

Stavrovouni Monastery

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Stavrovouni Monastery is perched on a rocky peak 750m above sea level. Legend has it that it was founded in the 4th century by Saint Helen, mother of Emperor Constantine the Great, who left a relic of the Holy Cross at the monastery. The monks follow strict rules, similar to those at Mount Athos in Greece. Women may not enter the monastery. An impressive ceremony and festival is held here on 14 September, the day of the Raising of the Holy Cross. The Monastery of Ayia Varvara on the foothills of Stavrovouni is accessible to all visitors. The monks here are known for their iconography skills.

Courtesy of the CTO

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