

Discover the Real Cyprus-Village Routes. A project to regenerate rural economy, conserve natural resources and protect the environment.



# Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative

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## Discover the Real Cyprus Orini Larnaka - Village Route 2

CSTI has completed the second in the series of the 6 **Discover the Real Cyprus** Village Routes. **The Orini Larnaka** (Mountainous Larnaka) route covers the region that lies west of Larnaka and east of Limassol, and it is an ideal route for those wishing to leave the busy coast and make a short, but exciting, journey of discovery on their own.

The journey starts from the 7th millennium B.C. ancient site of Choirokoitia and takes the visitor through more than 23 traditional villages including Vavla, Kato Drys, Lefkara, Vavatsinia, Gourri, Fikardou and Kalavassos. Along the way

the visitor has the opportunity to visit sacred places such as the Machairas Monastery, the archeological sites of Choirokoitia and Tenta and numerous museums. Among the attraction sites on this route are the Rural Museums in Kato Drys, the wax museum at Lefkara, the weaving museums at Gourri and Fikardou and the water dam and the old mines of Kalavassos. On the **Orini Larnaka** route the visitor can enjoy the unspoiled nature and the wonderful local hospitality, taste traditional Cypriot specialties at one of the tavernas and buy locally produced delicacies such as honey, glyko (fruit preserved in syrup), rose water and of course the famous lace of Lefkara.

The Orini Larnaka VR guide book is sold at the retail price of 3 EURO (or 2 EURO wholesale). It is available from CSTI, hotels, the Mouflon Bookstore in Nicosia, Kyriakou Bookstore in Limassol (on Griva Digeni), Sixt Car Rental Company, tour operators and the Tourist Information Offices of the Cyprus Tourism Organization. For information, or to order e-mail CSTI at [csticyprus@hotmail.com](mailto:csticyprus@hotmail.com) or call 99123127 and 99440983.

Discover the Real Cyprus

Village Route 2 Orini Larnaka

A self-drive tour guided by nature and tradition

Published by the Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative

CSTI is affiliated to the travel foundation

## The Red-footed Falcons' Shooting Affects us All!

The Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative and its members like to express our sadness for the recent senseless slaughter of the 50 red-footed falcons in the Fasouri area of Akrotiri. We support Bird Life Cyprus's call for an immediate ban on shooting for the entire Akrotiri peninsula. CSTI would also welcome the introduction of other necessary measures that will protect endangered and migratory birds on the whole of the island.

Being an organization that promotes a sustainable approach to tourism development in Cyprus through the protection of the environment and the sensible use of natural resources, CSTI is concerned about the impact that such barbaric acts have on the natural environment of the island, on the image of Cyprus as a tourist destination and on the tourism industry in general. Bird watching is a favorite attraction among many tourists who visit Cyprus during the fall months. The Akrotiri Peninsula, which hosts more than 260 species of migratory birds, is promoted as a tourist attraction in CSTI's Central and Western Limassol Village Route tourist guide. For this reason, CSTI recognizes this shooting, not only as an attack on an endangered and beautiful species, but also as an economic attack on the tourism industry and the many whose livelihoods depend on these tourist attractions.

## Tree Planting Event

In the midst of the charred trunks of aged trees on the ash-covered grounds of Filagra in the Troodos Forest grow two hundred young pines. They were planted on October 7th, by two hundred volunteers who responded to the Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative and the Cyprus Tourism Organization's call to support the reforestation efforts of the area which was devastated by fires in early summer. The Forestry Department donated the young trees and was there to guide participants with the planting.

The tree planting event brought together people from the tourism industry, students, local environmentalists, CSTI members, a number of visitors and ordinary Cypriots from all walks of life. Among those who attended the event were representatives from the Cyprus Tourism Organization, the HERMES Airports, Sunvil Holidays, the Association of Greek Cypriot Travel Agents, Aeolos, Thomson Holidays, Thomas Cook, My Travel, Cyprus Hotel Managers Association, Cyprus Hotel Association, Association of Cyprus Tourist Enterprises, Cyprus Tourist Guides Association, PASIKA, CYMEPA, Cyprus Cultural and Special Interest Tourism Association, and Intercollege and the University of Nicosia.

Among the speakers were Mrs. Phoebe Katsouris, General Manager of CTO, Mr. Philippos Drousiotis, Chair of CSTI and Mr. Noel Josephides, General Manager of Sunvil UK and a Board Member of the Travel Foundation - a UK charity which helps the UK tourism industry respond to the need for sustainability and profitability.

Participants not only muddied their hands to plant the young trees, but also donated generously the total of £ 2,750. Mr. Philippos Drousiotis, Chair of CSTI, and Mr. Michael Ierides, the organization's Treasurer, presented the cheque to the Forestry Department on November 5th. The Department will be caring for the young trees until they are strong enough to brave the wether winds on their own.

CSTI would like to thank all those who participated in the planting and donated money. Special thanks go to Sunvil Holidays UK, AGTA, HERMES Airports, My Travel, Aeolos (which also chartered a bus to transport participants to the event), PASIKA, PASIDIKSE and the Cyprus Association for Cultural and Special Interest Tourism.



Presentation of the £ 2,750 cheque to the Forestry Department. From left to right: Mr. Aristos Ioannou, Director of the Forestry Department, Mr. Philippos Drousiotis, CSTI Chair, and Mr. Michael Ierides, CSTI



From left to right: Mr. Yiannis Efthimiou of AGTA, Mrs. Phoebe Katsouris, General Manager of COT, Mr. Philippos Drousiotis, President of CSTI and Mr. Noel Josephides, President of AGTA and General Manager of Sunvil.



Planting a tree is a family affair.



AEOLOS Employees