



AKROTIRI *Spring Festival*

Saturday 13th

Sunday 14th

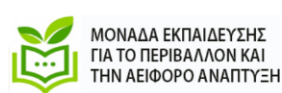
May 2023

@ Akrotiri Peninsula

A **unique event** dedicated to
the **environmental & cultural**
importance of **Akrotiri Peninsula**



Co-Organisers:





AKROTIRI *Spring Festival*



We are delighted to invite you to the **Akrotiri Spring Festival**¹, a unique event dedicated to the environmental & cultural importance of Akrotiri Peninsula, on the weekend of **13th and 14th of May**.

During this weekend, visitors in the area will have the opportunity to participate in unique activities, such as bird ringing, bird watching, fun educational games and crafts for families, hiking, basketry workshops, etc., at various locations in Akrotiri Peninsula.

Akrotiri peninsula hosts the largest complex of natural wetlands in Cyprus, it is recognized and designated for its biodiversity importance and is arguably the most important area for birds in Cyprus. Additionally, Akrotiri Peninsula is an area with a rich history and culture dating back to ancient times.

You can find more information about the importance of Akrotiri Peninsula at: <https://visitakrotiri.cy/>

Through the festival activities, we will learn more about the rich natural and cultural heritage of Akrotiri Peninsula and experience the beauty of the area.

We look forward to seeing you @ the Akrotiri Spring Festival!



**For any additional information
please contact:**

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¹ The festival is organised in the frame of Darwin Plus Project: [DPLUS141: Habitat Restoration & Wise Use for Akrotiri & Cape Pyla](#). The 3-year Project (2021-2024), which is funded by Darwin Plus in UK, aims to restore important wildlife habitats within the Cyprus SBAs, focusing on Akrotiri wetlands and native scrub on Cape Pyla, to promote wise use of the area and at the same time to develop eco-tourism opportunities to support the local economy. The project partners are BirdLife Cyprus (leading role), Terra Cypria, the Cyprus Sovereign Base Areas Administration - Environment Department (SBAA ED) and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

AKROTIRI Spring Festival

Saturday, 13th May 2023

Time Activity Location Age

colour guide
for programme

9:00 - 9:30 Bird Ringing Akrotiri Environmental Education Center

Did you know we're able to learn more about birds thanks to bird ringing? Bird ringing is a conservation tool, which enables us to monitor the movement of birds, giving us an insight into aspects of birds' lives such as survival rate, productivity, and migration patterns. Did you ever assist to a bird ringing session? If you haven't, now is the chance to join us for a bird ringing demonstration!

9:30 - 11:30 Bird Watching Tour Akrotiri Environmental Education Center (Bus Starting point) Age 18+ [Please Register here](#)

Birdwatching at Akrotiri Peninsula in Cyprus is always a rewarding experience, as the area is home to a diverse range of bird species, both resident and migratory. With its varied landscape of wetlands, salt lakes, and coastline, the peninsula provides a rich habitat for many species, including flamingos, herons, egrets, waders, and raptors. During the birdwatching tour, you will have the opportunity to discover the rich avian diversity of Cyprus and connect with nature in a peaceful and tranquil setting. Hop on the bus and let the birdwatching tour start!

10:00 - 13:30 Documentary Screenings Akrotiri Environmental Education Center

Documentaries that highlight the beauty of Akrotiri Peninsula and the need for its protection will be screened on the loop. Watch them to discover the hidden gems of the Peninsula!

10:00 - 11:30 Workshop: Bird Feeders Akrotiri Environmental Education Center Age 5+

Feed Your Feathered Friends! Convert old water bottles into environmentally friendly bird feeders.

10:00 - 11:00 Kids Activity: Explore the AEEC Akrotiri Environmental Education Center Age 8+ [Please Register here](#)

Kids can explore the Akrotiri Environmental Education Center and learn about this unique ecosystem by participating in our QR Code Scavenger Hunt. Using tablets, the kids can scan QR codes that are located throughout the center. Each QR code leads to a different activity or piece of information. The QR Code Scavenger Hunt is an excellent way for the kids to learn about the rich biodiversity of Akrotiri and to develop their digital literacy skills. Activity run by: Unit of Education for the Environment and the Sustainable Development

10:30 - 13:30 Kids Activity: Crafts Akrotiri Environmental Education Center Age 5+

Are you looking for a fun and creative way to help protect our planet? Why not try making environmentally friendly crafts related to Akrotiri Peninsula's biodiversity?

11:00 - 13:00 Kids Activity: Learn about the Vultures Akrotiri Environmental Education Center

Educational and interactive activities for children (arts and crafts, floor board game etc). Children will receive vulture-themed gifts for their participation!



11:00 - 12:00 Kids Activity: Feather/ Migration Workshop Akrotiri Environmental Education Center Age 6+ [Please Register here](#)

Kid Friendly workshop, where kids can learn more about bird migration and look at feathers under stereoscope. Activity run by: Unit of Education for the Environment and the Sustainable Development

11:30 - 13:00 Traditional Basketry Workshop Akrotiri Environmental Education Center Age 10+ [Please Register here](#)

The workshop on basket weaving is a great opportunity to learn about the history and importance of basket weaving in the local culture. A local experienced basket weaver will demonstrate the weaving process from start to finish. Explain the materials used, such as reeds, and the different techniques involved in weaving the baskets.



12:00 - 13:00 Kids Activity: Turtle Games Lady's Mile Beach Age 7+ [Please Register here](#)

"We found a turtle on the beach! What do we do now?" A children friendly activity about our marine turtles! Activity run by: Unit of Education for the Environment and the Sustainable Development

15:30 - 16:45 Explore the hidden coastal gems of the marine area of Akrotiri Lady's Mile Beach Age 5+ [Please Register here](#)

Educational and interactive activities for children and adults to learn about the marine biodiversity of Akrotiri, understand the different organisms that live in different coastal habitats (e.g. sand, rocks) and discover marine species through shell hunting. Learn how you can become a citizen-scientist and submit your observations for science using the mobile app 'iNaturalist'. Activity run by: Marine & Environmental Research (MER) Lab

17:00 - 19:00 Hiking at Apollo Hylates Trail Opposite archaeological site of Apollo Hylates Temple Age 8+ [Please Register here](#)

Guided hiking along the trail of Apollo Hylates. The trail goes through scrubland with sparse pines, passes through the ancient Kourion stadium and ends at an elevated point which offers a panoramic view of Episkopi beach and of the ancient settlement. Join us to learn more about the cultural importance of this area and enjoy the beautiful landscape!

18:00 - 19:00 Discover Akrotiri Marsh Akrotiri Marsh Age 5+

Walk along the Akrotiri Marsh with a plant expert and learn all about the rare plants and their pollinators. You will also have the chance to give a few treats to the cows of the marsh that are waiting to meet you!

19:30 - 21:30 Moth Night over Drinks Akrotiri Environmental Education Center

Celebrate the beauty, life cycles and habitats of moths. People of all ages are given the unique opportunity to learn more about moths, observe them under a UV light and become a Citizen Scientist for the night and contribute scientific data about moths!



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10:00 - 12:00 Kids Activity: Pomsy-Mosquito Workshop Akrotiri Environmental Education Center Age 5+

An introduction into the world of invertebrates and more specifically pollinators and mosquitos!

10:30 - 12:30 Kids Activity: What do flamingos eat? Akrotiri Environmental Education Center

Look under a stereoscope: what little animals live in the Salt Lake?

10:30 - 13:30 Kids Activity: Crafts Akrotiri Environmental Education Center Age 5+

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10:00 - 11:30 Workshop: Bird Nests Akrotiri Environmental Education Center Age 7+ [Please Register here](#)

Make your own nest box for garden birds. Not all birds make their nests on trees and bushes. Birds such as great tits and rollers need cavities or holes to nest and raise their families. Such spaces are far from abundant and putting up a nest box can be a great way for providing a home to these birds.

10:00 - 13:30 Documentary Screenings Akrotiri Environmental Education Center

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10:30 - 12:30 Dragonfly watching Lake Makria

Learn about dragonflies' ancient past, amazing adaptations and habitats. A dragonfly expert will be there to help us spot the different dragonfly species at Lake Makria. Using stereoscopes, we will study all their beautiful life forms. Dragonfly related crafts will also be available.

10:30 - 11:30 Bird watching Lake Makria

Birdwatching is a great way to study nature at home and in the wild. Everyone is welcome to observe birds with the naked eye or with binoculars and telescopes, that will be provided, to discover the wonderful world of birds in the air, on land, and in water.

11:30 - 13:00 Traditional Basketry Workshop Akrotiri Environmental Education Center Age 10+ [Please Register here](#)

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Map of Locations



Please click on the map
for the exact locations.



*We look forward to seeing you
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