

Kato Paphos - Lighthouse

An area of outstanding cultural and natural value which is an attraction to many birdwatchers. The area is important mostly for the threatened Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*, a migrant waterbird which comes to Cyprus to winter. Because of its location, the site attracts thousands of migratory bird species, especially in spring.

District: Paphos

Altitude: 0-22 m

Coordinates (the centre of the site): 34° 45.577'N 32° 24.407'E

Area size: 88 hectares

Habitat: Low vegetation with a rocky and sandy coastline. The rocky substrate of the shore is the most important habitat for the Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*.

Birds: Over **195** different bird species have been recorded in the area. The species for which the area is protected is the Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*. The area regularly attracts herons, waterbirds and various small birds (passerines) during migration.

Among the bird species that breed in the area are the Black Francolin *Francolinus francolinus*, Chukar Partridge *Alectoris chukar*, Little Owl *Athene noctua*, Crested Lark *Galerida cristata*, Spectacled Warbler *Sylvia conspicillata* and the two endemic bird species to Cyprus, the Cyprus Wheatear *Oenanthe cypriaca* and the Cyprus Warbler *Sylvia melanothorax*.



Other fauna and flora: Three of the 19 species of bats recorded in Cyprus use this area to feed. Among them is the Egyptian fruit bat which is the largest bat found on the island and the only one not feeding on insects, but ripe fruit. In the area you will also find a large number of species of flora, among them endemic as well as endangered species.

Threats:

1. Disturbance from human activities
2. Destruction and degradation of habitats as a result of housing/tourism developments
3. Pollution of beaches at the wintering and stop-over sites of migratory birds

Did you know...?

Because of the geographic location of the area and the diversity of vegetation in combination with the coastal element the area hosts an important number of bird species, primarily migratory. 162 of the 195 bird species recorded in the area are migratory. The area attracts thousands of migratory birds, especially in spring.

What else can you find in the area?

1. There is a pedestrian path, starting from the castle, along the coast.
2. There is a little 22 meter hill where the lighthouse is.
3. The largest part of the protected area is the Paphos Archaeological Park, where culture and nature meet. Here you can study beautiful mosaics.