

THE PAINTED CHURCHES OF THE TROODOS MOUNTAINS

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For 500 years, from Ca. 1000 to

1500 AD, the Byzantine Christians on the eastern Mediterranean island of Cyprus labored with love to decorate the interior of their humble churches tucked away in hidden valleys of the Troodos Mountains.

There are a total of 10 such churches which are today a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The one you see here is the church of the Kykkos Monastery, with its extravagantly painted vaulted ceiling preserved immaculately for centuries. Christianity remains very much alive in these mountains. Come here to be awed yourself. (*Glimpses of Our Breathtaking World #235 photo ©Jack Wheeler*)

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