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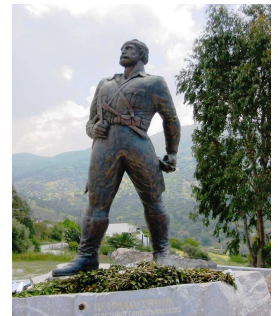
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Information about the Environment and for travellers in Crete:

## The mountain fortress Koules at Magarikari Birthplace of the freedom fighter Jorgos Petrakogiorgis



The mountain fortress is located on the route from **Zaros** (over **Voriza**) to **Kamares**. In the village **Voriza** turn left (towards south) and reach soon after the village **Magarikari** where at the village exit (after around 200 m on the left road-side) stands a large monument of the famous freedom fighter *Jorgos Petrakogiorgis* (see picture right). Magarikari (450 m above SL), mentioned for the first time by the Venetians in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century is the birthplace of the freedom fighter and was almost completely destroyed by the Germans during the occupation during World War II.



Around 100 m further north is (also left) a "Stone Monolith" with an engraved map of the region and its villages (see image left). Immediately afterwards branch left a path which leads, passing a small Chapel, after approx 500 m to the fortress hill (see picture below left)

According to different sources, the mountain fortress Koules was build by the Venetians or the Turks; for the latter speaks the word "Koules", meaning "Fortress" in Turkish.

Not only the panorama with its views over the Messara-plateau or to the Asteroussia mountains impresses on the fortress hill (see picture below right), especially the fortress and its interior offer interesting motifs; therefore see the additional pictures on page 2.

