

Information about the Environment and for travellers in Crete:

Two worth seeing churches in the Amari valley Agios Nikolaos in Vizari & Agia Paraskevi in Syvritos



Agios Nicolaos

The church in Vizari is located directly at the village entrance sign on the left of the road on a crest.
Coordinates: N 35° 210 188, E 24° 700 095.

72 steps (with 4 settles) lead up to this Byzantine church with isolate standing bell tower, which contains also worth seeing frescoes; for details see following pictures:



Vizari is located in the midst of cultivated fields of the Kampos of Asomaton. 1577 it was assigned to the province Amari. Rich archaeological finds from the area are in the museum of Rethymno, which is approx. 26 miles away.

Agia Paraskevi (Asomaton)

The church is located in the municipality Syvritos (at the road towards Foufouras) surrounded by cypresses in a kind “grove“ and can be seen right from the road (approx. 200 m); see fig. It was carefully reconditioned in the year 1888 and contains frescos from that of 13th Century and an interesting grave with 3 figures at their southern wall. The 3 figures are supposed to represent the blessing Christ, in front of 2 persons in praying attitude. It is believed that one of the blessing receiving persons is a representation of Georgios Hortatsis (Cretan poet and author of the work “Erofil“). The name Georgios Hortatsis is based on an inscription on the fresco. A further fresco shows a scene, in which a uniformed man on a horse probably say farewell to his wife (for the campaign against the Venetians). The church is (not always) opened for visitors during the day.

Coordinates: N 35° 217 771, E 24° 696 220.



Related to these churches see also our leaflet No 387-12/E: “The monastery Asomaton” on our Website, navigator column **Monasteries / Churches**