

The name Kyparissia originates from the abundance of cypress trees confined mainly to the upper part of the trail. The highest peak of the area, "Moutti tis Kyparissias", has an altitude of 692m. From there the visitor can command an excellent view to the city of Lemessos as well as the Akrotiri salt-lake and Germasogeia water dam.

The nature trail of Kyparissia is mainly a circular trail with a total distance of 6,7km. The walking



time is about 2 hours and the degree of difficulty 1 (on a scale of 1-3). The visitor has the opportunity to select a second route since at a certain point of the circular route there is a linear trail directing the visitor to Foinikaria village, with a total length of 8 km. Degree of difficulty 3.

The starting point of the trail is located 3 km from the main road of Kellaki-Parekklisia.

Geologically, the area is characterized by the dominance of serpentinite. This type of rock belongs to Troodos Ophiolite Complex and is the result of the hydration of a rock called Harzburgite. The latter together with Gabbro appear also at certain points along the route of the circular trail.

Along the trail the visitor may see and admire a large variety of plants, of which some are endemic.

Endemic plants:

- **Ballota integrifolia**, the entire-leaved horn-bound.
- Alyssum chondrogynum,
- Thymus integer, the thyme



- Ptilostemon chamaepeuce,
- Helianthemum obtusifolium.

Other plants found in the trail are:

- Lavandula stoechas, the lavender,
- **Phagnalon rupestre ssp. graecum**, the African fleabane,
- Teucrium creticum,
- Lithodora hispidula, the gromwell,
- Myrtus communis, the myrtle,
- Pistacia terebinthus, the terebinth,
- Smilax aspera, the prickly ivy,
- Cistus salviifolius and Cistus creticus, the rock rose,
- Astragalus lusitanicus ssp. orientalis,





- Sarcopoterium spinosum, the prickly burnet,
- Pistacia lentiscus, the lentisk,
- Calycotome villosa, the thorny broom,
- Genista sphacelata var. sphacelata, the thorny gorse,
- Helichrisum italicum,
- Asphodelus aestivus,
- Rubus sanctus, the bramble,
- Prenanthes triquetra.

The tree species of the trail are:

- Cupressus sempervirens var. horizontalis, the cypress,
- Pinus brutia, the Calabrian pine,
- Ceratonia siliqua, the carob tree,
- Olea europaea, the olive tree.

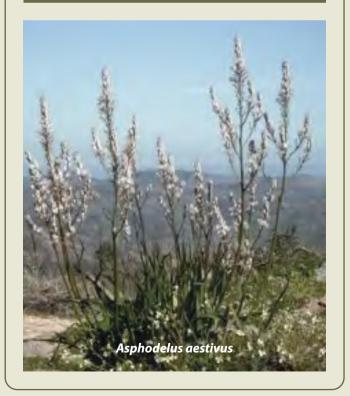


The fauna of the area is equally plentiful. The mammals that can be seen are the hare-*Lepus europaeus*, the red fox-*Vulpes vulpes indutus* and the hedgehog-*Hemiechinus auritus dorotheae*. Many birds enrich the scenery of the area like the partridge-*Alectoris chuka*r, the wood pigeon-*Columba palumbus*, the rock dove-*Columba livia*, the turtle dove-*Streptopelia turtur*, the kestrel-*Falco tinnun-culus*, as well as some endemic birds like the cyprus wheatear-*Oenanthe cypriaca* and the cyprus warbler-*Sylvia melanothorax*. Finally, some reptiles can be seen in the area. These are the black snake-*Dolichophis jugularis*, the lount nose



viper-*Macrovipera lebetina*. Further more, the-*Laudakia stellio cypriaca* and the chameleon-*Chamaeleo chamaeleon*.

- All visitors must have in mind the following:
- Lighting of fire in, or near the forest is strictly prohibited.
- Avoid smoking or eating during your walk.
- Do not cut plants and do not disturb wildlife in any way.





If you have any remarks, suggestions or questions you are welcome to contact the Forest Station at Platania, tel. 22922454, Limassol Forest Station, tel.25872306 or the headquarters of the Department Forests at Lefkosia, tel. 22805533, 22805510 In case of a forest fire or emergency <u>only</u>, call 1407 (24 hours – Free of charge)

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