

Introduction

Cyprus Forestry College is a Governmental Institution of Tertiary Education. It is situated at Prodomos village, of Limassol district and is the only forest educational institution in Cyprus. It was established in 1951 with the main aim to train Cypriot and overseas students.

An area of 2.400 ha is under the administration of the Forestry College while part of it is included in the Troodos National Forest Park. It provides excellent facilities for all aspects of practical training in forestry. For recreation, sport activities and environmental education the following trails have been constructed:

“Fraktis Prodomou-Stavroulia”

This nature trail has been designed and constructed by the Department of Forests and funded by the Cyprus Tourism Organization. It is a linear downhill trail, completed in 2001. The starting point has an altitude of 1600m and the ending point has an altitude of 1300m above sea level.



Directional sign

Starting point: It is on the main road of Troodos square – Prodomos village just above Fraktis Prodomou (Prodomos water reservoir). Hikers can choose between two different routes ending at two different points on the asphalted main road of Pedhoulas – Kakopetria (Agios Nikolaos tis Stegis).

Length: The route ending at point 4 is 5,2km while the one ending at point 5 is 5,4km.

Walking time: 1,5h for the first route, and 2h for the second route.

Degree of difficulty: 3 (on a scale of 1-5), steep downhill gradient.

Points of interest: Rich flora, especially century - old trees of black pine, the age of which sometimes exceed 500 years, Cedar tree (*Cedrus brevifolia*), nepeta (*Nepeta troodi*), teucrium (*Teucrium cyprium*), alyssum (*Alyssum troodi*), Juniperus (*Juniperus foeditissima*), styrax (*Styrax officinalis*) etc. Plutonic rocks (pyroxenite, dunite) constitute significant elements of natural and general interest too. Along the route hikers come across extraordinary view points of the Troodos range like the Monastery of Virgin Mary at Kykkos, the Veregaria Hotel at Prodomos, the various villages of the Marathasa and Solia valleys and the Morfou bay and Pentadactylos Range. There is also a panoramic view eastwards towards the abandoned chromium mine installations.



Pinus nigra ssp. pallasiana -
Black pine

“Prodomos-Zoumi”

This nature trail has been designed and constructed by the Department of Forests. Funded by the European Rural Development Programme, the trail was completed in 2005.

It is an uphill linear trail for the first 3km and then downhill. The starting point has an elevation of 1400m. Its highest point reaches an altitude of 1500m and the ending point an altitude of 1300m above sea level.

Starting point: It is next to the Department of Forests Children Playground, 100m from the Prodomos central square. Hikers can choose between two different routes ending at two different ending points on the asphalted main road of Pedhoulas – Kakopetria (Agios Nikolaos tis Stegis).

Length: The length for the route ending at point 4 is 6km, while for the second route ending at point 5 is 6,2km.

Walking time: 2 h

Degree of difficulty: 2 (on a scale of 1-5)



Wooden bridge

Points of interest: Panoramic view of the wider Troodos area, unique geological formations, dense stands of black pine and endemic plants of the Troodos area (described in detail) such as pterocephalus (*Pterocephalus multiflorus* var. *multiflorus*), troodos sage (*Salvia willeana*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), cyprus germander (*Teucrium cyprium*), hedgerow hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), etrusca honeysuckle (*Lonicera etrusca*), etc.



View point

“Pinewood Athletic trail”

This athletic trail, has been designed and constructed, by the Department of Forests, with funds from the Cyprus Tourism Organization.

It is a circular trail, with an altitude of 1300m above sea level and was completed in 2005.

Starting point: The starting point is on the main road Pedhoulas – Prodomos, close to the road leading to “Churchill” hotel.

Length: 800m.

Walking time: 0,5-1 h

Degree of difficulty: 1, (in a scale of 1-5)

Points of interest: There are a number of wooden exercise stations along the trail. Instructions on how to carry out various exercises are available at each station. Good physical condition is necessary. Panoramic excellent view of the villages of Pedhoulas, Moutoulas, Kalopanagiotis and Morphou bay.

Rich flora such as, cyprus odontites (*Odontites cypria*) black pine (*Pinus nigra*) arbutus (*Arbutus andrachne*), ivy, (*Hedera helix*), etc. Detailed descriptions are available.

“Prodomos - Lemythou”

This nature trail, has been designed and constructed by the Forestry Department, with funds from the Cyprus Tourism Organization.

It is a linear downhill trail with an altitude of 1400m above sea level. It was completed in 2005.

Starting point: It is on a secondary road to the left hand side, on the road Prodomos square – Cyprus Forestry College at a distance of 150m. The ending point of the trail is very close to Mitsis School at Lemythou village, at an altitude of 1170m.

Length: 1,8km.

Walking time: 0,5-1 h

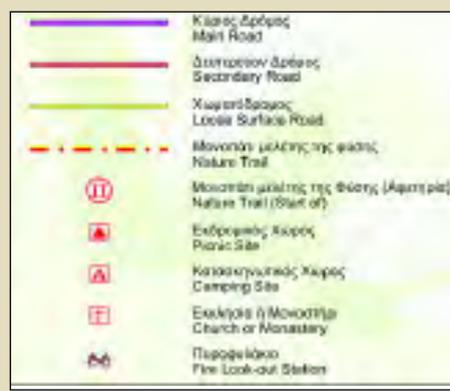
Degree of difficulty: 3, (on a scale of 1-5),

Steep downhill gradient.

Points of interest: Pleasant route through dense stands of black pine and privately owned abandoned agricultural lands. Rich flora such as white beam (*Sorbus aria*), wild peonies (*Paeonia mascula*), dog rose (*Rosa canina*) cyprus odontites (*Odontites cypria*), traveller’s joy (*Clematis vitalba*), ivy (*Hedera helix*) etc. The trail passes nearby a Monitoring Plot, of the Department of Forests which assesses the impact of biotic and abiotic factors on forests.



Paeonia mascula-wild peony



Trails routes

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Fraktis Prodomou/Stavroulia: 1 → 2 → 3 → 4 → 5 | 3. Pinewood Athletic trail: 7 → 8 |
| 2. Prodomos-Zoumi: 6 → 2 → 3 → 4 → 5 | 4. Prodomos-Lemythou: 9 → 10 → 11 |

If you have any comments, suggestions or questions please contact the Department of Forests Headquarters, tel. 22805529 at Nicosia or the Cyprus Forestry College tel. 25813606, 25462064 at Prodomos
In case of a forest fire only call at once 1407 (24 hours) Emergency calls 112 or 199



Wooden athletic structure

Useful Advice

- Respect the natural environment. It is forbidden to:
- Light a fire in, or near, the forest.
 - Use bicycles or motorbikes on the trails
 - Litter the forest
 - Cut plants or carve the bark of trees
 - Disturb animal and bird life
 - Walk off the trail

Nature Trails within the College Forest



Paeonia mascula



Gagea juliae



Arabis purpurea



Colchicum troodi



Anemone coronaria



Chionodoxa lochiaea



Scutellaria cyprica



Odontites cyprica

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