



# Fieldtrip Guide - Cape Greco (Kavo Gkreko)

4th Natura 2000 Biogeographical Seminar 18th

April 2024



## **General description of the excursion**

The excursion will start from Radisson Blu Hotel at 9.00 am and the participants will visit Cape Greco National Forest Park, east of Larnaka in a 45 min bus ride.

The LIFE-IP Physis project and its implementing partners are executing several measures on habitat conservation in that area. In particular restoration actions regarding Mediterranean Temporary Ponds habitat (3170\*) are planned. These ponds are small depressions on hard limestone ("kafkalla"). The action includes: maintaining existing habitat and restoration of degraded habitat. Fences and information signs will be placed to protect the habitat and inform the public.

In addition, the management plan for the Marine Protected Area will be updated and will include updated information of the site, surveys, conservation objectives, management measures, and stakeholder involvement. An assessment of existing fisheries management measures in the area is also taking place.

In the area of the Lighthouse, radio antennas were installed years ago. These have been removed recently (2021) and the area is now recovering through natural succession processes (passive restoration).

The main pressure on the species and habitats of the area is tourism and increased visitor numbers, especially during the summer months.

During the site visit, various parties involved in the management will be present to discuss the management and explain the local situation. The excursion will join partners from the Life IP Physis project and the Project's Scientific Coordinator.

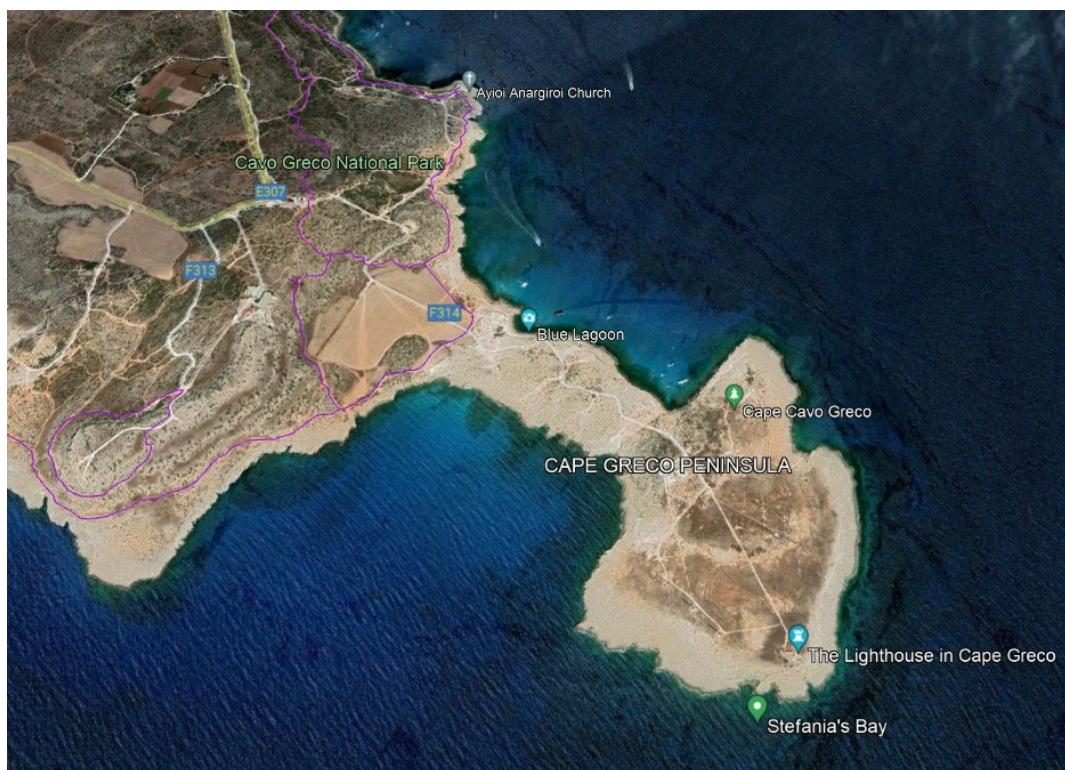
## **Excursion programme**

- 9.00 Start from Radisson Blu Hotel
- 9.45 Arrival at Kavo Gkreko Visitor Center and short tour
- 10.30 Walking on the nature trail "Agii Anargiri"
- 12.00 Lunch at picnic site "Agii Anargiri" (provided by the organisers)
- 13.00 Departure to cape "Pidalio"
- 13.10 Arrival at cape "Pidalio" and short tour in the Lighthouse area
- 13.50 Gathering at the bus and departure back to Larnaka
- 14.35 Arrival at Radisson Blu Hotel

## **Practical Information**

Please bring your own water bottles and snacks if needed. Outdoor clothing for April weather conditions, sun protection and sturdy shoes are recommended (note: temperatures are currently very high, around 30 degrees!).

Toilets will be available only in the Kavo Gkreko Visitor Center and during the lunch break.



### Natura 2000 site visited

SAC & SPA Kavos Gkreko (code: CY3000002, CY3000005)

<https://eunis.eea.europa.eu/sites/CY3000002#tab-designations>

[EUNIS -Site factsheet for KAVO GKREKO \(europa.eu\)](https://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/all/825E6DC5EFF93104C225848D003781B5/$file/CY3000005.pdf?openelement) and SDF form:

[https://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/all/825E6DC5EFF93104C225848D003781B5/\\$file/CY3000005.pdf?openelement](https://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf/all/825E6DC5EFF93104C225848D003781B5/$file/CY3000005.pdf?openelement)

### Habitats

3170\* Mediterranean temporary ponds

1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time

Arborescent matorral with *Zyziphus*

6220\* Pseudo-steppe with grasses and annuals of the *Thero-Brachypodietea*

1240 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Mediterranean coasts with endemic *Limonium spp.*

5420 *Sarcopoterium spinosum* phryganas

5210 Arborescent matorral with *Juniperus* spp. 8330

Submerged or partially submerged sea caves 1120\*

*Posidonia* beds (*Posidonion oceanicae*) 1170

Reefs-

1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines

### **Fauna species**

*Monachus monachus*, *Tursiops truncatus*, *Myotis blythii*

### **Birds**

*Falco vespertinus*, *Circus macrourus*, *Oenanthe cyprica*, *Sylvia melanothorax*, *Merops apiaster*, Migratory raptors (*Pernis apivorus*, *Falco vespertinus*, *Circus aeruginosus*, *Milvus migrans*, *Neophron percnopterus*, *Circaetus gallicus*, *Circus macrourus*, *Circus pygargus*, *Accipiter nisus*, *Buteo buteo*, *Buteo rufinus*, *Aquila pomarina*, *Aquila pennatus*, *Pandion heliaetus*, *Falco naumanni*, *Falco tinnunculus*, *Falco columbarius*, *Falco subbuteo*, *Falco cherrug*, *Falco peregrinus*)

### **Some species of interest for Temporary Mediterranean ponds 3170\*:**

*Rana ridibunda*, *Hyla savignyi*, *Bufo viridis* and various plant species (see SDF).

The excursion is funded through the LIFE IP Physis Project (LIFE18 IPE/CY/000006).

<https://pandoteira.cy/el/oikoselida/>