

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

Monastery Tour: Monastery “Admission of the mother of God in the temple” and Monastery Savathianon, Prefecture Iraklion

We start our Monastery tour in **Iraklion** (New Road towards **Rethymnon**) and turn right at the “Refinery harbour” to the road to **Rodgia** (~ 5 miles). Following the sign we reach (right of the road) at half way the relative new monastery “**Admission of the mother of God in the temple**”. A smart, clean and worth to see Monastery; therefore see the following pictures.



Further on (~ 2 miles) to **Rodgia**; in the village centre of **Rodgia** branches left a steep alley to the **Monastery Savathianon** (3.1 miles). It leads in many serpentine through a beautiful countryside and granted views to the



coast near **Agia Pelagia** and the coastal mountain **Vovias Vounou** (416 m). The road ends at the monastery (therefore you must use the same way back to **Rodgia**). The convent is located idyllic within a forested gorge-dell and is to be reached from the parking lot via a 100 m long footpath.

The old monastery has been destroyed by the Turks in 1669. After the return of the monks after several

years they rebuild the meanwhile ruinous monastery. Since the number of monks shrank age-related at the end of the 19th Century, the monastery stand empty again, until nuns from the Peloponnesus settled down after World War 2 and made the facility the way it is today. The “treasures” of the monastery include 2 icons from the 17th Century, a Marys-icon and a Antiois-icon from the year 1741.



The monastery decreed about 2 churches. One is sanctified to the “Holy Savvos” and serves today as Catholicos. The other one is sanctified to “Antonios” and is located on the other side of the gorge creek which runs through the vale: it originates from the 15th Century. This “Rock chapel” (fig. lower row left, which is mostly hewn in the rock) and a small cemetery (fig. lower row right) can be reached on a paved way of the cross (fig. left), with the stations of the suffering of Christ and afterwards a small stone bridge from the year 1535, where left at the hillside are the green overgrown ruins of a former watermill to be seen (fig. right).



The nuns of the monastery make their living by selling handcrafts and you should therefore buy either one of their embroidery or weave handcrafts – or leave a donation.

