

Georgilas Cave House

Georgilas orchard

The gem of Georgilas Cave House is the verdant family-owned orchard that lies beneath it. The orchard is cultivated continuously since the 19th century and thus it constitutes a stable source of life and abundance for the families running Georgilas. The orchard comprises 300 fruit and nut producing trees, which are constantly renewed, covering an area of 15,000 sq.m.



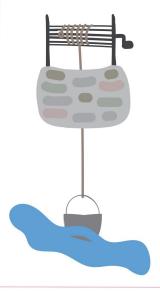
In the orchard are in principal grown four different varieties of orange trees:
Washington navel, Valencia, Sanguinello and Dolce, as well as lemon trees, mandarin trees and the local fruit named "citron". The citrus culture was gradually seasoned with more fruit trees.



The key factor for sun and wind protection are the natural fences of reedbeds, called "kalamiones" or "kalamotes", that are positioned in equal distances between the fields ensuring thus steady temperatures ranging between 12 °C and 28 °C.



The productivity of the orchard ranges between 6 and 10 tons per annum mainly for non-commercial production. In summer are collected sweet oranges, pears, apricots, ramontchi and figs, in autumn are collected grapes, quinces, pergamonts, walnuts and almonds, and finally in winter are collected pomegranates, olives, sour oranges and mandarins. Lemon trees bear fruits all year round.



The orchard's 13-meter-deep stone-well is used both for irrigation and for extraction of drinking water. The water was initially pumped with the ancient method of horse-drawn iron manganese. For the purposes of irrigation, the water was further channeled to a cistern through an underground clay tube to be finally streamed to the trees through earthly channels. The dwellings were supplied with drinking water via a motorized mechanism, identical to the "mechanism of Archimedes", that transmitted the water from the well into another cistern found at the center of the house's yard from where the ladies were collecting it. However, since the 20th century, a diesel pump and subsequently an electric pump replaced the traditional manganese pump.

nearby activities

Panagia Ataliotissa



A Byzantine monument aged since the 11th century AD. According to the local legend a royal princess along with her escort fled from Ataleia (today Antalya), a city found in the south of Asia Minor (today Turkey), in order to escape from the Ottomans. Her boat casted up to Amitis Bay. Save other heirlooms, she was bringing with her the icon of the Virgin Mary; probably a true copy of the icon of Our Lady which was kept at the famous at the time Church of Virgin Mary in Ataleia (today Cumanin Mosque). According to another tradition, the holy icon is passing from generation to generation without ever anyone to see the the painting underneath the silver decoration



Housed in a former olive press, it features original tools and equipment dating back to the late 1800s.



Explore the sea of Naxos with scuba diving at "Naxos Diving Center" in Kampos.



<u>Trail 6</u>: Melanes, Myli & the Kouri.

<u>Trail 11</u>: Pradouna Tower, Cave of the Holy
Nativity, Mesa Geitonia – (Monastiriotissa)
– Eggares



Take cooking lessons in greek cuisine through an interactive and amusing process.



Monastery of Panagia Faneromeni

The monastery came under the direct authority of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople in the late 16th century and consequently enjoyed special privileges during the years of the Ottoman rule. It realized its heyday, however, in the early 19th century, when it founded the first two schools of Naxos, in 1829.



Grimantis garden

Marble carving workshops, Hand carved marble and stone, one of a kind sculptures, mosaics, and decorative pieces from Naxos Island Greece.



Georgilas Cave House

In 19th century "Georgilas" was a family cottage with its own large production in fruits, cereals, milk and cheese. Throughout centuries "Georgilas" has achieved to retain its authenticity, and today it offers to its guests' a harmonious blend of unparalleled tranquility and down-home coziness.

Back in the 19th century, "Georgilas Cave House" was a fortified structure, whose main purpose was to control and observe the cultivations carried out underneath it. It was functioning as the local agricultural centre, where the crops got collected, weighted and packaged to be sold both in the local and in the national markets.

In parallel, "Georgila's" tight bound with the adjacent old chapel of "Panaghia Ataliotissa" reveals the ancient – greek connection among faith to god, family and nature!

Today, "Georgilas" remains not only an impressive construction, but also a unique destination for immersing into tranquility, peacefulness, privacy and comfort!