



14 km from Kalopanayiotis

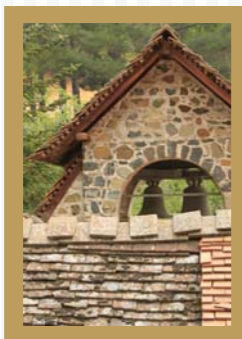
### PANAGIA TRIKOUKIOTISSA MONASTERY

The Church of Panagia Trikoukiotissa is all that remains of this monastery built in the 13th century. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary (Panagia) and is situated two kilometres from Prodomos towards Platres. Set in a splendid picturesque environment with spectacular views, the church has interesting architecture with five original cells that have been preserved. Another wing has been built containing fifteen cells. The church contains an icon of the Virgin which is credited with the ability to bring rain to parched fields.

20 km from Kalopanayiotis

### TROODITISSA MONASTERY

The exact date of the foundation of Trooditissa Monastery is unknown, but local tradition puts its establishment around the 8th-9th century AD. However, the oldest reference to Trooditissa Monastery comes from a 14th century deed. The present church, dating to 1731, contains valuable icons including a precious icon of the Virgin Mary covered with silver-gilt from Asia Minor. Monk Damaskinos (1939 - 1942) and his successor Abbot Pangkratios, revived the monastery after it came close to being dissolved in the 19th century. A large religious fair is held every year in the grounds of the monastery on August 15th, the day of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary. Prayers to the holy icon of the Virgin give hope to childless couples wishing to have children.



20 km from Kalopanayiotis

### AGIOS NIKOLAOS TIS STEGIS

The church of Ayios Nikolaos tis Stegis (St Nicholas of the Roof) is situated in the upper Solea valley, about two kilometres from Kakopetria village on the west bank of the river Klarios/Karkotis. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is the only surviving katholicon (monastery church) of an 11th-century Byzantine monastery in Cyprus.



Panagia tou Moutoulla Church



20 km from Kalopanayiotis

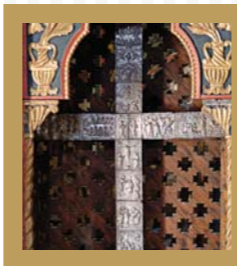
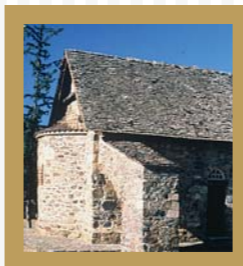
### PANAGIA TIS PODITHOU

The church of Panagia Podithou is situated in the upper Solea valley, a few hundred metres north of Galata village. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Erected in 1502, it once belonged to a monastery. Its paintings are of the Italo - Byzantine style, which appeared on the island towards the end of the 15th century.

30 km from Kalopanayiotis

### PANAGIA TIS ASINOU

The church of Panagia Phorbiotissa, better known as Panagia of Asinou, is situated in the northern foothills of the Troodos mountain range, three kilometers south of Nikitari village. A UNESCO World Heritage site, it boasts some of the finest examples of Byzantine wall painting on the island. Asinou comes from the Greek "Asine", which is an ancient city founded by immigrants from the Greek city, Argolis, in the 11th century BC. The church dates to the early 12th century and the murals inside date from the 12th century to the 17th century.



40 km from Kalopanayiotis

### TIMIOS STAVROS

The 14th century church of Timiou Stavrou (Holy Cross) in Pelendri village is decorated with exquisite wall paintings of the Paleological period and is a UNESCO World Heritage site.. The present form of the church is the result of several additions and alterations but originally, it was a single-aisled domed structure, built around the middle of the 12th century. The oldest surviving wall paintings of 1178 are in the apse.



Panagia tis Podithou



## Discover Byzantine Churches



## Casale Panayiotis

Casale Panayiotis boutique hotel is an ideal base for pilgrims who want to explore the Byzantine monasteries and churches of Troodos. Just 50 minutes from Nicosia or 75 minutes from Limassol, Casale Panayiotis is nestled in the heart of Kalopanayiotis village, in the beautiful Marathasa valley of Troodos. Overlooking a rippling brook in evergreen shade, Casale Panayiotis affords stunning views of St John Lambadistis monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with a spectacular icon museum next door and a further six delightful Byzantine chapels within walking distance. Another five UNESCO-listed churches are all within a half-hour drive, with the Church of Panayia tou Moutoulla in the neighbouring village. The famous Kykko Monastery is also nearby.

## St. John Lampadistis Monastery and Icon Museum

The monastery of St. John Lambadistis is a complex of three churches: St. Irakleidios, St. John Lambadistis and a Latin chapel - all under a single pitched roof. A listed UNESCO World Heritage Site, the church of St. Irakleidios was built in the 11th century, while its frescoes date to the 13th and 16th century. The templon is particularly interesting, covered with gargoyles, including a heraldic Lusignan lion and Byzantine eagle. The church of St. John Lambadistis was built in 1731. The saint's tomb, which dates to the 12th century, can be found under the narrow northeastern arch and a reliquary houses his skull. The icon of Lambadistis dates to 1543. The Latin Chapel contains the most complete series of Italo-Byzantine paintings in Cyprus.

## Icon Museum

Situated next to the Lampadistis monastery, the icon museum exhibits priceless ecclesiastical artifacts from the monastery and other village churches that have survived the centuries. All the exhibits have been well maintained and preserved. Once the primary school of Kalopanayiotis, the building was converted to a museum in October 2000.

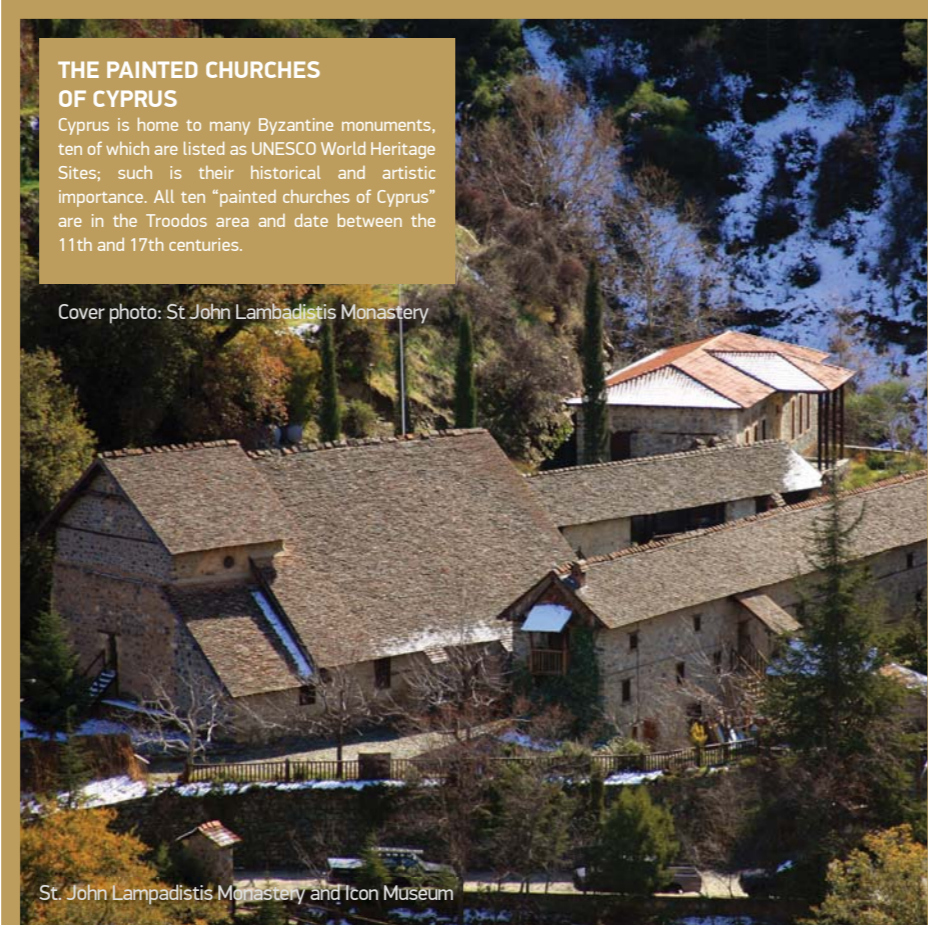
## Byzantine Chapels

Kalopanayiotis boasts two churches (19th - 20th century) and six chapels (13th - 17th century), the most interesting being Theoskepasti, Agios Andronikos and Agios Archangelos.

## THE PAINTED CHURCHES OF CYPRUS

Cyprus is home to many Byzantine monuments, ten of which are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites; such is their historical and artistic importance. All ten "painted churches of Cyprus" are in the Troodos area and date between the 11th and 17th centuries.

Cover photo: St John Lambadistis Monastery



St. John Lampadistis Monastery and Icon Museum



7 km from Kalopanayiotis

## ARCHANGEL MICHAEL CHURCH

The painted church of the Archangel Michael is situated in the lowest part of Pedoulas village. It is a listed UNESCO World Heritage Site and dates to 1474. It has a pitched wooden roof typical of the Troodos churches. The wall paintings are in the local post-Byzantine style that developed prior to Venetian rule. According to the dedicatory inscription above the north entrance, the church was built and decorated with a donation by the priest Vasilios Chamados. The priest, accompanied by his wife and two daughters, is depicted above the dedicatory inscription, offering Archangel Michael a model of the church.



2 km from Kalopanayiotis

## PANAGIA TOU MOUTOULLA CHURCH

The tiny 13th century chapel of Panagia tou Moutoulla lies on a hill above Moutoullas village in the Marathasa valley. A listed UNESCO World Heritage Site, it has a steep-pitched wooden roof and frescoes dating from 1280. Although the painter is unknown, the uniqueness of the frescoes of this church lies in the fact that they are the only precisely dated series of Byzantine paintings of the 13th century. According to the dedicatory inscription on the north wall of the Holy Bema, the church was built and decorated with frescoes with a donation by Ioannis of Moutoullas and his wife Irene. Both are depicted holding a model of the church. It is therefore possible that the Church of Panagia tou Moutoulla was a private chapel.



20 km from Kalopanayiotis

## KYKKOS MONASTERY

Kykko Monastery is the richest and most lavishly adorned monastery in Cyprus and attracts many visitors from Cyprus and abroad. It is located in the Marathasa region on an isolated mountain peak at 1318 metres. The monastery of Kykkos is dedicated to the Panagia (Virgin Mary) and contains one of three icons attributed to St Luke the Apostle and Evangelist. The icon itself is covered in silver gilt and lies in a shrine made of mother-of-pearl and tortoise shell that stands in front of the iconostasis. The monastery was founded between the 11th-12th century A.D. during the reign of the Emperor Alexios Komnenos I. The story goes that the Cypriot hermit, Isaiah, miraculously cured the Emperor's daughter. As a reward, he asked for the icon of the Theotokos (Virgin Mary) which was kept at the imperial palace at Constantinople. Though grieved at the prospect of losing his precious treasure, the Emperor sent it to Cyprus with fitting honours, together with funds to pay for the construction of a monastery where the sacred relic would be kept. The first President of the Republic of Cyprus, Archbishop Makarios III, served here as a novice. He is buried on the summit of Throni, 3 kilometres west of Kykko. The monastery produces zivania, a traditional Cypriot alcoholic spirit made from grape residues. Religious festivals are held on September 8th (Birth of the Virgin) and August 15th (Dormition of the Virgin).



## Pilgrimages and excursions available

### modern shuttle bus

(up to 9 people)

or

### Kalopanayiotis traditional bus

(up to 25 people)



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