

This trail was named after the goddess of spring, Persephone.

The trail is about 3km long and takes 1.5 - 2 hours to walk. It starts at about 150m south of the Troodos Square, at an altitude of 1 660m, and ends at an impressive view point at 1720m altitude.

The trail offers exceptional scenery and at times it passes through beautiful stands of trees and rich vegetation. Looking toward the open horizon from the various viewpoints, you should see several villages of the Lemesos district.

Explanations about the numbered points of the trail:

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

2. **ROYAL OAK** *Quercus infectoria* ssp. *veneris*.

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

4. **CYPRUS SCULL CUP** *Scutellaria cypria* var. *cypria*, endemic.

5. **PTEROCEPHALUS** *Pteroccephalus multiflorus* ssp. *multiflorus*, endemic.

6. **BLACK PINE** *Pinus nigra* ssp. *pallasiana*. In Cyprus it is found only in Troodos at an altitude over 1 200m.

7. **PLUM TREE** *Prunus domestica*.

8. **TYPICAL DUNITE** with orange-brown colour.



Scutellaria cypria var. *cypria*



Pinus nigra ssp. *pallasiana*

9. **BARBERRY** *Berberis cretica*. It appears in interdependence with black pine.

10. **TROODOS CAT MINT** *Nepeta troodi*, endemic.

11. **WHITE MULBERRY** *Morus alba*.

12. **DOG ROSE** *Rosa canina*.

13. **WHITE BEAM** *Sorbus aria* ssp. *cretica*. In wintertime it is adorned with beautiful red berries.

14. **GREEK DOCK** *Rumex cristatus*.

15. **DENSE MIDDLE-AGED STAND** of black pine *Pinus nigra* ssp. *pallasiana*. This is a typical example of good soil quality, as indicated by rich vegetation of ferns - *Pteridium aquilinum*, There is also protection of the soil from erosion and rich humus (organic matter). On the trunks of trees there are lichens - a symbiosis of fungi and algae.

16. **ROSE BAY WILLOWHERB** *Epilobium angustifolium*.

17. **VIEW POINT** Chionistra. The highest peak of Cyprus, alt. 1 952m. The Kyperounta hospital, Madari, Kionia and part of the Amiantos asbestos mine can be seen.

18. **ROTTING STUMP** A real laboratory of nature. In this stump dozens of species of insects, fungi and other lower organisms are working incessantly until they decompose it completely and all its nutrients re-enter the cycle of life.

19. **FOETID JUNIPER** *Juniperus foetidissima*.

20. **BLACKBERRY BRAMBLE** *Rubus sanctus*.

21. **STRAWBERRY TREE** *Arbutus andrachne*. A common forest shrub at middle altitudes in Cyprus. Its berries are valuable food for wild birds.

22. **NEW PLANTATION** established in 1970 to cover bare areas. The endemic *Cedrus libani* ssp. *brevifolia* has been planted here and seems to be thriving in the area. Opposite you will notice a natural regeneration of black pine.

23. **VIEW POINT** in 30m. Trimiklini, Alassa dam, Koilani village. Vineyards in Limassol district. You may notice a thick young regeneration of black pine round the stump in the middle of young plants.

24. **TROODOS SAGE** *Salvia willeana*, endemic. The tea made from its leaves is not as tasty as that from the sage of the plains or middle altitudes (*Salvia fruticosa*).

25. **ST. JOHN'S WORT** *Hypericum confertum* ssp. *stenobotrys*.

26. **GOLDEN OAK** *Quercus alnifolia*, endemic.

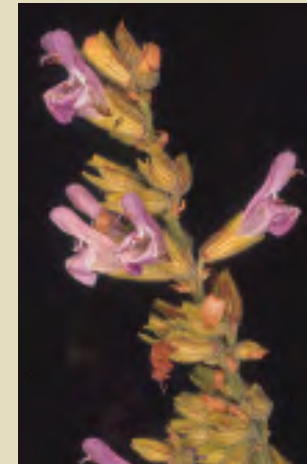
27. **CALABRIAN PINE** *Pinus brutia*. At this point you will notice that it meets black pine - i.e. it is the common zone of Calabrian and black pine.

28. **EVERLASTING** *Hellichrysum italicum*.

29. **AN IMPRESSIVE APPEARANCE OF HARZBUBGITE.** (The rocky formation behind the bench).

30. **VIEW POINT** for an exceptionally beautiful landscape -Saittas, Trimiklini, Alassa dam, Kionia, Kakomallis, Lemesos port, Akrotiri Salt Lake (near Lemesos) and a big expanse of vineyards round the wine-producing villages.

31. **TEREBINTH** *Pistacia terebinthus*.



Salvia willeana



Arabis purpurea

Please keep in mind the following:

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

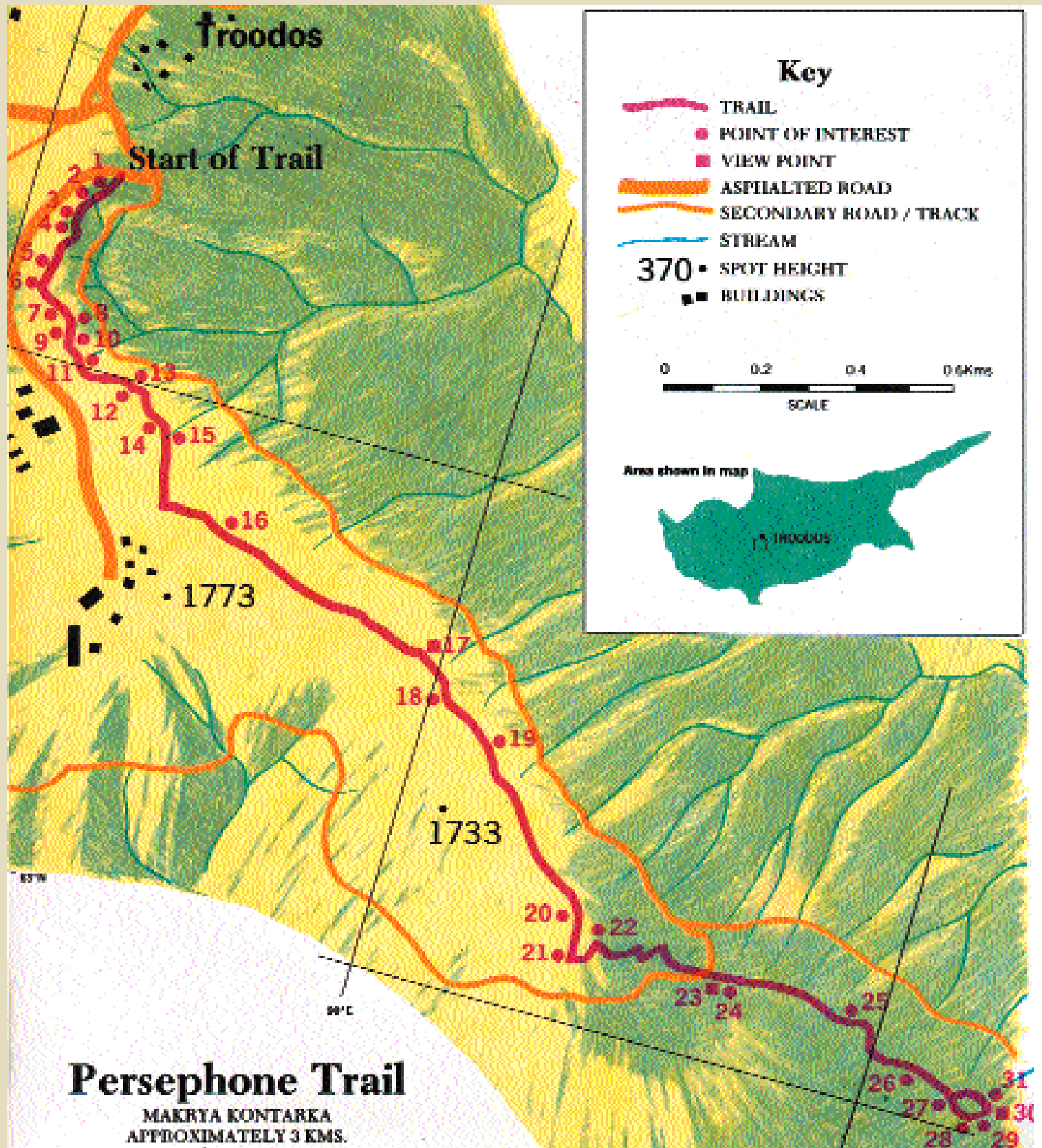
⇒ Avoid smoking or eating during your walk.

⇒ 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, 25552528 or the headquarters of the Forestry Department, tel. 22805528 at Lefkosia. In case of a forest fire or emergency only, call at once 1407 (24 hours).



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| REFERENCE | NATURAL TRAILS |
| — MAIN ROAD | 1. APEFIS (7 km) |
| — LOOSE SURFACE ROAD | 2. ANANTI (12 km) (CIRCLUM) |
| — NATURE TRAIL | POST OFFICE OF TROODOS-CHROMIUM MINE-TROODOS SOURCE |
| — NATURE TRAIL ALONG ROAD | 3. POSEIDON (3 km) |
| ▲ CAMPING SITE | TROODOS-MAKRYA KONTARKA |
| ✕ PICNIC SITE | 4. KALDONIA (3 km) |
| • VISION POINT | KRYOS POTAMOS KALDONIA WATERFALL-PSILO ZENTRO |
| Ⓟ PARKING PLACE | 5. KALDONIA (3 km) |
| Ⓜ MONASTERY | 6. PSILO ZENTRO-VEGSES-KAMINOUDA-POLOVARIS-PSILO ZENTRO (8 km) |
| 🔥 FOREST STATION | 7. MYLONERIS WATERFALL (1.2 km) |
| UP TO 1000 m | 8. KALOFRANGOTES-ONIS (1.5 km) |
| UP TO 1200 m | 9. KALDONIA AND LEMNITHOU ABOVE HELLAS TO OROSI (2 km) |
| UP TO 1600 m | 10. GERAKES-SKALLOS (3 km) (CIRCLUM) |
| OVER 1600 m | 11. LEVNI THALITTOU (FOR OLIVE PRESS) (2 km) |
| | 12. KALDONIA-KALDONIA (7 km) |
| | 13. PEDONASIS DAL-TOLMI-STAVROVIA (8.2 km) |
| | 14. EUROPEAN TRAIL 'T4' |



Persephone Trail

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