

A premium blend of the finest quality experiences,
provides genuine traveller pleasure

HERODOT

HERODOT
The first Cultural Heritage Network ever!

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece
+30 2271035185, +30 2271035028
www.iris.aegean.gr/iris / herodot@aegean.gr

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
"Water routes - The continuity of life"
Konstantinoupoleos 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece
Tel +30 2521047610 - 11 / www.aned.gr / aned@otenet.gr

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
"The Black Gold Trail"
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece
Tel +30 2625024990 / www.anol.gr / anol@otenet.gr

P4. Trihonida S. A., Development Agency
"Adventurous Peace, Secrets beneath the Lake"
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece
Tel +30 2641039007 / www.trihonida.gr / info@trihonida.gr

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DiSTAfA
"Stair steps to Heaven: the terraced vineyards
and the landscape of Costa Viola"
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy
Tel. +39 0965312681 / www.distafa.unirc.it / salvatore.difazio@unirc.it

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
"Natural monuments as a support for development of Cultural Tourism"
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy
Tel +39 091707820 / www.regione.sicilia.it/turismo / dora.piazza@regione.sicilia.it

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
"The Hyblean Area: a Taste of Heritage"
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy
Tel +39 095292390 / www.pstsicilia.org / info.ct@pstsicilia.org

P8. University of Catania - DIA
"Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle"
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy
Tel +39 0957147571 / www.unict.it / gcascone@unict.it

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
"The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico"
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy
Tel +39 0805442962 / www.progesa.uniba.it / dalsasso@agr.uniba.it

P10. University of Basilicata - Di.Te.C.
"Since Latifundium to Land reform: the stones tell..."
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy
Tel +39 0971205405 / www.unibas.it/dipartimenti/ditec / carlo.manera@unibas.it



HERODOT: C.I. INTERREG IIIB Archimed 2000-2006
Project ID: HERODOT A.2. 054, Measure 3.2
"This project is co-financed by the ERDF funds of the European Commission"
Managing Authority of C.I.P. Interreg
65 Georgikis Scholis Anevue, Pilea 57 001, Thessaloniki, Greece
+30 2310 469600, www.interreg.gr, interreg@mou.gr

http://server.iris.aegean.gr/herodot/

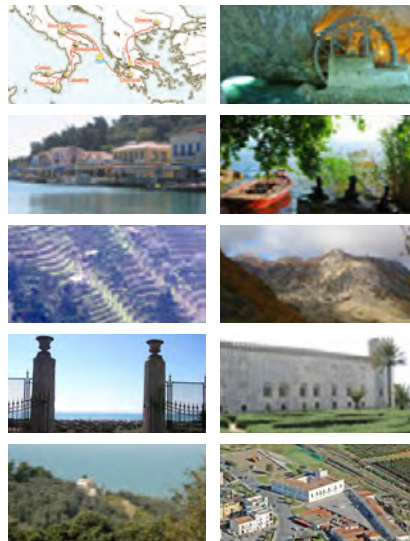
HERODOT
TRAVELLING
SINCE
ANCIENT TIMES

TRAVELBOX

Pleasure: 8 T-bytes
Knowledge: 10 T-bytes
Satisfaction: 9 T-bytes



HERODOT
TRAVELLING SINCE
ANCIENT TIMES



The Ministry
of Culture warns:
Don't open, unless
quality addicted!

HERODOT
TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

"A tax - free - quality
experience"

HERODOT
TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

H - 155 mm

B - 86 mm

2 cm

2 cm

1



**HERODOT: C.I.
INTERREG IIB
Archimed 2000-2006
Project ID: Herodot A.2. 054
Measure 3.2**

HERODOT
TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

**Tourism Uses
of the
Historic Environment .
Know-how Transfer
and
Quality Management
Practices
at Community Level**

Lead Partner:

**UNIVERSITY
OF THE AEGEAN**
The IRIS Laboratory
8, Michalon str. 82100
Chios, Greece,
Tel : +30 22710 35185, +30 2271 35028
<http://www.iris.aegean.gr/iris>
Herodot@aegean.gr



HERODOT is a 10 Partner
Network between Greece and Italy.
It aims to use the historic
environment for sustainable
tourism within the Partners' areas.

It disseminates best practices
in the field of heritage management,
tourism planning and heritage
interpretation. Its aims to create
heritage tourism attractors with
market value and sustainable uses.

HERODOT lets visitors reveal
the stories, in the heart of the
Mediterranean Sea, which builds
the center of the "Oecumene",
a world map designed by Herodot.

Interviewing Herodot

Q: You are known as "pater historiae". What lead you to write the history of the World?

A: To tell you the truth, discovering human worlds is my ambition. We are the heirs of the World. It would be unfair to ignore great moments and memorable places. Time kills memories, you know.

Q: What should be remembered then?

A: I will have to quote Homer. *"The most important thing is not who we are and where we come from. Important is to safeguard our world for future generations."* Important is to remember all the essentials to move on.

Q: Where have you been?

A: Well, there are two major journeys. One in the Mediterranean. I travelled to Greece and Italy, Asia Minor, Pontos, Cyprus, Phoenicia, Babylon, Persia. I saw Egypt to the falls of the Nile, Acropolis in Athens as a construction site. My other journey took me to Caucasus, Danube and Skythia.



Herodotus of Halicarnassus in Asia Minor (484 -415 b.C.) is recognized as the first historian, ethnographer and anthropologist.

His "History of the Persian Wars" is also a History of the then known world. The Histories, later on were divided by scholars in 9 books and named after the Muses. Named by Cicero "Father of History" he was the first historian to collect his materials systematically, test their accuracy, and arrange them in a well constructed and vivid narrative.

Herodotus travelled the Mediterranean rim countries from Cyprus to Italy, Asia Minor, Persia, Phoenicia, Caucasus and Skythia. He saw the falls of the Nile in Egypt and reached Danube in the Ukraine. He spent most of his life travelling and documented achievements significant to humankind.

Q: They speak of you as a "dulcis, et candidus et fusus" writer. You wrote the first Epic Adventure. You were awarded in Athens of Perikles 27 kilos of gold for your writing principles. What made your writings immortal?

A: Observation, Question, Judgment.

Q: A guideline for future generations?

A: Not men rule circumstances, but circumstances rule men. However one should always fight for freedom.

Q: You chose to live away from your home city. You retired in Italy, Thurii. Why is that?

A: Learning by travelling is a great pleasure.

"This project is co-financed by the ERDF funds of the European Commission".
Managing Authority of
C.I.P. Interreg
65 Georgikis Scholis Avenue
Pilea 57001,
Thessaloniki, Greece
+30 2310 469600

www.interreg.gr ,
e-mail: interreg@mou.gr



HERITAGE NETWORK HERODOT

P1. University of the Aegean.
The IRIS Research Lab.
Michalon Street / 82100 Chios - Greece
Tel +30 2271035185 / <http://server.iris.aegean.gr>

P2. Drama Development Agency, S.A.
"Water routes - The continuity of life"
Konstantinoupolos, 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece
Tel +30 2521047610 -11 www.aned.gr; aned@olinet.gr

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
"The Black Gold Rail"
27055 Krestena, Was - Greece
Tel +30 2625024990 www.anol.gr; anol@olinet.gr

P4. Trihionda S.A. Development Agency
"Adventurous Peace. Secrets beneath the Lake"
Antonopoulou Street, 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece
Tel +30 2641039007; www.trihionda.gr

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria
DISTAIA
"Stair steps to Heaven: the terraced vineyards and the landscape of Costa Viola"
89124 Localita Fao di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy
Tel +39 0965312661; www.distaia.unirc.it

P6. Assessorato Regionale Turismo,
Comunicazioni e Trasporti
"Natural monuments as a support for development of Cultural Tourism" via Notarbartolo, 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy
Tel +39 091707820/www.regione.sicilia.it/turismo

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
"The Hyblae Area: a Taste of Heritage 2.1. Blocco Palma I,
Strada V. Lanola/95121 Catania - Italy
Tel +39 095282390/www.petsicilia.org;
info.ct@posticilia.org

P8. University of Catania
Department of Agricultural Engineering
"Traditional buildings in the rural context of
Donnafugata Castle" via S. Sofia n.100 / 95123 Catania - Italy
Tel +39 0957147671 / www.unict.it/giascone@unict.it

P9. University of Bari
Department of Engineering and Management
of the Agricultural, Livestock and Forest Systems
"The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico"
Via Amendola, 165/A/70126 Bari - Italy
Tel +39 0805443015/www.progett.uniba.it/daisaeso@agr.uniba.it

P10. University of Basilicata
Technical and Economic
Department for the Management of
Agricultural and Forestry Environment
"Since Latifundium to Land reform: the stones tell..."
via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy
Tel +39 0971205405; www.unibas.it/dipartimento/smao/ENGLISH

The IRIS Research Laboratory at the Department of Business Administration University of the Aegean is experienced in ICT uses in Polymorphic and Distance Corporate Education and Training. Research interests include Heritage Management and Tourism Planning. IRIS constitutes the Hellenic Competence Center for Transnational Quality Management in Heritage Interpretation, funded by C.I. Leader+.

Herodot as a travel-aider?
But of course!
Who else could give the most splendid tips, if not the father of History himself?
Rediscover in creativity.
Dare and enjoy!

If you feel like you want to tell us anything at all: dzuhrt@aegean.gr

Priceless Gift.
No life without water. But is water something running out of the tap? Experience the continuity of life by visiting the underground river in the Cave of Angitis, the springs of Agia Varvara and Kefalari in Drama. See the unseen: all forms of water are transported through an underground system to the lowlands of Drama, until they reach us. Learn to appreciate our everyday treasure.

The "Black Eyed One".
The Corinthian raisin is Greece's black gold. In the 19th century it shapes Modern Greece: flour mills, olive presses, wineries, storage houses, industrial equipment, transportation, banks and hotels. Follow visible traces: Luxurious residences, markets and theaters, libraries and railroads. Catch the train to the past and back to the future: Become a producer, a town vendor, a wealthy merchant. The "Black Eyed One" is waiting for you.

As long as the eye stretches...
Once upon a time a big earthquake created a huge hole. A Lake was born, Trichonida, the Ocean of the Aetolians. Seemingly borderless, its surface stretches into the horizon. The Lake's wild reeds are "filters" preventing the waters from being polluted. Today they are in danger. If you wish to keep them alive, take a closer look around the Lake. Discover the hidden treasures, reveal the secrets. Protect to enjoy.

Stairsteps to Heaven!
Take a closer look at places and labouring people in Calabria. They reflect how people survived, how people ingeniously adapted the place to their needs. Take a closer look at small dwellings: u' pagghiaru; at the hydraulic mills; at the terraced vineyards and terraced olive orchards. Try these stairsteps to ascend to heaven. Let the craftsmen take you for a ride in the kingdom of the art. There, where everything started.

Talented sculptors!
A hundred million year story is what the rocks of the Madonie tell us. Like talented sculptors they have formed the face of the park to what it is today. You may climb on the oldest Sicilian Mountain and get to know 13 natural protagonists. Also the shepherd and the farmer have left their traces: in the barns along the mountain paths, in the sheepfolds built in the rock, in the bare stone shelters. Old presses still work and ancient methods, handed down from father to son, tell us how difficult the relationship between the farmer and his land is.

The whole World in one World!
Conquered, colonised and governed by diverse masters, Sicily has many faces. Many of us have left their cultural mark and made it the unique country it is today. Meet the ambassadors of the place in Ibla! All made of pure materials, refined by age and wisdom, sophisticated through labour and tradition. Wine, cheese, olive oil, ingredients and cultivations that go back even before my time! Chocolate from the Aztecs and pastry made from the savours of the world. A world worth visited.

Scent of Heaven!
The citrus groves of Rodi Garganico near the sea? Imagine huge holm oaks acting as windbreaks protecting the fruits from cold winds. The colors of the fruits, the scents of the orange blossom. Hundreds of years cultivated land make this place an unforgettable experience. It is more than fantasy, it is more than the truth. It is the scent of heaven..

The Stones Tell...
Much after my time in the Ionian Coast aristocracy made the rules. Agricultural land, lies in the hands of few men. The majestic houses of landowners are separated from the dwellings of working people. They live in small houses outside the farm. They live to work. Food was not enough, water scarce. But we changed all that. Feudal systems, latifundia and baronial palaces gave their place to the home farm. Constructions, irrigation, intensive crops, new settlements change the landscape of Metaponto to what it is today. Experience how the stones tell of people's struggle. Discover the transformations of land in the framework of equality. Reflect about the past, enjoy the present.

Unexpected pleasures.
I have not met the last owner, the open minded, Corrado Arezzo. This is only because he lived in the 19th century. I wish to see the Castle of Donnafugata, get to know its masters, its garden labyrinths, its medieval towers and working people. I stroll in the shady garden to charm my eyes. I seek the Round Temple, the Coffee House, the Venetian Gothic Loggia. I ascend the black stone staircase to the Arms Room to meet the noble Sicilian families. I observe dancers in the Hall of Mirrors, politicians play in the Billiard Room. I spy Gentlemen in the Smoking Room, something I never experienced myself. I witness everyday labour in small farms. There is so much to write about! Could you do that for me please?



Network description

HERODOT is a Cultural Heritage Tourism Network "operating" since the 5th century B.C. Today it lies in the hands of the 10 Partners. It depicts the heart of the Mediterranean Sea, which then built the center of Herodot's "Oekumene", a map designed by Herodot himself.
Explore the past, enjoy the present!

“HERODOT” THE HERITAGE NETWORK

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
“Water routes - The continuity of life”
Konstantinoupoleos 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
“The black gold rail”
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece

P4. Trihionida S. A., Development Agency
“Adventurous peace. Secrets beneath the lake”
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DiStAfA
“Stair steps to heaven: the terraced vineyards and the landscape of Costa Viola”
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie”
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
“The Hyblean area: a taste of heritage”
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy

P8. University of Catania - DIA
“Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle”
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
“The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico”
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy

P10. University of Basilicata - Di.T.Ec.
“Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...”
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy

Travel Info

By bus: From Athens (650 km) or Thessaloniki (150 km). Drama is also connected with Kavala, Serres and Xanthi as well as the villages of the prefecture. For more information visit the website of KTEL, the official bus service provider, at www.ktel.org.

By train: From Piraeus/Athens, Thessaloniki and other cities of mainland Greece. For more information visit the Greek Railway Organisation website at www.ose.gr.

By plane: Drama is served by the airport of Chrysoupoli, Kavala (distance 68 km) with both domestic (Athens) and international flights. For more information visit the websites of OLYMPIC AIRLINES and AEGEAN AIRLINES at www.olympicairlines.com and at www.aegeanair.com, respectively.

Drama Development Agency S. A.

The agency is an innovative and strong actor of local development that supports a wide area of activities among various socio-economic sectors. It is mainly characterised by its collective decision-making process, which promotes the bottom-up development paradigm. This is evident in the fact that it comprises of a variety of shareholders that include all local government institutions, the local workers' union, the local association of farmers and other local bodies and institutions. The agency's vision is the sustainable development of the prefecture of Drama through the implementation of actions that valorise the endogenous natural, cultural and human resources.

www.aned.gr / aned@otenet.gr



ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEINGS



In the wider area, apart from the stops of the suggested route, you could also visit:

- The archaeological site of Philipi and the baptistry of Saint Lydia near the town of Krinides in the prefecture of Kavala.
- The town of Doxato on the day of the traditional horse races.
- The archaeological museum in the city of Drama with its exhibits from the mid Palaeolithic period up to modern times.
- The international short Film Festival of Drama that takes place every year in the city of Drama in September.
- The skiing centre of Falakro.
- The highlands of the prefecture and particularly, the Elatia and Frakto forests with their unique ecosystems and landscapes.
- The villages of Volakas, Kali Vrisi, Monastraki, Xiropotamos, Petroussa and Pirgi on the days around the Epiphany, where you will have the chance to participate in the revival of local ancient customs that include song, dance, inventive performance and various re-enactments.

For more information visit: www.traveldrama.gr.

ACCOMMODATION



In the prefecture of Drama there are approximately thirty accommodation units of all kinds ranging from four-star hotels in the city of Drama to smaller guest houses in the rural areas.

For more information on accommodation visit: www.traveldrama.gr.

EAT & DRINK



Drama is a place of fun and taste! There are numerous restaurants, taverns and fast foods -in the city of Drama and in the countryside- where you can try every kind of local (or not) dish. In the stops of the suggested route, there are many taverns that offer a variety of dishes and of course, fresh-water fish! Drama is also known for its vivid night life. A stroll in the park of Agia Varvara will convince you!

For more information on all the options provided during your stay in Drama visit: www.traveldrama.gr.



2



Water routes - The continuity of life

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES



HERODOT



Water routes - The continuity of life



Identify project

Water has been traditionally regarded as one of the most precious natural and economic assets of the prefecture of Drama. It is also a cultural heritage asset of the past and the present: a living cultural resource, which still motivates socio-economic life in the area. Of particular importance is the culture associated to water in the lowlands, due to the continuation of this strong connection between water and humans. Water in the lowlands is still vital as a tourist asset, as an economic resource and as a strong socio-cultural element affecting the everyday life of the locals. Following the above, the aim of the pilot project of Drama Development Agency S.A. is to create a virtual route that connects the main sites related to water, and their surroundings. The stops of this virtual water route are: the springs of Kefalari, the springs of Agia Varvara (in the city of Drama) and the cave of the springs of River Angitis.

The prefecture

The prefecture of Drama is one of the northernmost corners of Greece. Its terrain is shaped by the mountain range of Rodopi and River Nestos, which runs through its largest part. This land is characterised by its unique biodiversity of ecosystems and species but also by its rich cultural heritage, which is profound in the traditional architecture of the villages, the revival of ancient customs and the everyday life of the people who will warmly welcome you. We hope that the virtual water route suggested below will definitely be a motive for you to visit this beautiful, though unexplored part of mainland Greece.



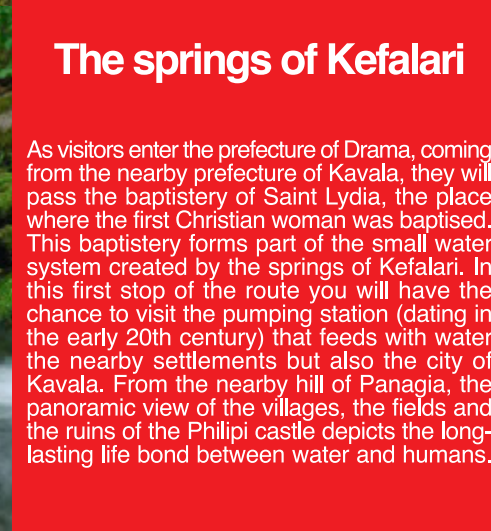
Water - Identity

Water has been historically associated with peoples, constructions and events that shaped the destiny of the area of Drama. In some parts of the prefecture this historic relationship created a characteristic landscape, formed around water and its uses. Old mills and bridges, ancient fortresses and other constructions are only few of the remnants of this long connection. However, it is not only constructions that mark this relationship. Water, as a word, is carved in the soul of the people! After all, they say that the name Drama comes from the ancient Greek word for water "ὑδωρ" (Hydor - Hyrdrama - Drama).



Water - Continuity

The relationship between water and the people of Drama is a long and lasting one. Wherever you turn, you still see it. In the heart of the city of Drama, in the springs of Agia Varvara, locals still throw their home-made model boats in the water and light a candle on them in the memory of their beloved Saint (Agia) Varvara; they still cultivate the land around River Angitis; they still produce and "pack" the wisdom they inherited from their ancestors; they still drink the same water that has supported them for centuries. The continuity of life around water is evident in Drama!



The springs of Kefalari

As visitors enter the prefecture of Drama, coming from the nearby prefecture of Kavala, they will pass the baptistery of Saint Lydia, the place where the first Christian woman was baptised. This baptistery forms part of the small water system created by the springs of Kefalari. In this first stop of the route you will have the chance to visit the pumping station (dating in the early 20th century) that feeds with water the nearby settlements but also the city of Kavala. From the nearby hill of Panagia, the panoramic view of the villages, the fields and the ruins of the Philipi castle depicts the long-lasting life bond between water and humans.



The springs of Agia Varvara

The springs of Agia Varvara form a water system in the heart of the city of Drama. The area, a famous tourist attraction, is known as the park of Agia Varvara. The springs are fed by water from rain- and snowfalls in the highlands, which is then transported through a natural underground pipe system (karst) to the area of the springs. The adjacent church dedicated to Agia (Saint) Varvara and the tobacco buildings dating back in the 19th century, which come in contrast to the modern cultural and recreation facilities exhibit this strong continuity of the use of the park as a place of social, economic and cultural activity.



The cave of the springs of River Angitis

River Angitis runs through the western part of the valley of Drama. Part of it is underground and goes through the cave of the springs of River Angitis. How? The river is actually fed by water in the highlands. On its way down to the lowlands, the water crosses through a natural pipeline conduit (karst phenomenon). Part of this karst system is the cave of the springs of River Angitis, a famous tourist attraction and the last stop of the pilot project of Drama Development Agency S.A. Of particular interest, within the cave, is the old Ottoman watermill that used to gather water and channel it to the irrigation network of the area.

LOCATION

The route runs through the central lowland part of the prefecture. Its three main stops (springs of Kefalari, springs of Agia Varvara and cave of the springs of River Angitis) are easily accessible by road.

OPENING HOURS

The springs of Agia Varvara and Kefalari are open to public at all times throughout the year. The cave of the springs of River Angitis is open to public from 10:30 to 17:00 during the winter period and from 10:30 to 19:00 during the summer period.

PRICING

The price of the ticket required for entering the cave of the springs of River Angitis varies, as follows:
Adults: 7 Euros / Group ticket: 5 Euros for each member / Elderly, students and other special categories: 4 Euros.
There is no ticket for the springs of Agia Varvara and Kefalari.

GUIDED VISITS

There are no guided visits in the springs of Agia Varvara and Kefalari. Guided visits are only organised in the cave of the springs of River Angitis. For more information ask at the ticket issue desk.

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

notes

Notes section with horizontal lines for writing.

useful information

“HERODOT” THE HERITAGE NETWORK

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
“Water routes - The continuity of life”
Konstantinoupolis 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
“The black gold rail”
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece

P4. Trichonida S.A., Development Agency
“Adventurous peace. Secrets beneath the lake”
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DISTAFA
“Stair steps to heaven: the terraced vineyards and the landscape of Costa Viola”
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie”
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
“The Hyblean area: a taste of heritage”
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy

P8. University of Catania - DIA
“Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle”
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
“The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico”
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy

P10. University of Basilicata - Di.T.Ec.
“Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...”
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy

Travel Info

The area is easily accessible and different transportation means are available depending on location and time. When arriving from abroad via airplane at El. Venizelos Athens airport, take the Highway Athens - Corinth (E94) and enter the Corinth - Patras route (E65). Then follow the National Road Patras - Pírgos - Olympia (E55) to reach the starting point of the trail. When travelling from Greece, buses and trains run from all major cities with scheduled routes all day round.

Arriving by boat at Patras Port, access is easy by all means, as the bus and train stations are very close and perform frequent runs to Pírgos. With a car follow the National Road Patras - Pírgos - Olympia (E55).

Development Agency of Olympia S.A.

It consists of members of Local Authorities. Founded in 1997 and situated in Krestena of Skillountos municipality, it implemented the LEADER II program (1997-2001) in the mountainous area of Iliia. It is now implementing the LEADER+ program. Member of the Centre Entrepreneurial and Technological Development of Western Greece and of the Action Plan for integrated interventions regarding women support (European Programme). Other activities include the realization and direction of 13 projects about Home care, financed by the Regional fund of Western Greece and European Union and the completion of the transnational (Italy, Greece, Czech) sub-project “Recover”, part of “Innoref” project.

www.anol.gr / anol@otenet.gr

NETWORK MAP



LEGEND



ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEINGS



IN OLYMPIA: The Ancient Stadium where the ancient Olympic Games took place and the temples dedicated to the Olympic Gods. See the “Palestra” where the athletes exercised and the Byzantine church built from the ruins of an ancient temple. Visit the Archeological Museum with the famous statue of Hermes and the large bronze and terracotta collection. In the Museum of History of the Olympic Games see their history through various exhibits as in a movie.

IN KRESTENA: See the Papalexi villa (1891 building), the Castle of Ancient Samia, Ancient Skillountia and the Churches of Madonna and Saint George.

IN EPITALIO: Walk through the old Wine Factory and relax in the beautiful beaches near the village.

IN PÍRGOS: Visit the Municipal Market and the Apollo Theatre, works of Chiller and the old Churches of Saint Haralabos, Saint Kiriaki and Saint Athanasios.

IN KATAKOLO: Explore Ancient Fia, Belvedere Castle “Pontikokastro” and the Lighthouse. Discover the beauties of Alfios, Erymanthos and Kladeos Rivers.

ACCOMMODATION



IN OLYMPIA: There are 13 hotels and 2 rooms for rent facilities in Olympia. Most of them offer a beautiful view of the forest that surrounds Olympia and of the Archeological site. They have a variety of services for a relaxing stay including swimming pool and restaurants.

IN KRESTENA: There is one hotel in Krestena located on the hill in the entrance of the village. It has a beautiful view of the forest and its facilities include a breakfast room and a swimming pool.

IN PÍRGOS: If you choose to stay in the centre of the city of Pírgos, there are 6 hotels available. All of them provide large rooms and breakfast and you can enjoy the city life.

IN KATAKOLO: Katakolo offers many chances for a stay near the sea. There are 5 hotels in the village and 3 rooms for rent facilities. You can reach the beautiful beaches around Katakolo in just a few minutes either by walking or by car.

EAT & DRINK



IN OLYMPIA: 20 taverns with typical cuisine and delicious plates are available in Olympia. All of them offer outdoors tables with a beautiful view.

IN KRESTENA: There are four taverns in the village, ideal for meat lovers.

IN EPITALIO: 2 taverns in Epitalio village offer typical cuisine of the area.

IN PÍRGOS: 20 restaurants and taverns are available in the city of Pírgos, providing a large variety to choose from. They offer typical cuisine and pasta dishes.

IN KATAKOLO: There are 12 restaurants in Katakolo. Most of them are located around the port. The fresh fish and beautiful view of the sea make them a perfect choice for dinner.



3



The black gold rail

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES



HERODOT



Development
Agency
of Olympia S.A.

The black gold rail



Identify project

Raisin was a main cultivation in Ilia Prefecture after the liberation war of 1821. It started during the 1830's and flourished until the 1860's. Exports to England and France marked the economy of the area and the entire country until the first decade of the 20th century. During those years, commerce flourished and the area experienced a period of great wealth and prosperity. Infrastructure developed including railways, industrial buildings and even luxurious homes. The upper urban class emerged along with the lifestyle it carried and the city of Pirgos became a cultural and social centre of the area. "The Black Gold Rail" follows the tracks of an existing and operating railway constructed in 1883, the second oldest Greece that served raisin transportation to Katakolo port. The Autonomous Raisin Organization (A.S.O), the largest raisin exporter, has also left behind many buildings of unique architecture that can be identified from the triangular roof with a circle window in the middle.

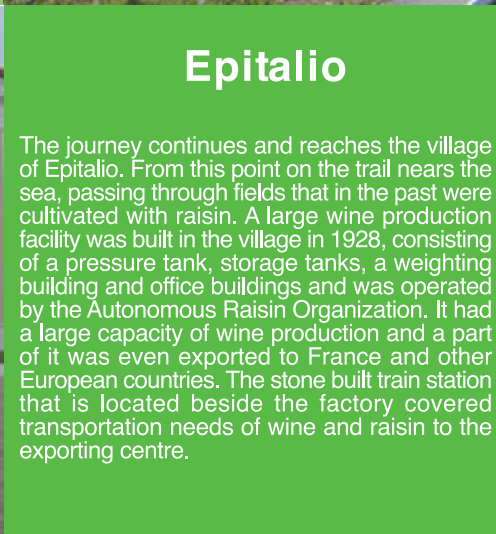
Olympia

The journey begins here, at the starting point of the train line "Olympia - Pirgos - Katakolo". In the summer, during August, raisin was collected from the surrounding villages, dried in the sun and stored in warehouses. From here, it was loaded with sacs onto the train and headed to the port of Katakolo. The train station of Olympia is one of the most important neoclassical preserved buildings with a characteristic architecture of the time and is nowadays renewed and operating. Around the station one can still see the warehouses, renewed and used for different purposes and take a walk through the village and the forest that surrounds it.



Epitalio

The journey continues and reaches the village of Epitalio. From this point on the trail nears the sea, passing through fields that in the past were cultivated with raisin. A large wine production facility was built in the village in 1928, consisting of a pressure tank, storage tanks, a weighing building and office buildings and was operated by the Autonomous Raisin Organization. It had a large capacity of wine production and a part of it was even exported to France and other European countries. The stone built train station that is located beside the factory covered transportation needs of wine and raisin to the exporting centre.



Pirgos

Following the train rails we reach the capital city of Ilia Prefecture, Pirgos. Here the two separate train lines of Olympia and Epitalio meet and a new line to the port of Katakolo begins. The city has a large number of buildings associated with the raisin production dating back to the 1800's. Among them, besides the train station, are the raisin warehouses, the Raisin Institute and the Raisin Factory. The Apollo theatre, the Municipal Market building and the neoclassical homes of rich raisin merchants still stand to remind us of the economic and social growth that the area experienced because of the raisin cultivation and export.



Krestena

Leaving Olympia and on the way to Krestena, we pass through cultivated areas until the Alfios dam that then give their place to a beautiful pine forest that stretches all the way to the village. Krestena used to be one of the large raisin collection points and raisin warehouses can be seen around the village. Most of them still operate until today with the same purpose. The train station that accommodated the transportation needs from Krestena to Pirgos and Katakolo is in a small village, Anemoxori, just a few kilometers away. The visitor can see the small stone built station among the trees on the side of the road to Pirgos.



Katakolo

The journey reaches its end at the port of Katakolo. The Pirgos - Katakolo train line that was constructed in 1882 to cover the raisin transportation needs stops here. The locals used to call the train "Kolosourtis", a jargon to make fun of its very slow speed. The raisin was stored in warehouses until it was boarded to ships for export. The warehouses, identified by the same architecture, were built in two rows around the port, and today are renewed and used as cafeterias and restaurants. A "Raisin Treatment and Packaging Factory" was built in 1880 by the "Union of Raisin Packers and Processors" and today is transformed into a luxury hotel.



Alfios River

Alfios is the largest river of the Peloponnese passing through valleys and mountains. In the ancient times, Alfios was worshiped as a god and is depicted on the Acropolis pediment. Its name came from a dermatological infection that its waters cured. A known myth concerning Alfios presents the river as a hunter falling in love with Arethousa, a female hunter. Arethousa did not want to respond to Alfios' love and found refuge in the island Ortygia near Syracuse. Alfios transformed into a river to reach the island and blend his waters with those of his beloved. The river is ideal for hiking and organization of rafting and kayak activities.

LOCATION

Archeological Museum of Ancient Olympia
- Located in the village of Olympia
Museum of History of the Olympic Games
- On a small hill near the Archeological Museum
Archeological site
- In the village of Olympia, next to the Archeological Museum
Municipal Market
- In the centre of the city of Pirgos.

OPENING HOURS

Archeological Museum & Museum of History of Olympic Games:
Winter:
Monday 10:30-17:00, Tuesday-Sunday 8:30-15:00
Summer:
Monday 12:30-19:30, Tuesday-Sunday 8:00-19:30
Archeological site:
Winter: 8:30-15:00 all days
Summer: 8:00-19:30 all days
(Summer program until October 31st)
Municipal Market: Open for specific exhibitions.

PRICING

Archeological Museum: 6 euros for visitors up to 65 years, 3 euros for visitors over 65 years
Archeological site: 6 euros for visitors up to 65 years, 3 euros for visitors over 65 years
Integrated ticket for Museum & Site: 9 euros for visitors up to 65 years, 5 euros for visitors over 65 years
Free entrance for students
Museum of History of the Olympic Games:
Free entrance
Municipal Market: depends on the exhibition.

GUIDED VISITS

Guided visits can be arranged through the local tourist agents.

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

notes

useful information

“HERODOT” THE HERITAGE NETWORK

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
“Water routes - The continuity of life”
Konstantinoupoleos 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
“The black gold rail”
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece

P4. Trichonida S.A., Development Agency
“Adventurous peace. Secrets beneath the lake”
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DISTAFa
“Stair steps to heaven: the terraced vineyards
and the landscape of Costa Viola”
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie”
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
“The Hyblean area: a taste of heritage”
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy

P8. University of Catania - DIA
“Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle”
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
“The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico”
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy

P10. University of Basilicata - Di.T.Ec.
“Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...”
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy

Travel Info

Athens - Lake Trichonida
Arrival at the El. Venizelos Athens airport
and then following the National Road
Network to Korinthos - Patra - Rio Antirio
(through the newly constructed bridge) -
following the route towards Messologi until
you reach the area of Lake Trichonida.
Thessaloniki - Lake Trichonida
Starting from Thessaloniki taking the
National Road Network to Patra we stop
near Agrinio and very close to the area of
Lake Trichonida.

Trichonida S.A., Development Agency

Trichonida S.A. is a Development Agency
seated in the heart of Agrinio and it is
constituted by Municipalities of the areas
of Aitolokarnania & Evritania, Unions of
Agricultural Confederations, the Chamber
of Aetoloakarnania as well as other
Development Agencies. The Development
Company has a working force of 130
employees and it is ISO 9001 certified for
the administration and implementation of
development projects. Primary aims of
Trichonida S.A. are the valorisation,
management and protection of the natural
resources and in general the integrated -
sustainable development of the respective
area, as well as the coordination and
support of the individual development
initiatives.

www.trichonida.gr / info@trichonida.gr



ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEINGS



Thermo: One of the most important archaeological sites in Greece with great historical interest.
Vloho: An abrupt cliff hanging 700 m above water level, located near Kenourgio and in close proximity to the Acropolis of ancient Thestieion and the Monastery of Virgin Mary of Vloho (18th Century). The sunset will offer to the visitors enchanting memories.

Myrtia: The Monastery with its temple hosting unique frescos of Ksenou Digeni (1491) and Fragou Katelanou (1539) welcomes you gladly.
Paravola: Standing on the ruins of the ancient city of Voucatio, Paravola presents parts of the Acropolis of Voukatio and the Byzantine church of the Madonna of the castle.

Neromana: widely known for its water based industry with watermills standing to this day and offering the breeze of the cold mountainous water. In addition, a half-ruined Byzantine temple of St. Apostoles (14th Century).

Trihonio: For the nature aficionados near Trihonio hosts the well known Calcareus Bog Fens and the Fraxinus oxycarpa forest.

ACCOMMODATION



Petrochori: One of the best sites for accommodation with wide variety of facilities built just above Lake Trichonida with spectacular view not only to the mountainous area but to the lake as well.

Thermo: In high altitude stands Thermo and its accommodation facilities with unique view to the mountains of Aetoloakarnanias, the mountain-tops of Evritania and even as far as Peloponnesus. A large number of hosting sites are willing to host every visitor wishing to enjoy the area's one of kind landscape, as well as relieving them from the daily stress.

Myrtia: Close to the lake and among fruitful areas the accommodation facilities of Myrtia offer all types of services and splendid view to Lake Trichonida.

EAT & DRINK



All locations pinpointed in the area of Lake Trichonida accommodate restaurants and traditional taverns which offer local cuisine and dishes with exceptional taste. In particular, Panetolio, Kenourgio, Neromana, Myrtia, Dafnia, Gavalou, Trihonio and Papadates offer food delicacies made with local ingredients and products. Enjoy tasteful dishes such as wild boar, roast lamb, pies, sausages and fishes from the lake such as Atherina and Dromitses. Beside the magnificent dishes in the area, visitors are suggested to try wine tasting. Some of the areas around Lake Trichonida offer a wide variety of wines, among them produced locally with quite strong taste. It has to be highlighted that in the village of Petrochori, visitors can find locally produced wine with unique taste and aroma that will appeal to all senses to the ones who try it. Finally, beside the locations marked at the map, a series of smaller villages and towns across Lake Trichonida offer high quality cuisine open to all visitors exploring the area.



4



**Adventurous peace.
Secrets beneath the lake**

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES



HERODOT



**Adventurous peace.
Secrets beneath
the lake**



Identify project

Lake Trichonida is the largest natural lake in Greece. It is located in the eastern part of the Aetoloakarnania Prefecture. In detail, the lake is located east of Agrinio, south of Evritania and northwest of Nafpaktos. The lake covers an area of 98.6 km² with a length of 19 km and has a depth of 58 m. The lake used to cover the central part of the Prefecture, however, later on it dried up and now lies mainly in the eastern central zone of the Prefecture. By the coasts there is a beautiful natural landscape with a wide range of flora (forests) and fauna (wild species). Besides the farmlands, there are many villages with different attraction to offer to the visitor.

The area of Lake Trichonida presents a high potential to constitute a viable tourism destination offering many opportunities. The rich cultural heritage, the sport character and finally the serenity of the area will offer relaxation from the fast paced way of urban life.

The tour of Lake Trichonida

The numerous villages and communities that surround the lake present to the visitor a rare opportunity to combine an exploration of the natural beauties with an appreciation of the untarnished modern-day Greek country-life and discover a plethora of fascinating cultural sites amidst crystal waters, fruitful groves and traditional settlements resting on remarkable stonework.

To reach the area there are two gates from the national road network. The one leads to Panetolio and the other one through the village Zevgaraki to Papadates.



Natural Heritage

Trichonida Lake is characterised as a protected area under Natura 2000. From an ecological point of view, Trichonida Lake is one of the most important natural lakes of Western Greece. Despite the human activities, the lake hosts magnificent forest areas and rare wild life. Many interesting plants comprise the flora of the site testifying the value of the landscape. The endangered aquatic species *Caladium mariscus* has been found at the south side of the Lake. In addition, the fauna's variety surprises the visitor either in land, water or air. The lake is ideal for fishing and recreation while also presents scientific and educational interest.

National heritage - Cultural Resources

Around Lake Trichonida there are numerous archaeological sites, cultural points and interesting monuments. In the areas of Thermo, Kenourgio, Paravola Neromana and Gavalou there are quite a few archaeological places testifying the cultural background and the historical value of the region. The religious element is strong with many Byzantine monasteries and small churches, while the local traditions and customs are still preserved, exposing the identity of the area. Visitors choosing to visit the lake will be astonished by the intriguing heritage and the accessible cultural resources revealing the prosperity and the rich activity of the past.



Building your appetite

Once in Lake Trichonida regardless of the location visited, activities that build your appetite are more than plenty. Exploring archaeological sites at picturesque sites and dwelling on mystifying ancient castles with historical meaning, meeting religious buildings such as old Byzantine churches and Holy Monasteries offering unique relics and frescos made by craftsmen of the past. In addition, a walk by the coastal line or among forest trees, walking on trekking cobblestoned paths and mountain biking on the slopes of the semi-mountainous area around the lake deplete anyone's energy and set the mood for satisfying your gastronomical needs.



Sense of Taste

Visitors with a huge appetite will be delighted to witness the variety of dishes as well as wine in the region. In every single village there is a traditional tavern or restaurant offering local dishes with unique taste but also spirits such as wine that in many cases is produced locally. The local cuisine will satisfy all visitors since it offers not only meat-dishes, but also fish-dishes straight from the depths of the Lake. Moreover, homemade sweets and deserts produced with natural ingredients as well as the exceptional delicacies and fruits supplement the local gastronomy, revealing a complete menu for all hungry for feast excursions.

LOCATION

Panetolio - Municipality of Thesties (Vloho), Thermo - Aetoloakarnania
The above 2 locations are indicative of the rich environmental, cultural, religious and archaeological value of the Lake Trichonida. The Environmental Center of Trichonida, the archaeological places, the museum, the Holy Monasteries / churches testify the tourism attractiveness of the area.

OPENING HOURS

The archaeological places are open from 08:00 - 19:30
The religious sites (Monasteries & Churches) are open all day long except from the hour 13:00 - 14:00
The museum in Thermo is open from 08:30 - 15:00 (except Mondays)
The environmental Center of Trichonida is open from 09:00 - 15:00.

PRICING

Price for archaeological sites vary (free, 2.00 euros, maximum 10.00 euros)
No entrance fee is required for the Monasteries, churches, the Museum in Thermo and the Environmental Center of Thihonida.

GUIDED VISITS

Contact the local tourist agencies across the Lake for organized guided tours in selected locations.

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

notes

Notes section with horizontal lines for writing.

useful information

“HERODOT” THE HERITAGE NETWORK

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
“Water routes - The continuity of life”
Konstantinoupoleos 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
“The black gold rail”
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece

P4. Trichonida S.A., Development Agency
“Adventurous peace. Secrets beneath the lake”
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DiSTaFa
“Stair steps to heaven: the terraced vineyards and the landscape of Costa Viola”
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie”
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
“The Hyblean area: a taste of heritage”
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy

P8. University of Catania - DIA
“Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle”
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
“The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico”
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy

P10. University of Basilicata - DiT.Ec.
“Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...”
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy

Travel Info

Costa Viola can be reached easily by bus from the Reggio Calabria and the Lamezia Terme Airports. Palmi and Villa San Giovanni have important railway stations where all the main trains stop. The A3 motorway Salerno-Reggio Calabria crosses the whole area and has off ramps to Villa San Giovanni, Bagnara and Palmi.

Mediterranea University of Reggio Calabria - DiSTaFa

DiSTaFa (Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Agroforestali e Ambientali) is part of the Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria. It carries out research, educational and training activities on the following subjects: rural development and tourism; marketing; farm building and rural architecture; infrastructures and landscape planning; reuse and valorisation of the vernacular architectural heritage. The Scientific Staff counts over 40 professors and researchers. The Department offers PhD and Master Courses on Rural Development, Landscape Planning and Agricultural Engineering. It is well experienced in the management of international research programs.

www.distafa.unirc.it / salvatore.difazio@unirc.it



ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEINGS



In Scilla the main attractions are: the Ruffo Castle (16th century), the Tremusa cave, a site of geologic interest; the church of Saint Rocco. In Bagnara we recommend the visit of: Emmarita Castle, built in 1080; Ruggero Tower (16th century); the churches of Our Lady of the Rosary and of Madonna of Mt. Carmel. In Palmi visit Taureana Tower and “Casa della Cultura”, where are: an important ethnographic museum; an antiquarium with objects dating from the 5th century BC to the 11th century; an interesting collection of paintings of the 20th century. The main attractions of Seminara are the Church of Saint Marc (16th century) and the Townhall. Villa San Giovanni has an important port; from there the boats to Sicily and the Eolian Islands depart. You can walk in the area of Cannitello and see the old spinning mills, some of which have been restored and refurbished. Jump down to Reggio Calabria and visit the Archaeologic Museum where you can admire the famous bronze statues of the Warriors of Riace.

ACCOMMODATION



In Costa Viola you will find a wide range of accommodation options, from 5 star hotels to B&Bs and Youth Hostels. Some tourist agents also offer homes and flats on rent at convenient prices and even for very short periods. Rural accommodation based on agritourism or holiday farms is also available. In all the main centres of Costa Viola the hotels and restaurants are open all year round. Beaches are very nice and have bathing establishments and other services. Accommodation closely related to beach resorts might be available only in the summer.

EAT & DRINK



The Mediterranean Cuisine finds in Costa Viola some of its most original and varied expressions: a mix of Greek, Arabic, Norman, Spanish and French influences. All the range of flavours is covered, from the delicate taste of *bianchetto*, the newborn fish, to the hot and spicy *'nduja*. Swordfish, tuna, cockles and mussels, sardines here meet the food coming from the mountains: pecorino cheese, ricotta, spicy sausage and every kind of salami. Stockfish, red onions, red hot chili peppers, aubergines always have a special place in the Calabrian cuisine, accompanied by local olive oil and the excellent typical wines *Scilla* and *Costaviola*. Almonds, oranges, bergamots and *ricotta* give a distinctive flavour to the many cakes which will make your travel sweet. Try Bagnara's *torrone* and the liqueurs prepared with licorice, bergamot and lemon. *Gassosa* (lemon soda) is a popular soft drink, either mixed with red wine or coffee flavoured. You will find excellent restaurants and family-run *trattoria*.



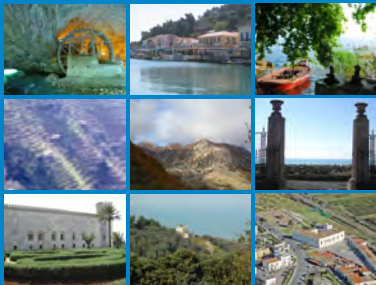
5



**Stair steps to heaven:
the terraced vineyards and
the landscape of Costa Viola**

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES



HERODOT



**Stair steps to heaven:
the terraced vineyards
and the landscape
of Costa Viola**

Identify project

The project developed in Calabria by DiSTA/FA aims at the sustainable valorisation of the rural historic heritage, with specific reference to constructions and places representing people's working environment. The signs of the human work are an important interpretation key of the landscape. This is evident in the historic terraced vineyards of Costa Viola. Since ancient times human settlements developed here, thanks to the many opportunities offered by the resources and the beauty of the land. Local economy has always been based on a mix of fishery, agriculture and trade. The land, presenting very steep slopes, had to be adapted to the agricultural needs and this required hard work of generations. Agriculture in terraced vineyards today is hard to sustain. Tourism development based on the rural heritage and the valorisation of the local quality wine can bring the farmers some extra incomes helping them keep the dry stone terraces and take care of this fragile environment.

What Ulysses knew

From Villa San Giovanni you can see the Sicilian coast and Mount Etna in a distance, with its smoke plume. The town faces the blue waters of the Strait of Messina connecting the Ionian and the Tyrrhenian sea. You see ferryboats, cargos, vessels, fishing boats, hovercrafts.... Once crossing the Strait was not so easy. Ulysses knew, but managed: here he challenged the monsters of Scylla and Charybdis - the perilous cliffs, the whirls... You will easily recognize the "passerella", used by the fishermen for hunting the swordfish. To know more about the hunting rituals visit the museum in the Castle of Scilla. Learn also about swordfish: try it in the delicious dishes served here.



Extreme viticulture step by step

Armacia are called the dry stone walls of the terraced vineyards of Costa Viola: "extreme" viticulture, where the land slopes are very steep. The terraces are stair steps to heaven and the wine is a blend of passion, hard work and genius. It's a patient social construction in time: people conquering, little by little, new land to cultivate, and making it stable with retaining walls and drainage systems. Terraced vineyards compete in audacity with the giant pylon once sustaining the cables bringing electricity to Sicily. But it's not professional engineering: it's traditional wisdom crossing time. In the land of Myths farmers built paradise while listening to the bewitching chant of the Sirens.

The wise hands of the craftsman

Stone-wallers had wisdom in their hands. No drawings, no calculations: just the perfection of a gesture repeated in time. It's the same for all the craftsmen here. Look at the magnificent decorations of the wooden objects exhibited in the Folk Art Museum of *Casa della Cultura*, in Palmi: cow bells, spoons, textile machines. In Seminara see how the potter caresses the wet clay turning on his wheel; he is forming a vase but it's as he was giving shape and life to a new Adam. Enter his workshop and learn from him. Not through words: just see! Beauty coming from ancient times: the old Greek decorations, the grotesque apotropaic masks, the porcupine-like vases...

A land of towers and castles

The beach of Scilla: golden sand, shining rocks. People resting in the sunlight and swimming. The old Ruffo Castle dominates the view from the highest cliff. Built in the 16th century, it was remodeled several times but still keeps its original beauty. Many artists were fascinated by this magic place: Lear, Guttuso, Escher... Along Costa Viola a number of historic fortresses and watchtowers are spread: they once were part of a complex defensive system. Some of them (Cavallo Tower, Bagnara Tower, ...) are easily accessible and offer unique panoramic views; others can be reached through paths also revealing the bright colours and the inebriating smells of the Mediterranean vegetation.



The sound of silence

Nature in Calabria is wild and mysterious. That's why here you find three National Natural Parks. One of them, Aspromonte Park, is just round the corner. You can also walk through the cork-oak forest of Mt. Scrisi or reach the top of Mt. Sant'Elia, densely covered with chestnut trees. Even the olive trees here have grown big and tall, densely planted on the hillside. See the famous olive woods of the Plain of Palmi. Silence and beauty once offered an ideal environment for the life of monks and hermits. They inhabited caves and irradiated spirituality in a special way. Visit the Tremusa cave: hear the sound of silence.



Fly if you can't climb

The best views of the terraced vineyards are from above or from the sea. So you can take a trip by boat, joining the fishermen, or follow the tracks drawn in time by the sheep grazing on the hillside. Walking and watching. View the terraced vineyards from Mt. S. Elia, the Castle of Bagnara and the road to Pellegrina. Ask the farmer: you'll be allowed to climb the steps of his vineyard. In the most steep plots transporting the grapes was very hard and once it was made via sea. Otherwise stairs and stairs to climb and descend. When you look down astonishing beauty is all around. Today mechanized mono-rail transport systems have been introduced. By them you'll fly over the vineyards.

LOCATION

Costa Viola is a strip of land of 18 km² situated in the South-West Coast of Calabria, between the Strait of Messina and the Plain of Palmi. It belongs to five municipalities: Villa S. Giovanni, Scilla, Bagnara Calabria, Seminara and Palmi. Here Aspromonte reaches the sea forming impressive cliffs.

OPENING HOURS

Scilla Castle is open all week 8.30-19.30. Booking is needed for groups. *Casa della Cultura* in Palmi is open Monday to Friday 8.30-14.00, afternoon opening 15.00-18.00 only on Mondays and Thursdays.

PRICING

In most of the public museums and galleries ticket prices are relatively cheap and free admittance is given to children (under 10) and elderly people (over 70). Reduced tickets are usually available for students and groups.

GUIDED VISITS

Guided tours of Costa Viola are organised all year round through a network of local wine producers and tourism operators. Their agency will help you finding accommodation and give you useful information.

Contact: *Ecotouring Costa Viola*
in Villa S. Giovanni / tel. +39 0965 794323
e-mail: info@costaviola.com

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

notes

useful information

“HERODOT” THE HERITAGE NETWORK

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
“Water routes - The continuity of life”
Konstantinoupolis 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
“The black gold rail”
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece

P4. Trichonida S.A., Development Agency
“Adventurous peace, Secrets beneath the lake”
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DiSTaFA
“Stair steps to heaven: the terraced vineyards and the landscape of Costa Viola”
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie”
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
“The Hyblean area: a taste of heritage”
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy

P8. University of Catania - DIA
“Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle”
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
“The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico”
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy

P10. University of Basilicata - Di.T.Ec.
“Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...”
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy

Travel Info

How to get there by car

from **Palermo**
Highway A19 Palermo/Catania exits:
Buonfornello, Scillato, Tremonzelli

from **Messina**
Highway A20 Messina/Palermo exits:
Castelbuono, Cefalù

from **Catania**
Highway A19 Catania/Palermo exits:
Tremonzelli, Scillato, Buonfornello

by train
train station of Cefalù

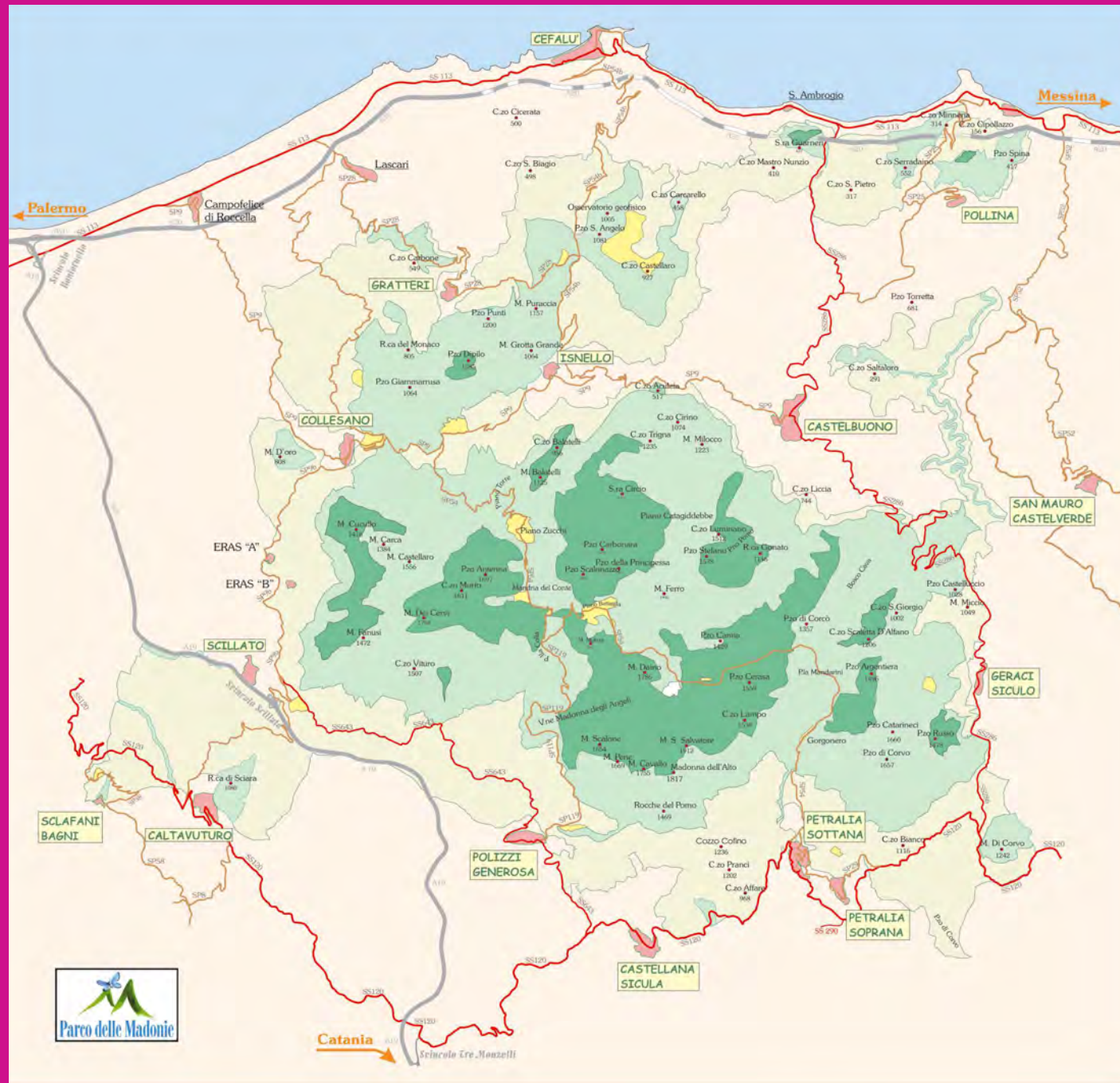
by bus
daily connections are available from Palermo
and Catania.

For further information
www.regione.sicilia.it/trasporti

Regione Siciliana Department of Tourism

ASSESSORATO REGIONALE TURISMO
COMUNICAZIONI E TRASPORTI
Dipartimento Regionale Turismo, Sport e
Spettacolo
Via Notarbartolo n. 9
90141 PALERMO (Sicily)
www.regione.sicilia.it/turismo

Ente Parco delle Madonie
Corso Paola Agliata n. 17
90027 Patralia Sottana (PA)
www.parcodellemadonie.it



NETWORK MAP



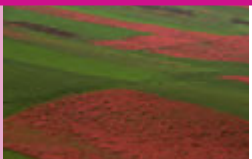
ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEINGS



The area of the Madonia Mountains has always been a unique landscape of great interest. The small villages, which form a crown around the central range, were witness to many centuries of history. Those villages were fortresses under the Arab and Norman dominion, and under Ventimiglia family as well, which have been ruling over the territory for more than a century, enriching it with works of art along the way.

For further information
www.regione.sicilia.it/turismo
www.parks.it/parco.madonie

ACCOMMODATION



The area offers many possibilities of accommodation as there are hotels, bed and breakfast, farm house resorts as well as camping sites. For further information, please visit our website:

www.regione.sicilia.it/turismo
or
www.parks.it/parco.madonie

EAT & DRINK



The land of the Madonie has been and still is characterized by agriculture and breeding. It is a territory consisting of hills and mountains, you will hardly find diverse products or great variations in the recipes. Nevertheless the atlas of the typical products of the Park is offering some of the most widespread recipes (www.parks.it/parco.madonie):

Durum wheat bread: The only ingredient used to produce this bread, which gets baked in the wood oven, is re-milled semolina (obtained from durum wheat), leaven, salt and water.

Charcuterie: The "Pappone salame", also called "buffa" (funny/droll), gets traditionally produced by biological rearing in the area of Castelbuono.

Cheese: The famous "provola delle Madonie" is a cheese with a typical sweet and delicate taste, made of cow's milk and produced by artisans in a traditional way.

Sweets: The "Manna" is a typical sweet of the Madonie with laxative and refreshing properties.



European Union

6

Photos by P. Bonomo



Wind and water:
sculptors of the Madonie

What are natural monuments?

Natural Monuments are individual elements or small areas of the natural environment of particular natural beauty and scientific values, for example trees, springs, waterfalls, alpine lakes, rock formations and ice caves, geomorphological phenomena, which must be preserved in their entirety. Natural monuments build unrivalled visitor experience

“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie” has drawn and defined a network of natural paths inside the Park of the Madonie in order to link important botanical and geological landmarks designated as *Natural Monuments*.



Photos by P. Bonomo

Parco naturale regionale delle Madonie

This botanical paradise, together with its peaks, houses more than the half of the 2.600 species and about 150 of the 200 endemic species. The fauna is characterized by the 65% of the nesting birds and by all the mammals which can be found in Sicily.

Pizzo Carbonara is 200 million years old and you can meet, if you like! Rising 2000 meters above sea level it is the oldest and highest mountain in Sicily. It is located in the Madonie, a mountainous area east of Palermo, near the Tyrrhenian coast. The Madonie, together with the Peloritani and the Nebrodi make up the mountain system of Sicily's Northern coast. 50 million years of transformations shape the profile of the Madonie today.

The Madonie

Already Diodorus Siculus, Plinius and Strabo celebrate “the territory capable of thinking”. Differing in lithological age, origin and structure the mountains of the Madonie reconstruct the geological history of the Mediterranean in the last 200 million years. In the “Book of Roger II” Al-Idrisi writes: The landscape of the Madonie, is quite diversified, despite its apparently homogenous and unified appearance that stems from its belonging to a mostly mountainous region. He admires the beauty of the countryside, fertility of land, abundance of waters, prosperity of the towns. In Caltavuturo, Polizzi, Collesano, Petralia, Isnello, Geraci, Cefalu nothing has changed since.



Photos by P. Bonomo

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES



Photos by P. Bonomo

HERODOT



Wind and water:
sculptors of the Madonie



Photos by P. Bonomo

Identify project

What is Geotourism?

Geotourism is a new form of tourism that sustains the geographical character of a place- its environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage, and well-being of its residents. It incorporates the concept of sustainable tourism, while allowing for enhancement that protects the character of the locality. Geotourism promotes a virtuous circle whereby tourism revenues provide a local incentive to protect what tourist are coming to see; incorporates all characterists that contribute to the "sense of place"; lets visitors reveal secrets hidden in landscape and beneath the earth, discover the unseen, enjoy breathtaking sceneries by moving back and forth in space and time.



Photos by P. Bonomo

The four zones of the Park

The area of the Madonies, in relation to the environmental values to be defended and the activities possible there, is distinguished in four separate zone: **Full Reserve area, General Reserva Area, Protection Area and Control Area.**

For further information visit the web site www.parcodellemadonie.it



Photos by P. Bonomo

Sicily

“Sicily has been conquered, colonised and governed by numerous civilisations... all have left their cultural mark and make us the unique country we are today. Sicily has always been a microcosm: a composite world in which peoples of different race, religion and language have clashed and met, leaving in the island a stratification of extremely significant trace.”



Photos by P. Bonomo

Meet the patriachs of the Park, old trees unique in size and character. The firs of the Madonie, a population of just 30 individuals, the hedge maples of Pomieri, the giant hollies and the beech tree of Piano Pomo, the Tacarelle chestnut tree, the Puntaloro ash, the Pianetti pear tree, The Pomieri oak, the Macchia dell' Inferno downy oak and the Bosco Sugheri cork oak are 500 hundred years old! Embellish the long, grey winters. Capture the colours of 90 different butterflies, like Francesco Palumba did 150 years ago. The same butterflies are still fluttering in the Madonie awaiting for you. Unchallenged queen of the skies, the golden eagle, sails at great heights, reckless diving for its preys. Follow the paths of the Madonie and let her Majesty dazzle you...

Many small nations live happily together. The floral nations of the Madonie came from the most remote parts of the wolrd. They live with their neighbours in harmony and peace. Enjoy flowers and orchids in the Park with the view!

Scientific and Local Partner

1. **University of Palermo**
Department of Cultural Heritage, Historical - Archeological and Geographical
2. **Ente Parco delle Madonie**
3. **Municipality of Cefalù**

The Municipality of the Park area

The area of the Natural Park of the Madonia includes 15 Municipalities: Caltavuturo, Castelbuono, Castellana Sicula, Cefalù, Collesano, Geraci Siculo, Gratteri, Isnello, Petralia Soprana, Petralia Sottana, Polizzi Generosa, Pollina, San Mauro Castelverde, Scillato, Sclafani Bagri.

Usefull Information

www.regione.sicilia.it/turismo
www.parcodellemadonie.it
www.comune.cefalù.pa.it

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

notes

Notes section with horizontal lines for writing.

useful information useful information

“HERODOT” THE HERITAGE NETWORK

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
“Water routes - The continuity of life”
Konstantinoupolis 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
“The black gold rail”
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece

P4. Trichonida S.A., Development Agency
“Adventurous peace, Secrets beneath the lake”
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DiSTaFA
“Stair steps to heaven: the terraced vineyards and the landscape of Costa Viola”
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie”
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
“The Hyblean area: a taste of heritage”
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy

P8. University of Catania - DIA
“Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle”
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
“The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico”
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy

P10. University of Basilicata - Di.T.Ec.
“Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...”
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy

Travel Info

From Catania

The airport of Catania “Vincenzo Bellini” is approximately 100 Km far from Ragusa city that is reachable through the highways 194 and 514. Ragusa is also reachable by bus.

From Palermo

The airport of Palermo “Falcone-Borsellino” is about 270 Km far from Ragusa city that is reachable through the motorway 119 until Caltanissetta and then the highways 626 and 115.

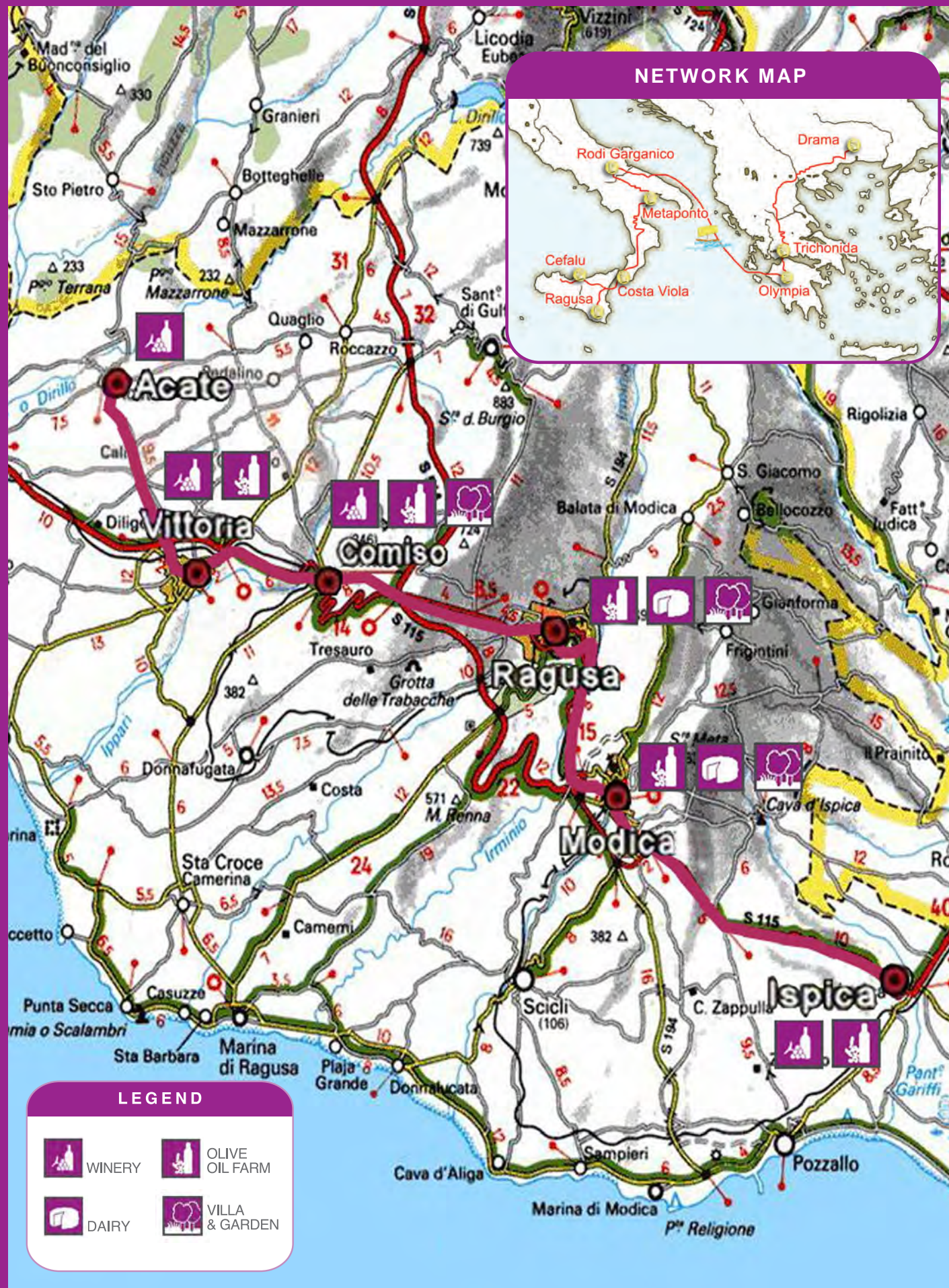
Sea lines

The nearest ports are in Siracusa and in Catania.

Science and Technology Park of Sicily

Science and Technology Park of Sicily is a no profit company born in 1991 as joint-stock consortium among the association of Regional Authority, research centres and companies operating in different sectors of the Sicilian economy. STPS is deeply engaged to reach a greater territorial animation, involving private subjects in the territorial development and giving to the public sector the opportunity of sharing the know-how and the relationship's knowledge that the STPS represents. To reach the goal, five operative sites are active in Sicily, characterized by different specialization, but working as a technology competence network.

www.pstsicilia.org / info.ct@pstsicilia.org



ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEINGS



The Hyblean area is one of the most interesting and varied place imaginable in Sicily. Stretching from the mountains to the sea, the area is a fascinating kaleidoscope of valleys and dry stone walls, of characteristics “masserie”, of centuries-old carob and olive trees. The area is stepped in history and enchantment, with a wealth of monuments and baroque churches that recently prompted UNESCO to declare Ragusa and Modica part of World Heritage. Strong-flavoured Hyblean cuisine and wines are the fruit of centuries-old tradition and numerous local fairs and festivals add tourist value to the area. Many “flavour routes” include suggestive vineyards, wineries, olive oil farms, dairies and with the historical villas and gardens offer a taste of Hyblean heritage. A stay over three days is advisable.

www.ragusaturismo.it

ACCOMMODATION



The accommodations in the Hyblean area suit every traveler's preference. The medium-high offer is located in Modica, Ragusa and Vittoria.

In total along the route there are 48 hotels, 18 farm holidays and 76 bed & breakfast. The rates vary from 20 euros to 200 euros per room. The warmth and hospitality of the Hyblean people do so much to make the area a safe haven for a relaxing holiday.

www.sicilyweb.com

EAT & DRINK



Traditional cuisine owes much to the centuries of exchanges and relationship with foreign civilization offering several dishes.

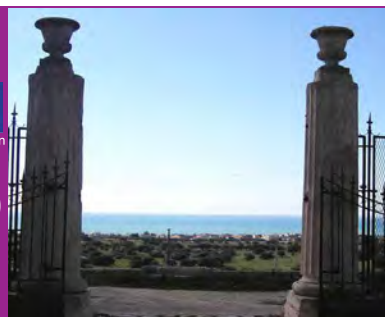
The territory is rich of very elegant restaurants mostly placed in Ragusa and Modica, while “trattoria” and farm holidays are located everywhere.

A large number of these are indicated in the best Italian guides, as well as Michelin.

www.ristoranti-sicilia.it



7



**The Hyblean area:
a taste of heritage**

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES



HERODOT

SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY
PARK OF SICILY

**The Hyblean area:
a taste of heritage**



Identify project

The main goal of this project is to reinforce the tourist offer of Hyblean area combining territorial content products (such as wine, cheese, olive oil) and cultural heritage. The oneness of this territory on the tourist market is testified by the wealth of monuments, some of them inscribed by the Committee of UNESCO on the World Heritage List, and by the presence of natural attractiveness, while its oenology and gastronomy products enhance its identity. The project gives to potential tourists the opportunity to discover the suggestive landscape of this territory through the creation of a sensitive route that valorises the typical food products and some characteristic elements as historical villas gardens and plants. The route promotes an understanding of local tradition and natural heritage and encourages sustainable tourism.

Nature in shape and colour

The historical flora of Ragusa area testifies enormous diversification and biodiversity. The most traditional ornamental plant is the palm. The spreading of *figus*, become relevant in some gardens, as Donnafugata Castle from the end of XIX century to the beginning of XX. The arboreal essences of *Cedrus*, *Pinus* and sweet-smelling flowers as *Pittosporum*, *Rosa* and *Wisteria* characterize the heady scent. Numerous bulbous plants *Iris*, *Freesia* are used to colour the gardens. *Opuntia ficus-indica* and creepers, as *Bougainvillea*, used along the boundary or outer walls. Carob and olive trees, considered "sculpture" plants, increase the fascination and became the essential symbol of Hyblean landscape.



The excellence of the cuisine

The various domination influences, which are followed in the centuries, have left indelible marks in the gastronomy. By associating and reinforcing the heritage of food specialties, the local cookery has achieved an high level of heterogeneity, rich in scents and varying from salty to sweet. Among its most renowned specialties are the *pastieri*, pastries filled with minced meat and lamb entrails; the *impanate*, stuffed pies; the *scacce*, savoury rolled-out pastries stuffed with various ingredients such as spinaches and ricotta cheese. The confectionery is enriched by the use of local products, such as honey, ricotta cheese and carobs. Modica is world-famous for its chocolate that has Atzec origins.



The traditional cheese

Cheeses are the products which over the years have made Ragusa famous. They recall to the memory imagines, sensations and suggestions lived in the past and are considered as cultural products. The hills between Ragusa and Modica are plenty of "masserie", the typical farms where it can be tasted *fresh ricotta* just produced, *pecorino* and *caciocavallo Ragusano* that received the DOP label for its history and tradition. The name *caciocavallo* literally means "cheese on horseback", likely related to its being hung over poles or rods, like a saddle over a horse during the seasoning. Visitors who enjoy cheese, they should definitely taste "spicy *caciocavallo from Ragusa*", a cow milk cheese with the unmistakable parallelepiped shape, excellent fresh, better still ripened.



The taste of wine

The evocative itinerary offers the suggestion of the secular tradition of a high quality wine within a typical rural Sicilian surrounding and includes a part of the so called "Strada del Cerasuolo di Vittoria e Nero d'Avola". The **Nero d'Avola** is the base and the structure of the best red Sicilian wines with renowned labels (DOC, IGT and DOP). Its heritage, art and secrets are kept in the culture of this territory. The famous **Cerasuolo di Vittoria DOP**, with the typical cherry-red colour, full velvety flavour and fruity bouquet, was the first Sicilian red wine to win DOC recognition in 1973. To trace its production, go back to the year 1600 when the city of Vittoria was founded by Vittoria Colonna, who promised two hectares of land to the first 75 colonists on the condition that each plant a vineyard.



Villas and historical gardens

Hyblean area provides delightful view of over 200 elegant buildings with gardens perfectly integrated in the landscape. The "historical green sites" are cool oasis of particular fascination where is possible to understand the complex relationships between the ornamental plants and their environment. The gardens are characterized by the exuberance of Sicilian vegetation as olive and carob trees, by the presence of ancient small basins, benches and aviaries, architectonics elements and along the party walls, the emblematic "white calcareous stone". Another peculiar attraction is a kind of "minimum gardens" made up by only one fruit tree. Different forms to testify the beauty of the nature.



The scent of olive oil

The route offers magnificent view of a landscape made by old olive trees, used in the centuries for olive oil production. Olive cultivation originates from the age of "Magna Grecia" and the olive oil was bartered by the families. Ancient trade agreements testified its importance. The extra virgin oil *Monti Iblei DOP* label origins from the hill predominantly rocky and calcareous extremely permeable. The Hyblean mountains microclimate enhances these excellent oil characteristics: average fluidity, intense green with gold reflections, distinct olive aroma with scents of green tomatoes and typical sensation of freshly cut grass. The olive oil, with its intense bouquet, characterizes the cuisine and intensifies the taste of many courses.

LOCATION

The route, dipped in Hyblean landscape, winds from Acate to Ispica along Km 66. On the way interesting wineries, olive oil farms and dairies, maintaining the ancient typical structure are suggested. Notable public and private villas and gardens are located in Comiso, Ragusa and Modica.

OPENING HOURS

Wineries, olive oil farms and dairies are opened from Monday to Friday (9.00 a.m.- 1.00 p.m., 2.00 p.m.- 5.00 p.m.) sometimes in the weekend. The famous Hyblean garden in Ragusa Ibla is opened every day from 8.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. Historical villas addresses are available at the tourist province office.

PRICING

Tastes and guided visits are offered from 10 euros to 38 euros per person and the reservation is required. Sometime tastes free of charge are available. Hyblean garden in Ragusa Ibla is free of charge.

GUIDED VISITS

Many attractive itineraries are possible: cultural and food laboratory, baroque temptation, art and taste etc. A large list of tourist guides is available on-line. The prices vary from 80 euros to 218 euros per day per group. The way from Acate to Ispica can be also self-guided.

www.guideragusa.it

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

notes

useful information

“HERODOT” THE HERITAGE NETWORK

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
“Water routes - The continuity of life”
Konstantinoupolis 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
“The black gold rail”
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece

P4. Trichonida S.A., Development Agency
“Adventurous peace. Secrets beneath the lake”
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DISTAFA
“Stair steps to heaven: the terraced vineyards and the landscape of Costa Viola”
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie”
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
“The Hyblean area: a taste of heritage”
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy

P8. University of Catania - DIA
“Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle”
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
“The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico”
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy

P10. University of Basilicata - Di.T.Ec.
“Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...”
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy

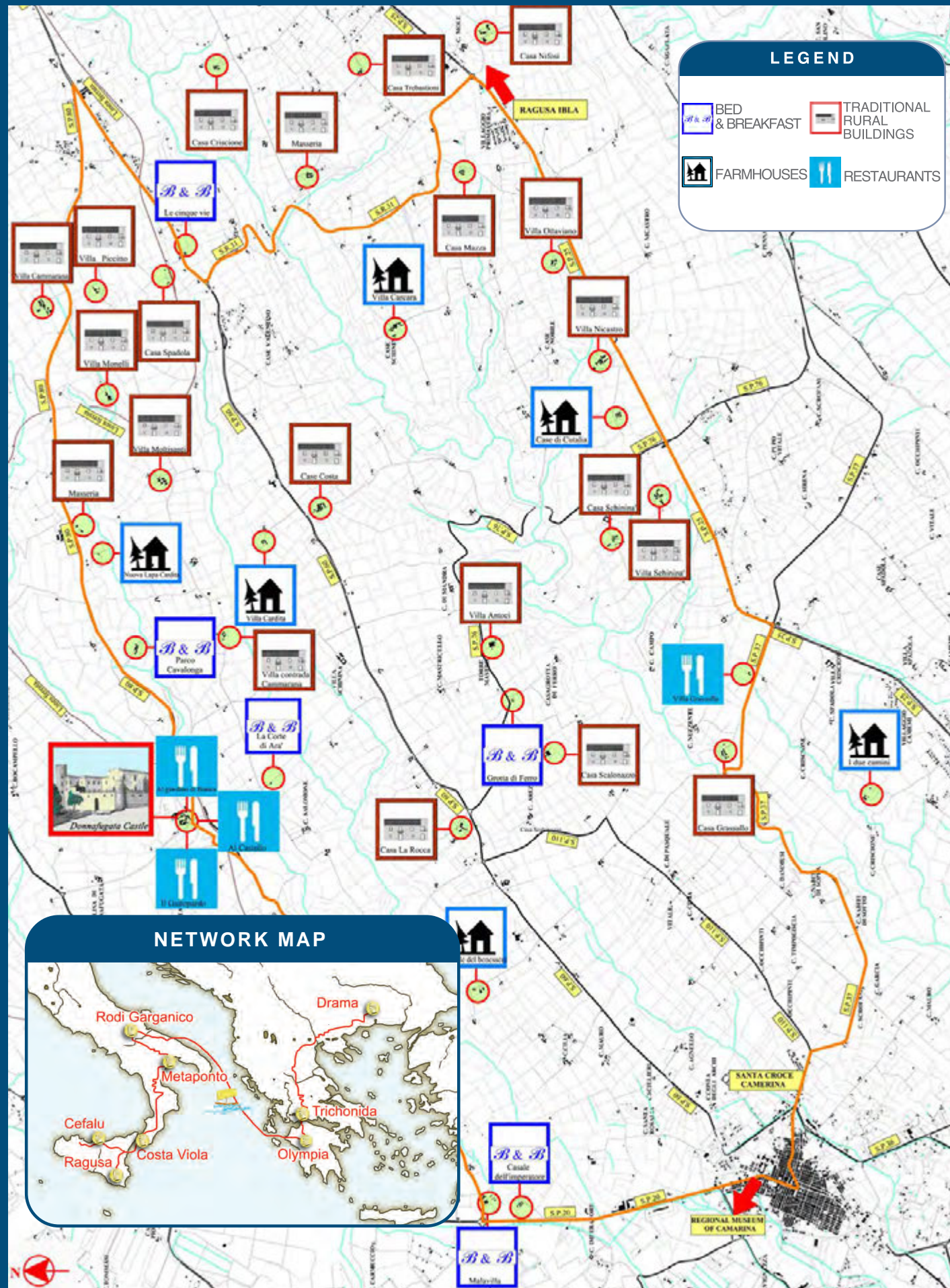
Travel Info

The tour, which length is about 35 km, starts from the Castle of Donnafugata and continues along the SP 80 in direction of Ragusa, along the SR 31 in direction of the SP 25, along the SP 25 in direction of Santa Croce Camerina and, through the SP 20, returns on the SP80 in direction of the Castle. The tour provides short stops that allow the visitors to admire some traditional rural buildings, a number of these buildings are used as accommodation facilities. A detour allows to reach the Regional Archaeological Museum of Camarina for a visit.

University of Catania - DIA

The Department of Agricultural Engineering of the University of Catania is located in via S. Sofia n.100 - 95123 Catania (Italy). The Department is organized in three different sections: Buildings and Territory, Agricultural Mechanics and Agricultural Hydraulics. The main topics of the researches carried out by Buildings and Territory section are: rehabilitation of traditional rural buildings in the context of land planning; reuse of traditional rural buildings for tourist uses; landscape analysis and planning; environmental conditions inside livestock buildings, materials and equipment; definition of design criteria of buildings for food industries; climate control and structural design of greenhouses and vineyard pergolas; plastic materials for greenhouse covering and mulching.

www.unict.it/gcascone@unict.it



ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEINGS



The Regional Archaeological Museum of Camarina is among the most interesting in Sicily, for both the wealth of its collections and for its location. The museum is situated in the archaeological area of the ancient city of Kamarina founded by the Syracusans at the beginning of the sixth century b.c. (598-597 b.c.) on the fertile promontory between the rivers Ippari and Oanis. The site of the museum is a rural construction built at the end of the nineteenth century. The construction, made up of different buildings organised around a central space open on two sides towards the country, is located on the acropolis where once stood the temple of Athena, whose ruins can still be found inside one of the rooms of the museum. The museum illustrates the political, civil and economic history of the city of Kamarina, its urban development, the most important monuments and the material and artistic production.

ACCOMMODATION



Casale del Benessere
C.da Malavita - Mobile: +39 338 3021542
Casale dell'Imperatore
C.da Imperatorello - Tel. +39 0932 621809
Casa di Cutalia
C.da Cutalia - Tel. +39 0932 664118
Casina Grotta di Ferro
C.da Torre Mastro località Grotta di Ferro.
Tel/Fax +39 0932 664065
I due camini
C.da Gatto Corvino - Tel. +39 0932 619090
La corte di Arà
C.da Cammarana - Tel./Fax +39 0932 244461
Le cinque vie
C.da Genisi-Materazzi - Mobile: +39 349 5272177
Malavilla
C.da Malavita - Tel. +39 0932 2821259
Nuova Lapa Cardita
C.da Orecchia - Tel. +39 0932 654715
Parco Cavalonga
C.da Donnafugata - Tel. +39 0941 361681
Villa Carcara
C.da Carcara - Mobile: +39 347 9567401

EAT & DRINK



Al Castello
C.da Donnafugata
Tel. +39 0932 619260 Fax +39 0932 619384
Al Giardino di Bianca
C.da Donnafugata
Tel. +39 0932 619387
Nuovo Gattopardo
C.da Donnafugata
Tel. +39 0932 619313
Villa Grassullo
C.da Parauta
Tel. +39 0932 686218



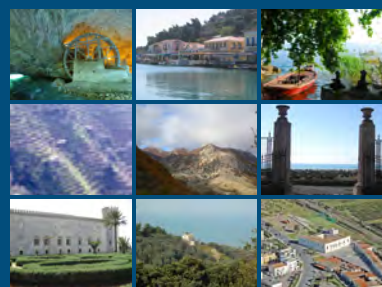
8



Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES



HERODOT



Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle

Identify project

The objective is to widen and diversify the tourist offer of a homogeneous area in south-eastern Sicily that stretches from the Monti Iblei to the Mediterranean coast included between the towns Ragusa and Santa Croce Camerina.

The project aims to create an alternative route to the option characterised by the "sun" and "sea" resources, based on the tourist potential of the inland areas. This new route allows the increase of value of the natural and cultural resources spread throughout the territory, through the knowledge of an historical building and already well known as a tourist destination: the Castle of Donnafugata.

The knowledge of the Castle's intrinsic features (historical, architectural, etc.), provides a possible key for the interpretation of the surrounding areas that could stimulate visitors' interest to investigate the peculiarity of sites and to extend their stay in the area.

The Castle of Donnafugata

The Castle represents one of the most evocative and interesting attraction among the tourist destinations of the Hyblean Province. The history of Donnafugata Castle, which was originally a fortified farmhouse surrounded by many peasant houses, began between the tenth and eleventh centuries thanks to the work of Arabic populations that built a small town nearby a spring that they called "Ayn As Jafat" (spring of health), the name then became "Ronnafuata" in Sicilian dialect and, only later, "Donnafugata". The most recent historical information dates back to the beginning of the seventeenth century.



The Castle has been the object of various transformations throughout the decades. Characterised by an unusual architecture, fascinating example of eclecticism, a result of a succession and of a overlapping of interventions decided by the owners of the estate. The oldest part of the building is certainly the massive square tower situated in the centre. The present structure of the Castle is due, essentially, to the baron Corrado Arezzo de Spuches, who lived in the nineteenth century and was highly considered in the political circles of eastern Sicily, particularly in the province of Ragusa.



The traditional rural buildings

The territory contains a large number of really interesting buildings, the "masserie", which form the organizational centre of medium and large sized farms.

The purpose of this guide is to show the connection between the Castle and the surrounding rural buildings through the study of building techniques and traditional materials. Some rural buildings found in the area have been analyzed taking into consideration their functional and technical aspects while their location has been fixed on the technical regional map.

Recently rural tourism has gained considerable importance. The reasons for this are:

- the search for places which offer experiences in contact with nature, new environments and ways of life, cultural contexts that are different to those represented by everyday life;
- the search of identity and authenticity.

A traditional building on its own doesn't form a tourist attraction, this can only happen when the traditional rural buildings are valued and the environment in which it is found improves its touristic potential. Thus, the "masserie" could be restored and, after careful evaluation, could be reused to house tourists.



Materials and building techniques

The stones used in the buildings are: soft and hard calcareous stones, pitch stones and sandstones.

- External walls are mostly made of calcareous stones, shapeless or roughly shaped with mortar made of lime and sand;
- The fencing walls of the estate are made of dry roughly shaped calcareous stones, typical of Ragusa countryside and are used to enclose the fields;
- The architraves of doors and windows are mostly made of calcareous stones;
- The frame decorations and mouldings are made of calcareous stones and sandstones;
- The flooring consists of calcareous stones and pitch stones, which can be either polished or rough.



- The flooring consists of calcareous stones and pitch stones, which can be either polished or rough.
- The hand railings and gratings are made of wrought iron;
- The building has wooden beam floors with simple frameworks;
- The vaults of the building are:
 1. "reali": barrel type, either with or without "lunette" and cross vaults. They can be found as coverings of the ground floor and are made of roughly shaped calcareous stones;
 2. "finte": mirrorlike type used as false ceilings. They have a wicker matting in the intrados nailed to a wooden frame usually plastered with mortar.
- The roof of the building consists of structures made with trusses and purlins and of coverings made with brick "coppi and canali".

LOCATION

Donnafugata Castle is situated in the district that bears the same name in the Ragusa area on a small plain at 308 m a.s.l., 20 km from Ragusa town in the direction of Santa Croce Camerina, about 12 km from Scoglitti.

OPENING HOURS

The Castle is open to the public from Tuesday to Saturday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm (ticket office closing time: 1:00 pm) and Sunday from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm (ticket office closing time: 1:00 pm) and from 2:30 to 7:00 (ticket office closing time: 6:00 pm).

PRICING

The entrance ticket is free for children under 6, for school groups, for the disabled persons, for tour guides and for tour interpreters and for political and military authorities. Reduced price tickets are available for people between 6 and 18 and over 65, for school groups.

GUIDED VISITS

Guided tours can be requested from and can be carried out by the ticket office personnel.

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

notes

useful information

“HERODOT” THE HERITAGE NETWORK

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
“Water routes - The continuity of life”
Konstantinoupoleos 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
“The black gold rail”
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece

P4. Trichonida S.A., Development Agency
“Adventurous peace. Secrets beneath the lake”
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DiSTaFA
“Stair steps to heaven: the terraced vineyards and the landscape of Costa Viola”
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie”
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
“The Hyblean area: a taste of heritage”
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy

P8. University of Catania - DIA
“Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle”
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
“The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico”
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy

P10. University of Basilicata - Di.T.Ec.
“Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...”
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy

Travel Info

Air
Bari, Pescara and Foggia airports.

Rail
Arriving at the railway station of Foggia or San Severo. Continue with the Ferrovie del Gargano

Bus
Daily arrivals from Lombardy, Tuscany, Emilia Romagna, Piedmont and Lazio.

Car
A14 Motorway exit at Poggio Imperiale. Continue along the Gargano dual carriageway for 45 kilometers, take the strada statale 89 (SS89) and continue for another 5 kilometers.

University of Bari - ProGeSa

The Section of Rural Buildings of Progesa Department develops research activity in the sector of the Agricultural Engineering, by experimentation in laboratory, farms, and the territory. Within the led researches, the themes concerning analysis and the planning of the rural territory have assumed an important weight in the search of environmental impact and landscape evaluation methods. The acquired experiences in the fields of the territory analysis and planning, recovery of the rural building, high value historic-cultural areas, resulted from the predisposition of specific research projects, whose results have been published on specialized reviews, national and international ones.

www.progesa.uniba.it / dalsasso@agr.uniba.it



NETWORK MAP

ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEINGS



In addition to the old centre of Rodi Garganico, which has retained the features of a marine town, with its steep stairs, roofs, churches and charming views of the sea, worth a visit also are the Santuario di Santa Maria della Libera, the port at the foot of the cliff, the Cappuccini Convent of the XVI century built on a hill with a wonderful view and the panoramic Riviera di Levante.

Vico del Gargano, which provides access to the Foresta Umbra with its beechwoods, chestnut woods, etc. extending over more than 10,000 hectares, offers its old town with walls, circular and square towers and the castle, the Cappuccini convent and the century oak tree, while on the coast at San Menaio there are the coastal towers of Preposti and Monte Pucci below the Marzini woods towards Peschici.

Ischitella boasts the old town, the source of the Romondato stream and the Crucifix of Varano and the Lake of Varano.

ACCOMMODATION



There is a host of accommodation facilities and tourist services in the area. Rodi Garganico has 1800 beds in 25 hotels and 4000 beds in 19 camping sites and tourist villages. Between the town of Vico del Gargano and the seaside resort of San Menaio there are 500 beds in 8 hotels and 2400 beds in 8 camping sites and tourist villages. Information on the addresses of the accommodation facilities, the services offered, availability and prices can be found at the Agenzia di Promozione Turistica APT della Provincia di Foggia (pugliaturismo.com/aptfoggia), the municipalities of Rodi Garganico (comune.rodigarganico.info) and Vico del Gargano (comune.vicodelgargano.fg.it).

EAT & DRINK



Local fish and vegetables are the base of the typical cuisine as well as a frequent use of citrus fruit grown in the gardens.

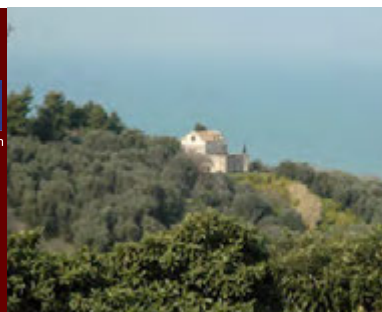
Among the starters the “insalata di arance” (orange salad) and the “anchovy in oil and lemon” stand out.

First courses include “zuppa di pesce alla rodiana” (fish soup from Rodi) made with at least seven types of fish, tagliatelle and chickpeas and “troccoli con le seppie ripiene” (troccoli with stuffed cuttlefish) (troccolo is a special type of pasta made of bran flour).

Second courses include “souvenir di Rodi” gilthead with oil, salt, and lemon; “alici mollicate”, anchovies with tomato, parsley, garlic and bread crumbs and “involtini di carne alla rodiana” with veal, tomato, pancetta and pecorino cheese.

Those with a sweet tooth must try “l'ostia piena”, “calzoni dolci” and vincotto di fichi.

Local liquors boast “limoncello”, “laurino”, obtained from laurel berries, and the mostocotto di amarene made from sour cherry leaves.



The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES



HERODOT



The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico



Identify project

The historic citrus groves stretch over a large area of about 250 hectares near the town of Rodi and the coast of the municipality of Vico. Citrus fruit has been grown here continuously for more than two centuries. The territory's coastal setting, the huge Holm oaks that act as windbreaks from the cold wind, and the colour of the fruit combined with the scent of the blossom make this place really attractive. However, citrus groves are unfortunately often missed by visitors, mostly attracted by the sea, who fail to notice that about a hundred metres away is a visual, fragrant and cultural oasis on a gentle slope partially screened by monumental windbreaks. In addition to citrus groves of intrinsic importance, these grounds also host farmhouses of architectonic and environmental value, votive niches and stone irrigation facilities that are particularly meaningful for the knowledge of the cultivation systems and the social life within the area.

The citrus gardens

In the past the citrus gardens were particularly important in the area between Vico and Rodi both in terms of quality and income. In reality it is a real rural system consisting of small farmed plots of land (2000 ÷ 3000 msq), spread out houses connected to agricultural holdings, road and irrigation infrastructure, windbreaks made up of rows of Holm oaks wisely grown to best perform their purpose (real farming monuments), as well as small woods and/or Holm oak groves that interchange to make a landscape-environmental mosaic of great worth.



Oranges

There are two types of oranges from the Gargano: the “Biondo comune”, round with seeds and a thick skin and “Duretta”, featuring a longer shape with a crunching flesh and no seeds. The particularity of these oranges lies in their ripening period, which occurs from the end of April-May, although the fruit can stay on the trees until September, a characteristic that is distinctly different from the other citrus area in Italy. This product also stands out for its excellent storage capacity, which in the past meant that it could travel for 30-40 days to the US in perfect condition.

LOCATION

The citrus gardens are in the territory of the province of Foggia, covering almost 1000 hectares, between the municipalities of Vico del Gargano, Ischitella and Rodi Garganico. This territory, included in the National Park of the Gargano, corresponds to the northern coastal section of the Gargano peninsula.

OPENING HOURS

For information please contact:
Ente Parco Nazionale del Gargano
Via S. Antonio Abate, 121
71037 Monte Sant'Angelo (FG)
tel. 0884 568911
e-mail: info@parcogargano.it

PRICING

For information please contact:
Ente Parco Nazionale del Gargano
Via S. Antonio Abate, 121
71037 Monte Sant'Angelo (FG)
tel. 0884 568911
e-mail: info@parcogargano.it

GUIDED VISITS

Visits to the citrus groves are organised by the National Park of the Gargano. Walks in the Citrus Oasis take place on Tuesdays from 5 pm to 9 pm for groups of 10 to 15 people. The meeting point is in the square in front of the Capitaneria di Porto in Rodi Garganico.

The windbreaks

Citrus groves were protected from the cold winds coming from the sea by various windbreak systems. These could be built of walls with windows to allow air to enter in the hot months, which were closed in winter using reed trellis-work, or made up of century old bushes of Holm oak, mastic tree or laurel, periodically pruned to grow upwards, and reach 10 m in height. Alternatively a windbreak was made of "canneti", long rows of dry reeds strung across the land and held together by a structure made of Holm oak poles and reed placed sideways.



Irrigation

The citrus groves spread out along the side of the valleys to exploit the natural slope of the land for irrigation. Each garden is equipped with an irrigation system made of dry stone channels. Above the citrus grove was the main supply system, with branches evenly leaving it, called "gore" in Italian, one for each four rows of plants. Each "gora" was joined perpendicularly to side channels that filled up the basins, three to the right and one to the left of the "gora". A sluice-gate system controlled the flow.



Houses among the citrus groves

The extremely varied landscape of the citrus groves of Rodi is embellished by typical farmhouses used for farming activities and sometimes for permanent inhabitation. In this area there are more than 800 spread-out houses, 70% of which are currently in a state of poor repair. The houses can have one or two floors, with an external staircase to access the top floor. In general, these are very simple and small constructions, despite the presence of some larger buildings of high architectonic worth called “casini degli agrumeti (lodges of the citrus groves)”.



Lemons

The “femminiello del Gargano” lemon is the oldest in Italy. The first historical documentation on this lemon dates back to the year one thousand, and the oldest production data available on the area is from the statistics of the Kingdom of Naples in 1811, when more than 60% of production was exported. Already in 1884 there was a flourishing trade with the US that absorbed most of the production. Thanks to the environmental quality of the production area, it has unique characteristics such as its spheroidal or egg-shaped form, a thin and soft peel and a high juice content.

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

notes

“HERODOT” THE HERITAGE NETWORK

Lead Partner: University of the Aegean, The Iris Lab
Michalon Street 8 / 82100 Chios - Greece

P2. Drama Development Agency S. A.
“Water routes - The continuity of life”
Konstantinoupoleos 8 / 66100 Drama - Greece

P3. Development Agency of Olympia S.A.
“The black gold rail”
27055 Krestena, Ilias - Greece

P4. Trichonida S.A., Development Agency
“Adventurous peace, Secrets beneath the lake”
Antonopoulou Street 6 / 30100 Agrinio - Greece

P5. Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria - DiStaFa
“Stair steps to heaven: the terraced vineyards and the landscape of Costa Viola”
89124 Località Feo di Vito, Reggio Calabria - Italy

P6. Regione Siciliana - Department of Tourism
“Wind and water: sculptors of the Madonie”
Via Notarbartolo 9 / 90139 Palermo - Italy

P7. Science and Technology Park of Sicily
“The Hyblean area: a taste of heritage”
Z. I. Blocco Palma I - Stradale V. Lancia / 95121 Catania - Italy

P8. University of Catania - DIA
“Traditional buildings in the rural context of Donnafugata Castle”
Via S. Sofia 100 / 95123 Catania - Italy

P9. University of Bari - ProGeSa
“The historical citrus grove of Rodi Garganico”
Via Amendola 165 A / 70126 Bari - Italy

P10. University of Basilicata - Di.T.Ec.
“Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...”
Via dell'Ateneo Lucano / 85100 Potenza - Italy

Travel Info

From the Tyrrhenian coast:

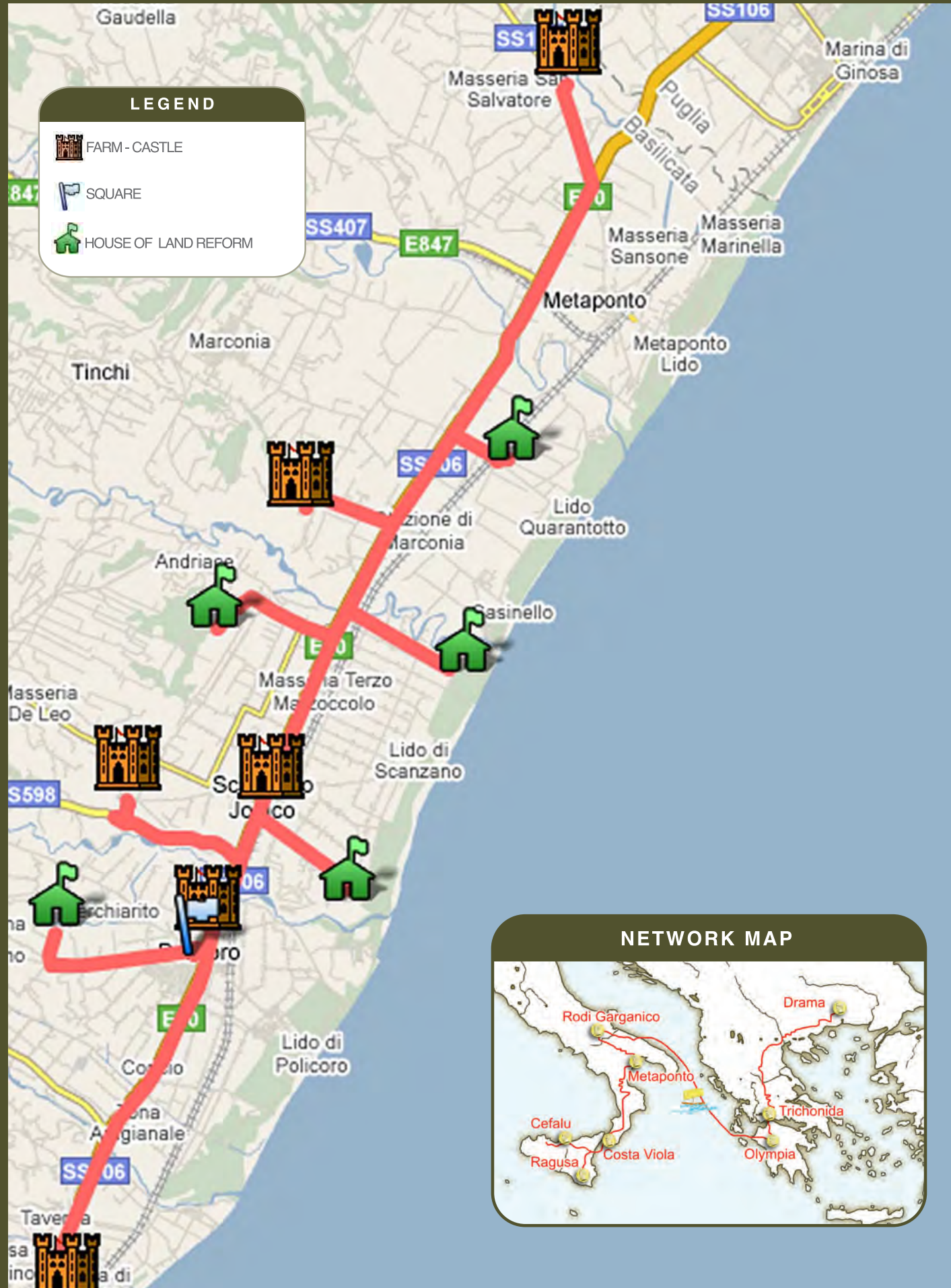
- BY CAR -
Follow the highway A3 Salerno-Reggio Calabria. Take the exit Sicignano, and follow the SS407 (Basentana). Continue until Metaponto, then take the Jonica SS106 Taranto-Sibari.
- By RAILWAY -
Take the FS (Ferrovie dello Stato) line Napoli-Reggio Calabria. In Battipaglia change to the line Potenza-Taranto. In Taranto take the line Taranto-Sibari.
- By AIRPLANE -
Airport "Napoli Capodichino". Continue to destination by car or by railway.

From the Adriatic coast:

- BY CAR -
Follow the highway A4 Bologna-Taranto. Take the exit "Barriera di Taranto", and follow the Jonica SS106 Taranto-Sibari.
- By RAILWAY -
Take the FS (Ferrovie dello Stato) line Bari-Taranto. In Taranto change to the line Taranto-Sibari.
- By AIRPLANE -
Airport "Bari Palese". Continue to destination by car or by railway.

University of Basilicata - Di.T.Ec.

Technical and Economic Department for the Management of Agricultural and Forestry Environment - Di.T.Ec.
The Department has developed studies and research in various subjects:
- rural constructions and infrastructures,
- landscape and rural planning in preserved and/or marginal areas for a compatible reuse,
- safeguarding, rehabilitation and valorisation of historical rural architecture,
- sustainable rural development and landscape protection in high agricultural activity areas;
- detection of touristic itineraries and heritage trails,
- technical and economical management of rural establishments.
A remarkable contribution has been produced by the Department to support the Basilicata Regional Authority in the matter of rural tourism.
www.unibas.it/dipartimenti/ditec/ / carlo.manera@unibas.it



ATTRACTIONS & SIGHTSEEINGS



The itinerary winds along the Ionian Coastal crossing the Latifundium areas concerned by the Land Reform in 1950 year
Departure: S. Salvatore Farm (Bernalda) - S. Basilio Castle (Pisticci) - Palazzaccio and Recoleta Farm (Scanzano Jonico) - Berlingieri Palace and Heraclea square (Policoro) - S. Laura Palace (Rotondella) - Houses of Reform
Close to Policoro you can also visit the National Archaeological Museum of Siritide, Policoro and Archaeological Park Reserve Regional Bosco Pantano Policoro.

ACCOMMODATION



The Ionian coast is a coastal strip of approximately 40 kilometres with fine sand beaches and studded with hotels and other amenities in continuous development. The Lidos of Metaponto, of Scanzano and of Policoro are the best known and patronized.

32 Hotels are available, among which there are First Class Hotels (four stars), Second Class Hotels and First Class Pension (three stars)
Third Class Hotels and Second Class Pensions (two stars). Most of the Hotels offer dining possibilities (Restaurants and Bars), Guarded Parking places, Tennis Courts, Swimming Pools and Private beaches. 18 Camping-villages are present on the territory. Most of them offer dining possibilities (Restaurants and Bars), Bungalows, Private beaches, Baby Sitting, Swimming Pools, markets, etc.

Contacts: APT Agenzia di Promozione Territoriale (Territorial Enhancement Agency)
www.aptbasilicata.it
Tel 0971/507622 Fax 0971/507601
e-mail potenza@aptbasilicata.it

EAT & DRINK



In the Metapontino areas the tourism has found its natural outlet on the ionic coastal streep, a more evocative and genuine tourismis offered inland to whoever goes in search of the simple and the genuine. Basilicata offers the best of these and the people show that affable hospitability deeply rooted in a paste rich in history and culture. This area is a land so rich in culinary traditions that it offers a great deal to anyone interested in wine and the food. The vast majority of the typical dishes and products can be found in nearly all the restaurants (60 units) and the agritourisms (52 units) of the Metapontino area.



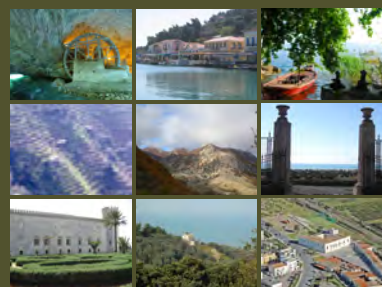
10



Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES



HERODOT



Since latifundium to land reform: the stones tell...



Identify project

The project aims at the enhancement of the Metaponto district through the cataloging and networking of the historical, cultural and environmental assets present in the area. In particular, the aim is to create cultural-tourist routes that would combine, on the basis of traditions, architecture and landscape of the Latifundium and Land Reform, assets which are well known and already included in consolidated tourist circuits (archaeological deposits, parks, protected areas), with other less known but not less valuable. The rediscovery of these assets completes and differentiates the cultural-tourist offer in the district, enriching it with new contents in line with the growing tourist demand for areas which are neither affected nor environmentally congested. The strengthening of rural tourism allows conveying the tourist flow toward the hilly areas, close to the coast, and promotes the marketing of typical agricultural products.

Rural architecture of the latifundium

The historical aggregates and the rural villages of the Latifundium present in the Metaponto coastal strip are feudal estates (farms of vast proportions called "masseria"), around which later on small scattered houses or huddles were built, used for permanent or temporary housing of the permanent or temporary agricultural workers.

In the hilly parts of the district where rural dwellings are characterized as a unit with one room at ground floor or on two floors with kitchen.



Since latifundium to land reform

The land reform, subsequent to the Act Excerpt of 1950, interested the land that was expropriated as large agricultural areas, former possessions of different monastic orders, and circumscribed and limited to the few not marshy areas, including estates of Ferrara in Recoleta of Scanzano, of Berligieri in Policoro, of Doria in Tursi and Rotondella, or areas not agriculturally exploited as the Policoro forest. Only where the redistribution of land was accompanied by works of reclamation, construction of channels, transmission of water, the landscape has changed.



Rural landscape

The Ionian coast follows a process of agricultural and settlement transformation, which began with the Greek colonization, continued both with medieval agricultural units belonging to the monastic orders and baronial palaces (XIX century) and then with the '50 Land Reform. The latter caused deep changes in the landscape transforming the "desert areas", without trees, of bare and malarial land of the Latifundium in a territory defined by the fragmentation of large estates and occupation of physical space through scattered buildings; the type of assignment was generally of 4-5 hectares with adjacent farmhouse.



Rural architecture of the land reform

The architecture of land reform is characterized by scattered clusters, single farmhouses, linked by rural centres with services for the community (school, church, shop, social building, municipal offices). Each farm unit is furnished with an oven, a pig sty, a chicken yard, and a mature pit, situated at a convenient distance from the dwelling integrated with the silo and the sheep fold. Building materials have been adapted to the traditional materials found in the various zones. Therefore "tufo" is used predominantly, because of the large quantity of this material found in Murgia, on the Jonic seacoast.



Culture

Metaponto was the epicentre of the battles between Greece and Rome and was later the battlefield of Hannibal against the Romans. It sheltered Pythagoras who died in Metaponto at the Forum of the Muses. Today all that survives of its ancient splendour is the "Tavole Palatine" (15 of the Doric temple's 32 columns dating back to 6th and to the 5th centuries B.C., dedicated to Hera), the numerous ruins of holy places, amphitheatres and of necropolises, many of which are still being discovered nowadays. The Archeological Museums of Metaponto and Policoro preserve many findings discovered in the areas.



Nature

In Policoro territory we can visit the Regional Reserve Bosco Pantano (declared by D.P.G.R. Basilicata n.2348 del 16/01/1984); it has a remarkable naturalistic, scientific and landscape value; it is a Site of Community Importance (SIC), it's a special tropical ecosystem characterized by rare flora (huge trees and widely differing arboreal environments) and fauna including wild boars, roe deer, martens and otters. Its importance depends on the presence of a wide hardwood forest (about 500 hectares) that extended along most of the Ionian coast in time past.

LOCATION

The Metapontino area (Basilicata) includes the Jonian coastal line and its hinterland; it extends over more than 1,200 Km²; it consists of an area at the foot of a hill (300 m a.s.l.) made up of a Quaternary terracing followed by a slight depression and a dune belt which precedes the sandy beach.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Sea Tower (Metaponto); "Palazzaccio", Recoleta farm, Scanzano Tower (Scanzano Jonico); Berlingieri Castle (Policoro); S. Basilio Castle (Pisticci).

ARCHAEOLOGY AND NATURE

National Archaeological Museum and Archaeological Park Siritide Policoro
National Archaeological Museum Bernalda
Archaeological Park
Reserve Regional Bosco Pantano Policoro.

HERODOT

TRAVELLING SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

notes

useful information