

Informationen zur Umwelt und für Naturreisende auf Kreta:
Information about the Environment and for travellers of Crete:

Jeep Tour to the *Láki* Plateau The wild-romantic back-country of *Imbros**



* For more information about *Imbros* see also our NLUK Info-bulletin No. 261-08/E "Walking-tour through the *Imbros*-gorge / South Crete".

An Off-Road Car and approximately 2 hrs. are needed for this tour!

Coming from *Chora Sfakion* in the south, bare left at the entrance of the village of *Imbros* before the church (**Picture 1**). Further left after the memorial and you will find yourself on a gravel road which curls through the scant area up the hill (**Picture 2-left**). Ignore all branching to the right, until you see a hump with a salient rock formation (**Picture 3-right**).



Drive straight ahead at the first crossing. Shortly after the path leads through two iron posts, keep right. You will then arrive at an area with shade giving oak trees and soon after, a large water reservoir made of concrete. Here a path branches to the right and I recommend to park your car, walk around a little bit and enjoy the awesome view of the "White Mountains" ¹⁾ (**Picture 5**, Panorama view next page).

In front of the cistern on the left hand side you will see a drivable field path winding itself along a dry brook down the hill. According to a shepherd I met, it is a short-cut to *Imbros*. However it is in substantially worse condition than the already described way and is not recommended under any circumstances.

Follow the crushed stone road, which leads on the right side of the water reservoir and when the first stone houses emerge, you have reached your destination (**Picture 4 right**).





Geologically speaking, the area is just as worth seeing: you can find disk-line as well as Tripali and Phyllit-quartzite. Also high-pressure-metamorphic alkali basalts and Metapelite as well as Metamergel of the Kalamos consequence can be found here.

Láki is a small plateau in the mountains (1060 m), with a few inhabitants, and some ruinous buildings under old venerable oak trees. But even in this remote corner, progress has found its way in the form of an extremely unattractive hall in which cheese is manufactured under the newest state of the art (**Picture 6 on the right**).

Nevertheless I find that a trip to this great countryside of Crete to be worthwhile; additionally here are four (uncommented) impressions.

¹⁾ For additional information about the „White Mountains“ see also our NLUK Info-bulletin No. 267-08/E.



*This bulletin has been provided by Maria Eleftheria for the NLUK e.V.
Translated by Michael Bloechinger-Daeumling.*