

In the small hill of Kastri, in the south of Rizovouni village, there are the ruins of an unknown ancient town belonging to the ancient Phylaki. On the hill of Kastri, in the 8th century ancient Elis built their colony, the ancient Vaties.



The ancient town was destroyed by the Roman general, Emilio Paul (167 BC), but its walls were reconstructed by Justinian (527-565 BC) in order to protect the inhabitants. It was surrounded by a polygonal wall, whose parts are preserved until now. It was 1,400m long and dates back to the 7th – 6th century BC.

The Acropolis is estimated that it accommodated 2,000 to 2,500 inhabitants according to its current area.

Students of the General High School of Thesprotiko present, with the permission of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Preveza (ΥΠΠΟΑ/ΓΔΑΠΚ/ΕΦΑΠΡΕ/552784/395019/59 53/23.10.2019), the monastery of Virgin Mary in Kastri – Rizovouni, Preveza.



In 1045 or 1095 a small Christian temple was built on the Acropolis of Kastri, in the north side of the hill, on the ruins of the pagan temple. Later in 1670 the Virgin Mary monastery was built on the ruins of the Christian temple. The cells of the monastery are in the west part of the cathedral, which are built on a Γ shape in the mid of the 19th century. They were bombed during the 2nd World War and have been destroyed since then. Virgin Mary is celebrated on 15th August.

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Monastery of Virgin Mary Kastri – Rizovouni, Preveza

Senior High School of Thesprotiko
“Vasileios Zormpas”
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The cathedral of the monastery is a small, single-aisled basilica with a narthex and sanctuary. On the west side of the temple, where the only entrance door is, there are foundations of a large building, while on the south side, the ruins of hayat.



The Pantocrator and the Holy Trinity painted on the roof of the stage, predominate in the church.



The fact that the current temple was built in 1670, is referred to a writing that is inscribed on the door, leading from the main temple to the narthex.



The interior of the temple is full of murals, others well preserved and others faded. However, the murals and the wood-carved iconostasis possibly date back to 1670.

