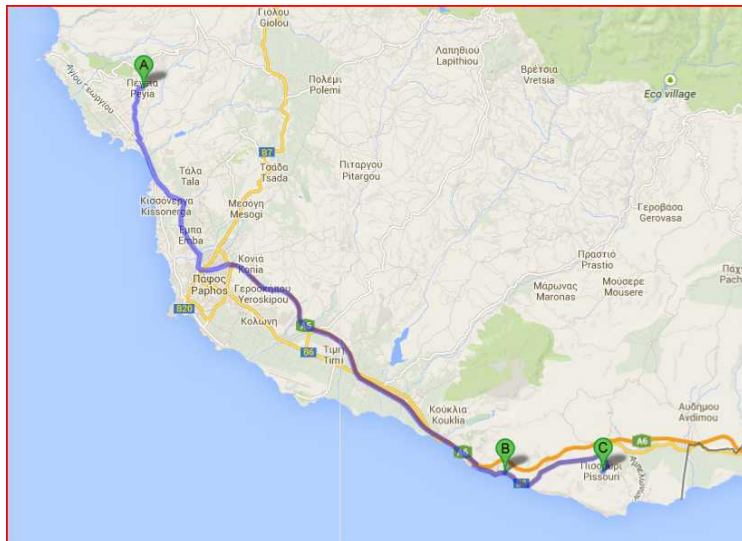


## CYPRUS WINTER 2013 – 2014



The 23<sup>rd</sup> of November we started on a sightseeing tour along the coast. 1<sup>st</sup> leg looked like this.



Just before we arrived at Kissonerga, we were driving behind a truck that was loaded with bananas. There is grown much bananas in Cyprus.



Here we look across to [Petra Tou Romiou](#) or Aphrodite's rock. According to mythology, this is where Aphrodite was born.



View from the same spot, over land.



View the other way.



The car we drive.



Here we have moved past the cliffs and see them from the other side.



View further down the coast.



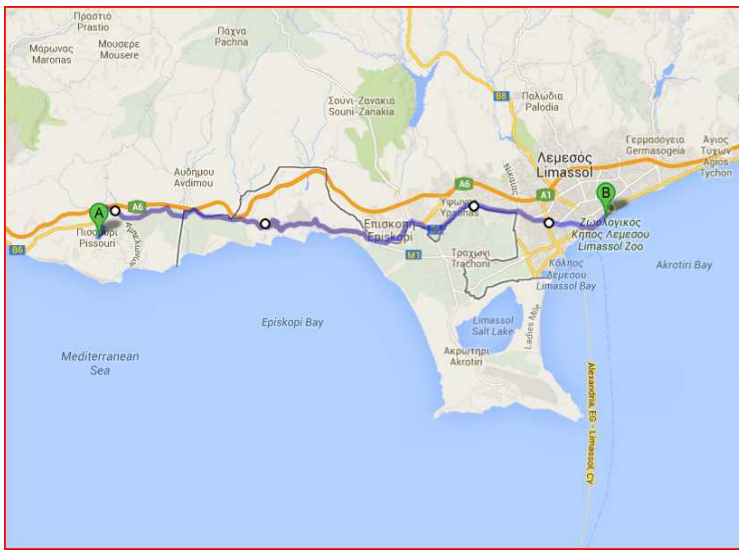
As we went on, we drove up to a small mountain village called [Pissouri](#).



It was a cozy little village with several restaurants on the main square.



Several restaurants.



After we had walked around in Pissouri, we drove on towards Limassol.



Before coming to Limassol, we made three stops. The first is here, where we go into the sanctuary and the temple of [Apollo Hylates](#).



Hylates was a god who later was the same as the Greek god Apollo. He was worshiped from the 3rd century BC to the third century AD.

A fairly large area.  
[Link to Wikipedia.](#)



A map of the excavations.



It's done quite a bit to restore it.



A broken jar.



The jar and a couple of columns.



A stone with an inscription.



Bathrooms. Here most of the floor was gone.



Most of the floor is in place here.



Apollo's temple



A row of columns.  
[Video from the place.](#)



Next stop was [Kourion](#).  
Here we are in the Eustolios complex.

[Link](#)



Examples of fine mosaics.





View of the countryside below. The Mediterranean Sea in the background.



Here we are approaching the amphitheater.



The original amphitheater was probably built in the second century BC. It was hit by many earthquakes and rebuilt each time. In the fourth century AD it was completely destroyed and abandoned. The theater standing here today, is a new reconstruction. It seats about 3,000 spectators.



Here we run a little bit longer, and have come to the medieval fortress of [Kolossi](#). This is one of the walls outside. [Link1](#). [Link2](#).



The fortress was built shortly after 1210 by the [Knights Hospitaller](#). [Hugh the I of Cyprus](#) was then head of the Order. After many attacks from [the Genoese](#) and the [Mamluks](#) in addition to many earthquakes, there were only ruins left in 1430.

The leader of the Order, Louis de Magnac, built a stronger fortress in 1454. It is the one we see today.



Flowering bushes outside.



Walls on the outside.



Inside the castle.



View from inside.



A painting that describes the crucifixion.



Coat of arms.



Several walls on the outside.



When we arrived at [Limassol](#), we booked in at a hotel called [Pier Beach Hotel Apartments](#). We had reserved a room there through Booking.com.



The view from the hotel looks like this on the hotel's website.





We took this picture ourselves from the room in the afternoon. There were many boats here who waited their turn. Limassol is the biggest port in Cyprus.



It looked like this the next day. View eastward.



View west.



On a sightseeing tour, we walked past [Limassol Castle](#).  
[Link 1](#) [Link 2](#)



Richard the Lionheart and Berengaria were married here.  
Today there is a museum here.



Time for a beer.  
This is just inside [the old harbor](#).



While we were sitting there a gang of scouts came to the square and began performing.



A little farther on we came through a street where it was tagged. Some were quite nice.





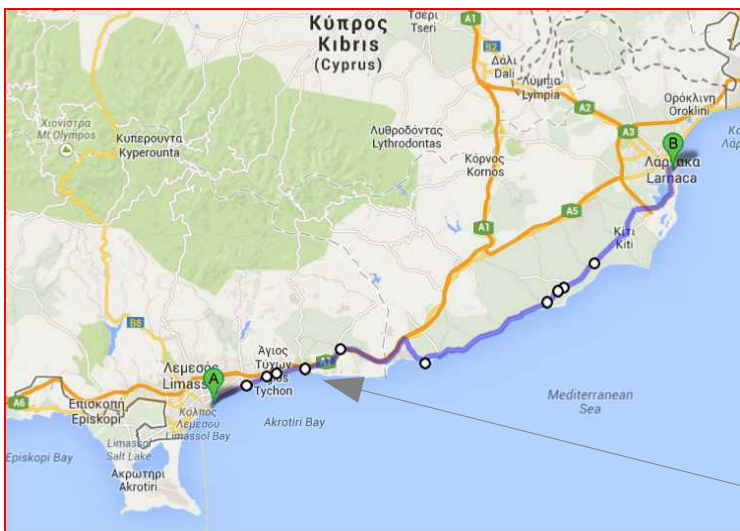
Here we come to the city park.





This poster was standing outside a restaurant.

Then it was lunch.



After two nights in Limassol we drove on towards Larnaca, like this.

We stopped first in [Amathous](#) to look at more ruins.



Amathous was one of the most important city-kingdoms of ancient Cyprus. According to mythology, it was founded by King Kinyras. It is difficult to establish exactly when the city was founded, but human presence dating back to around 1100 BC has been found. Over the centuries there were many conquerors, Persians, Romans, Byzantines and Ptolemies, until it was finally destroyed and abandoned in the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD as a result of Arabic invasion. This is the lower part of town.



Some columns.



Now we walking up the hill, and get a good view of the lower portion and the settlement eastward.



At the top is the Acropolis, the upper town.



View from the hilltop towards Larnaca.



Remains of walls around the Acropolis.



View east along the coast.



Nice bush.



Almost down again to where we parked the car. It was created fine steps, but they did not go that far up.

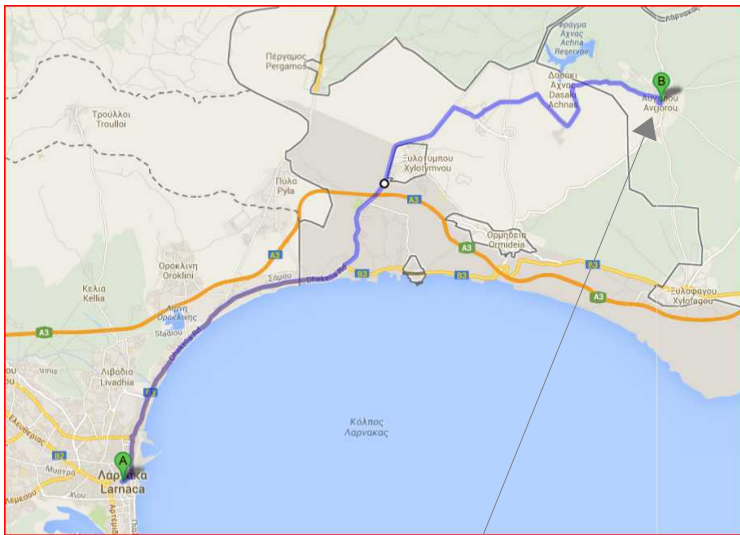


On the road to Larnaca we drove the coastal road through the villages [Mari](#), [Zygi](#) and [Kiti](#).

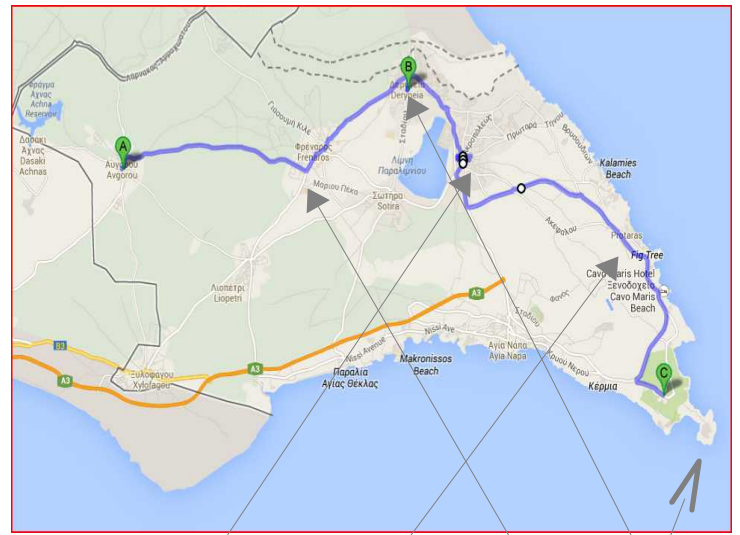
Here we have arrived to the hotel in Larnaca.

It is called [Alexia Hotel Apartments](#).

View from the balcony. There is waves on the Mediterranean Sea.



The next day we drove further east along this road, past the village [Avgorou](#).



Then such as this, past the villages [Frenaros](#), [Deryneia](#), [Paralimni](#) and [Protaras](#) to [Kavogreko](#).



Here we look in the direction of [Kavogreko](#). [Link 1](#). The plan was to go there, but we did not find the way after several attempts, so we gave up and drove on to [Ayia Napa](#).



This is far out on the peninsula Kavogreko, which was established as a national park in 1993.



Down by the harbor, Limnaki, we were greeted by Santa Claus and the reindeer.



From the eastern breakwater we can see across the beaches and big tourist hotels.



Fishing boats in a row.



A pirate ship.

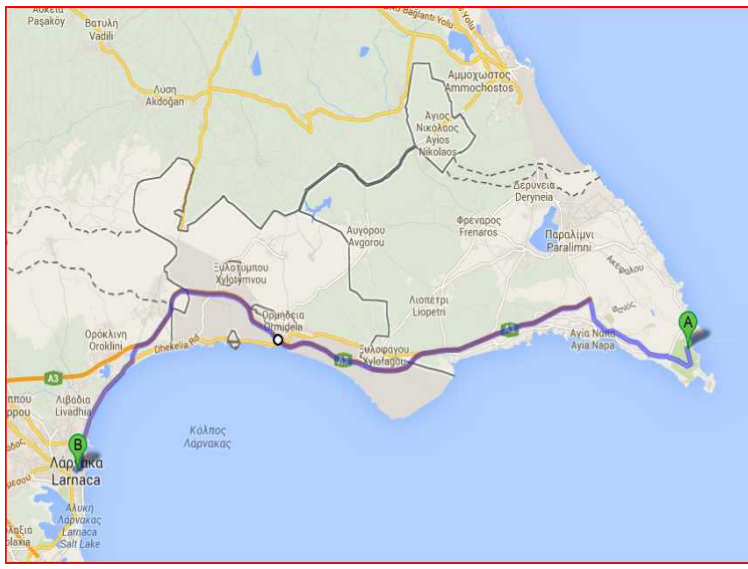


When we got here we found out that it would be a suitable time for a small lunch.



Anne Berit is waiting for the food. She had a fish soup and I had squid.





After we had eaten, we drove back to Larnaca and our hotel.



The next day we went back to Peyia. We then took the highway.



Before we checked out of the hotel, we took some pictures from the balcony. There were still some waves.

