

Our Community

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Emba is an unmingled Greek village of the district of Paphos, in the geographical periphery of the littoral champaign of Paphos. It is situated approximately 4km north of Paphos city, in the route Paphos - Tala - Monastery of Saint Neophytos. The village is built at 135m above sea level. The build-up area has mainly grown along the main road crossing the village and leading to Paphos.

The village already existed by the Byzantine era and it is known from the Frankish rule with the same name. The Cypriot historian Leontios Machaira, (15th century) in his Chronicle, par. 129, denotes a visit of king of Cyprus Peter I (1359 - 1369) quoting "...and the king went hunting and reached Emba towards Paphos...".

Louis de Mas Latrie includes the village amongst those that belonged, during Frankish rule, to the family of the king of Cyprus, and moreover, as one of the kings villages that cultivated sugarcanes. Since 1468 the village, alongside with many others, fell under the region of Chrysochous, under the regional law officer (bailliage).

The appellation of the village is purely Greek, belonging to the Cypriot glossolalia: Emba, in the Cypriot dialect means enter. It is possible that the name of the village was given because it is built at the entrance of Paphos, that is the edges of the city, through which the travellers from the north, northwest and west came in. Another version mentions that the name was given to the village because it is situated near the coast from where people departed from or arrived to Cyprus by sea, during the Byzantine era or even later during the Frankish rule. It is relevantly mentioned that King Peter I had departed for Europe, from the area in 1362. The village is noted as "Enba" in medieval maps

In the Community

you can find the ancient church of Virgin Mary the Hryseleoyisis. Built at the 12th Century in Byzantine Rhythm, it embellishes literally the village Square. Almost all the walls in the interior of Church are covered by murals certain of them priceless for their religious and historical value as that of Pantokratoros and that of Saint George that you find next in the pulpit which dates around in the 13th century. Appreciable is also the fretwork, gold plated iconostasis of 16th of century which adorn the ancient pictures Jesus of Virgin Mary and saint John Precursor. In the church is also found a Gospel from the 16th century, which was printed in Venice. Thousands tourists visit the church each year in order to admire closely this beautiful monument.

The main agricultural occupation of the village residents are kitchen gardens, the plantations of the eminent Empa girasol, plantations of citrus fruits as lemon & orange trees and plantations deciduous as peach trees nectarine trees etc

Generally in the Community prevails the green and this is owed in a degree in that the region of Empa was included from 1980 in the Redistribution Plan, where each agricultural piece of land is irrigated by the dam of Asprokremos, but also in the initiative of Community Council to plant trees in all the Public Spaces of green.