

This nature trail was constructed in 1996 by the Department of Forests and funded by the Cyprus Tourism Organization.

It is a linear uphill trail offering the opportunity to hikers to visit various hideouts or Spilies tou Digeni, a historical monument, which were the headquarters of EOKA\* during the liberation anticolonial struggle of 1955-59, at Straorouthkia area, at an altitude of 1236 metres.

The area around the trail is part of the Natura 2000 site “Madari- Papoutsá”.



Asphodel (*Asphodelus aestivus*)



Information point

### Starting point

Agia Eirini village, nearby Agia Eirini church at an altitude of 885 m.

### Length

The trail is 5.1 Km. At location Selladi tis Straorouthkias the trail meets Kourdali – Limeria (Spilies tou Digeni) trail. Both trails continue on a common route for 2 Km.

### Walking time

The walking time is 2-2,5h.

### Degree of difficulty

5 (on scale 1-5), due to steep ascending gradient.

### Points of interest

- The church of Timios Stavros with excellent sixteen century frescoes.
- The excellent views towards Morfou Bay.
- The various restored hideouts used by EOKA
- The rich natural forest vegetation. The **Calabrian**



Timios Stavros church



Head quarters

**pine** (*Pinus brutia*) is the dominant vegetation of the forest area. The endemic **Golden oak** (*Quercus alnifolia*) and other shrubs are part of the under storey or occupy openings with low vegetation.



Calabrian pine (*Pinus brutia*)

On the way to Limeria, hikers have the opportunity to see **Eastern strawberry tree** (*Arbutus andrachne*), **Terebinth** (*Pistacia terebinthus*), **Mediterranean hawthorn** (*Crataegus azarolus*), **Sumach** (*Rhus coriaria*), **Rock rose** (*Cistus creticus* and *Cistus salviifolius*), **Three-leaved sage** (*Salvia fruticosa*), **Thyme** (*Thymus integer*), **Everlasting** (*Helichrysum conglobatum*), **Pterocephalus** (*Pterocephalus multiflorus*), **Milk vetch** (*Astragalus lusitanicus*), **Stonecrop** (*Sedum sediforme*), **Madder** (*Rubia tenuifolia*), **Inula** (*Inula viscosa*), **Cyprus scullcup** (*Scutellaria cypria*), **Etruscan honeysuckle** (*Lonicera etrusca*), **Maple** (*Acer obtusifolium*),



Eastern strawberry tree (*Arbutus andrachne*)



Milk vetch (*Astragalus lusitanicus*)



Three-leaved sage (*Salvia fruticosa*)

**Germander** (*Teucrium cypricum*), **Common thatching grass** (*Hyparrhenia hirta*), **Purple rock-cress** (*Arabis purpurea*), **Common asphodel** (*Asphodelus aestivus*), **Almond tree** (*Prunus dulcis*) etc.



Purple rock-cress (*Arabis purpurea*)

If you have an interest in wildlife, you may have the chance to observe different small animals like the **Fox** (*Vulpes vulpes*), and the **Hare** (*Lepus europaeus cypricus*), as well as birds like **Partridge** (*Alectoris chukar*), **Wood-pigeon** (*Columba palumbus*), **Common Kestrel** (*Falco tinnunculus*), **Eurasian Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*), **Cyprus wheatear** (*Oenanthe cyprica*) and **Jay** (*Garrulus glandarius*).



Hare (*Lepus europaeus cyprius*)

The poisonous snake **Blunt-nosed viper** (*Macrovipera lebetina*), and other non-poisonous snakes like **Montpellier snake** (*Malpolon monspessulanus*), the most common **Large whip snake** (*Dolichophis jugularis*), and the **Agama lizard** (*Laudakia stellio cyprica*) can also be observed in the area.

A secondary access route, for those willing to have a shorter walk towards Limeria, is either through a forest raw road from Spillia village or through a nature trail from Kourdali village.

\* *Etniki Organosi Kyprion Agoniston (EOKA) The National Organisation of Cypriot Fighters, led an anticolonial, liberation struggle during the period 1955-59.*



Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)



Partridge (*Alectoris chukar*)

### Nature trail code:

- ⇒ Respect the natural environment
- ⇒ Keep on the trail
- ⇒ Respect animal and bird life
- ⇒ Lighting fires in, or near the forest is strictly prohibited.
- ⇒ The driving of bicycles or motorbikes on the trails is prohibited
- ⇒ Help to keep the trail clean, please pick up litter and use litter receptacles.
- ⇒ Cutting of plants or carving the bark of trees is prohibited
- ⇒ Dogs are not allowed

If you have any comments, suggestions or questions please contact the Forestry Department Headquarters, tel. 22805529 at Nicosia, or the Forest Station at Platania, tel. 22924219

**In case of a forest fire only call at once 1407 (24 hours) Emergency calls 112 or 199**

## AGIA EIRINI - LIMERIA NATURE TRAIL



### LEGEND

- Agia Eirini - Limeria Nature Trail
- Agia Eirini road
- Forest road
- Water Forest
- Forest Station
- Village
- Kourda Forest

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