



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



## Also in summer a restful, quit, shady resting place Chapel Agios Giorgios – watermill remains and old washhouse

An article from our member *Maria Eleftheria*, Agios Nektarios / South Crete.

If you are on the “Old Road” from **Iraklion** to **Rethymno**, a scenic route that follows the course of the Gheropotamos, and have a need for a relaxing break and a little walk, I recommend a stop (approx. 2.5 miles after **Kambos Apladhiana**) shortly before the village **Mourdzana**, right behind the impressive old bridge (see fig. left). On your left is a desert tavern where you can park in front (see fig. right)



On the right side of the river leads a pathway of barely 500 m, where the last 350 m are consisting of old "cobble- stone pavement", to a shady place below old walnut trees and a spring with refreshing cold mountain water. Even during summer the massive boundary walls along the way are covered with dense moss and algae (see fig right) and water drips out of diverse openings between the rocks, which is caught in gutters and led to the surrounding fruit meadows. In winter the water is so abundant that you can get, with lighter footwear, wet feet fast (see fig. left).



The still intact buildings (figure left during winter, right in summer) in their design and the water troughs indicate a former wash house, whereas the ruin probably is the remain of a former water mill.



Stairs lead down to the simple chapel Agios Giorgios (see fig. left); the motives of icons existing in the Chapel (see fig. right) show almost all the relationship to the water that exists in abundance here.



Pay attention to the specifics of this place, on the sounds, the smells, the colours, surrounding you. Look around in this place of peace and relaxation and take a break from everyday life.

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Translated by Michael Bloechinger-Daeumling

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