

Cape Greco Peninsula

Cape Greco, the cape and small peninsula in the Famagusta area, is the southeast tip of Cyprus. It is one of the most important areas for migrant birds, especially passerines and birds of prey. During the autumn months, up to 3.000 birds of prey use the area, among them two globally threatened species, the Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus* and Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus*. It belongs to the Natura 2000 network of protected areas.

District: Famagusta

Altitude: 0-160 m

Coordinates (the centre of the site): 34° 59.359'N 34° 2.867'E

Area Size: 1209 hectares

Habitat: Juniper scrub, farmland and rocky shores.

Birds: A total of **200** different bird species have been recorded here. The species for which the area is protected are migrating raptors including the Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus*, and Pallid Harrier *Circus Macrourus*, the European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* and the two endemic species of Cyprus, the Cyprus Wheatear *Oenanthe cypriaca* and the Cyprus Warbler *Sylvia melanothorax*.



Σκαλιφούρτα / Cyprus Wheatear



Τρυπομάζης / Cyprus Warbler



Μελισσοφάγος / European Bee-eater



Μαυροφάλκονο / Red-footed Falcon



Λοσπροσίχνο / Pallid Harrier

Other fauna and flora: 415 species and subspecies of plants have been recorded in the area, of which 20 are endemic. Two species of protected mammals have been recorded in the area, the fruit bat and the dolphin.

Threats:

1. Poaching and illegal bird trapping with mist nets and limesticks. You can learn more about this problem here: <https://birdlifecyprus.org/campaign-against-illegal-bird-trapping>

2. Habitat loss and degradation as a result of pressure for tourism developments (including proposed developments for golf courses)
3. Opportunistic rally and off road driving are of great concern for this area.

Did you know...?

The area is among the first areas of land and rest for many species as they migrate from south to north in spring, and the last area of land, rest and refuelling in autumn before they continue their journey further south (something that does not escape the attention of illegal trappers).

What else can you find in the area?

1. The Cape Greco Environmental Education Centre, which is the newest centre of the network of environmental education centres of the Ministry of Education and Culture.
2. The area has 9 nature trails you can choose from. Some follow the coastline.
3. The sea caves Palatia, the natural bridge Kamara tou Koraka, the church and cave of Ayioi Anargyroi, Konnos bay, the Cyclops Cave, the Cape Greco Lighthouse, as well as some perennial protected Juniper trees.