

The trail was named after Artemis (Diana), the ancient Goddess of Forests.

The trail is approximately 7 kilometres long. It starts at the crossroads of the Chionistra and Troodos - Prodromos roads and proceeds in a circle round Chionistra, at an average altitude of 1 850 m. The walk takes 2 - 3,5 hours.

You will have the opportunity to observe the forest, the flora, the fauna and the rocks. You will also see many areas and villages of Lemesos, Pafos and Lefkosia districts.

Explanations of the numbered points on the trail:

1. **ST. JOHN'S WORT**

Hypericum confertum ssp. *stenobotrys* (indigenous of Troodos). On the left-hand side you will see a dense stand of black pine - *P. nigra* ssp. *pallasiana*. The dry pine needles and cones form a protective cover for the soil and, through disintegration, enrich it with organic and inorganic substances (cycle of nutrients in natural forest).



Pinus nigra ssp. *pallasiana*

2. **BARBERRY** *Berberis cretica*.

Appears in inter-dependence with black pine. Here you may see the mountain peaks of Madari, Papoutsas and Kionia and the villages of Agridia, Agios Theodoros, and Agios Ioannis of Agros.

3. **BLACK PINE STUMP** Although the tree was felled many years ago, the stump remained alive for long. This was possibly because its roots were connected with the roots of other trees, from which it was fed.

4. **MASSIVE DUNITE** With smooth eroded surface of an orange-brown colour. Large grains of chromite (black metallic colour) on the left hand side.

5. **TROODOS CAT MINT** *Nepeta troodi*, an endemic plant. You may also notice the gaps for which the Forestry Department has carried out artificial reforestation to cover them, but without success due to the fact that the soil has become very infertile as a result of erosion and unfavourable climatic conditions. On the right-hand side the soil is prepared by mechanical means. On the left, only pits have been opened.

6. **BLACK PINE TREES** struck by lightning. Trees, particularly tall trees and with resinous wood, attract lightning, often causing forest fires.

7. **CYPRUS SKULL CUP** *Scutellaria cypria* var. *cypria*, endemic.

8. **JURENEA** *Jurinea cypria*, endemic.

9. **TROODOS SPURGE** *Euphorbia cassia* ssp. *rigoi*, endemic of the Troodos Park.

10. **CYPRUS GERMANDER** *Teucrium cyprium* ssp. *cyprium*, endemic.

11. **ARTIFICIAL REFORESTATION** One more reforestation effort, which was made in 1977. Apart from the black pine, you may observe cedar - *Cedrus libani* ssp. *brevifolia* - an endemic tree, which thrives in the climate of the area.

12. **TROODOS ALYSSON** *Alyssum troodi*, an endemic plant from which a rabies medicine is prepared.

13. **A ROTTEN TREE** The trunks of rotten dead trees form the biotope of a special fauna and are ideal for insects, living on rotten wood and feeding exclusively on dead wood (*saproxylis*). The preservation of a number of such trunks contributes to the perpetuation of these endangered species.

14. **EVEN-AGED STAND** of young black pine trees of the same age, created by natural regeneration from scattered old mother trees naturally regenerated.

15. **FIR TREE** *Abies cilicica*. At this point the reforestation effort includes black pine and fir. The latter is an exotic species, which seems to thrive in the area.

16. **TROODOS SAGE** *Salvia willeana*, endemic of the higher parts of Troodos.

17. **SKI LIFT** In winter, this area of Troodos becomes a popular ski resort. The Cyprus Ski Federation provides various facilities for the promotion of this spectacular sport.

18. **EXPLORATION PIT** to locate chromite. A small vein of massive chromite (black metallic colour) on the wall.

19. **FOETID JUNIPER** *Juniperus foetidissima*. Please note that here there is a pure stand of foetid Juniper.

20. **AN IMPRESSIVE EXPOSURE OF HARZBURGITE** with small dunite lenses (orange-brown colour) containing large grains of chromite (black metallic colour).

21. **VIEW POINT** You can see Mandria and Omodos villages. On the other side of the trail you may see a black pine tree, partly uprooted by the wind and struggling to survive.

22. **THE WALLS OF THE OLD TOWN** According to historic legend, the "walls of the old town" are the ruins of improvised fortification built during the last year of the



Salvia willeana

Venetian occupation of Cyprus (1571 A.D.), by a group of Venetian generals, to hold back the advancing Turkish army. Having witnessed the occupation of the town (Nicosia), and fearing the military might of the Turks, the generals finally surrendered.



Juniperus foetidissima

23. **AN IMPRESSIVE ROCKY AREA OF DUNITE** with strong orange brown colour.

A characteristic example of erosion. You may notice here that there is extensive erosion on both sides of the trail. This is because the area is not covered by vegetation, and the gradient of the slope is increasing. You will notice similar cases at other points. The Forestry Department is studying various solutions to improve the situation.

24. **AN EXCEPTIONALLY PLEASANT VIEW POINT** from which you may see Prodromos Dam, Prodromos village, Verengaria Hotel, the villages of Lemithou, Treis Elies, Palaomylos, Agios Demetrios and Gerakies, the Kykkos monastery and Throni.

25. **AN IMPRESSIVE VEIN OF PYROXENITE** 50 cm thick in dunite, with particularly large crystals of pyroxenes (the length of pyroxene crystals can be up to 10 cm).

26. **PEGMATITIC PYROXENITIC GABBRO** with large crystals of pyroxenes and plagioclast.

27. **WILD COTONEASTER** *Cotoneaster racemiflorus* var. *nummularius*.

28. **WHITE BEAM** *Sorbus aria* ssp. *Cretica*. In wintertime it has beautiful red berries.

29. **BLACK PINE** with a breast height diameter of 110 cm, and a height of about 15 m. More than 400 years old.

30. **ROSE BAY WILLOWHERB** *Epilobium angustifolium*. Here you can see a dense stand of black pine with a thick layer of humus on the ground floor (needles, cones and branches in decomposition). On your way you will observe that the trees are self-pruned at a great height, and the stems are straight despite the fact that many of them are growing in the shade. This is partly due to the fact that black pine is a shade-bearer.

Also note the lichens on the trunks of trees. Lichens are plants made up of a symbiosis of fungi and algae. Moss generates the photosynthesis and prepares food, while fungi ensure propagation.

31. **SKI LIFT** You may see the installations of the Cyprus Ski Federation.

32. **VIEW POINT** The town of Xeros and the plain of Morfou.

33. **TROODOS MILK VETCH** *Astragalus echinus* var. *chionistrae*, endemic.

34. **DOG ROSE** *Rosa canina*.

Please keep in mind the following:

⇒ Lighting of fire in, or near, the forest is strictly prohibited.

⇒ Avoid smoking or eating during your walk.

⇒ Do not use bicycles or motorbikes on the trail.

⇒ Do not cut plants and do not disturb wildlife in any way.

⇒ Keep on the trail.

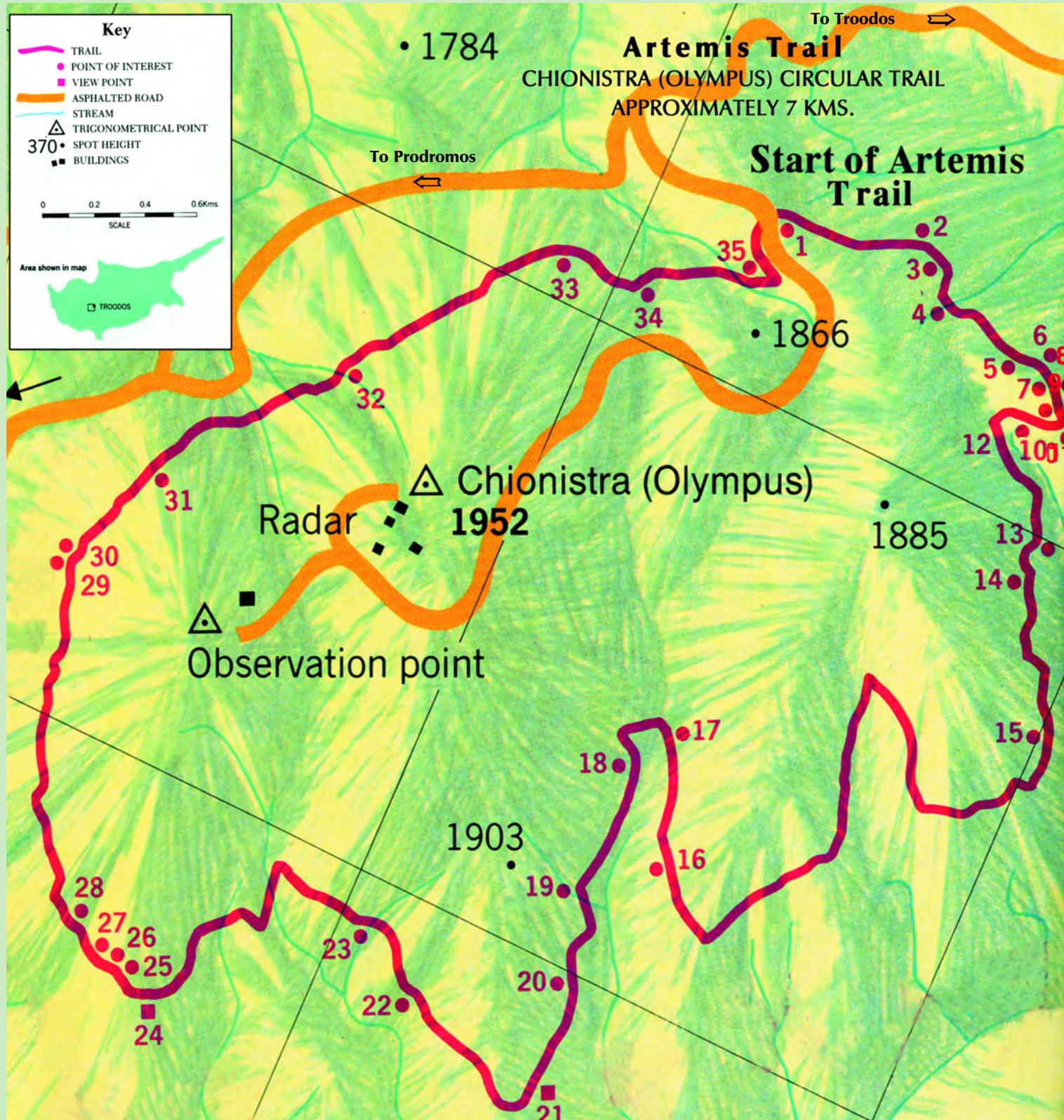
If you have any remarks, suggestions or questions you are welcome to contact the Forest Station at Platania, tel. 22922454, 25552580 or the headquarters of the Department of Forests, tel. 22805528 at Lefkosia. In case of a forest fire or emergency only, call at once 1407 (24 hours).

Key

- TRAIL
- POINT OF INTEREST
- VIEW POINT
- ASPHALTED ROAD
- STREAM
- TRIGONOMETRICAL POINT
- 370 SPOT HEIGHT
- BUILDINGS

0 0.2 0.4 0.6Kms
SCALE

Area shown in map
TROODOS



- REFERENCE**
- MAIN ROAD
 - LOOSE SURFACE ROAD
 - NATURE TRAIL
 - NATURE TRAIL ALONG ROAD
 - CAMPING SITE
 - PICNIC SITE
 - VISITOR CENTRE
 - PARKING PLACE
 - STARTING POINT
 - FOREST STATION
 - UP TO 1000 m
 - UP TO 1300 m
 - UP TO 1600 m
 - OVER 1600 m
- NATURE TRAILS**
1. ARTEMIS (7 Km) AROUND CHIONISTRA
 2. ATALANTI (12 Km) (CIRCULAR) POST OFFICE OF TROODOS-CHROMIUM MINE-TROODOS SQUARE
 3. PERSEFONI (3 Km) TROODOS-MAKRIA KONTARKA
 4. KALIDONIA (3 Km) KRYOS POTAMOS-KALIDONIA WATERFALL-PSILO DENTRO
 5. KAMPOS TON LEVADIU (3 Km) (CIRCULAR)
 6. PSILO DENTRO-VRYSES-KAMINOUDIA-POUZIARIS-PSILO DENTRO (8 Km)
 7. MYLLOMERIS WATERFALL (1.2 Km)
 8. KALOPANAGIOTIS-OIKOS (1.5 Km)
 9. KAMPOS TON LEVADIU-AGIOS NIKOLAOS TIS STEGIS (9 Km)
 10. GERAKIES-KAVALLLOS (3 Km) (CIRCULAR)
 11. LEIVADI PHILIPPOU (For disable people)(1.2 Km)
 12. KANNOURES-KAKOPETRIA (7 Km)
 13. PRODROMOS DAM-ZOUMI-STAVROULIA (5.6 Km)
 14. EUROPEAN TRAIL "E4"



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS
www.moa.gov.cy/forest

Artemis Trail

CHIONISTRA (OLYMPUS) CIRCULAR TRAIL

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