. It is an ecological, environmentally friendly building, with appropriate bioclimatic behaviour and minimum negative impact (construction, energy and aesthetics) on the environment. The building is a natural extension of Kavο Gkreko's landscape since its materials, colours and textures are in harmony with the area's natural environment.



The Centre

The Centre comprises an amphitheater/lecture and screening room, a lecture room/computer lab, an exhibition hall, aquariums, a reception area and a cafeteria. In the exhibition hall there are dioramas of the area's flora and fauna species, collections of shells, fossils and rocks, but also interactive quizzes, computers with touch screens and much more. Externally there is a large garden, which hosts many representative species of Cyprus's flora and it is used as an outdoor educational area, as well as a place for relaxation and entertainment of the visitors. The Centre is fully equipped for both indoor and outdoor activities.

The Centre also provides the possibility to interested parties to hold seminars, events and conferences, following communication and prior arrangements with the Centre's staff.



Personnel

The Centre is staffed and managed by personnel of the Department of Forests, as well as by Primary or Secondary Education teachers, with studies and professional training in Environmental Education and Sustainable Development.

Reception / Shop

Visitors may obtain information and relevant material about the Park at the reception. Books and souvenirs are also available for sale at the shop.

Screening room

At the screening room, visitors may watch a 17-minute-long film, a virtual walk-through the Kavο Gkreko National Forest Park.