

Significant finds that include an extensive early Christian church have been unearthed on Kythnos, Greece



Significant finds that include an extensive early Christian church and early Byzantine installation, as well as monumental structures from an older ancient sanctuary have been unearthed by archaeologists on the rocky islet 'Vryokastraki' – opposite the ancient city of Vryokastro on the island of Kythnos.

According to an announcement issued by the culture ministry on Thursday, the later proto-Byzantine activity was intense and seriously disrupted the older buildings dating back to antiquity, with the partly-ruined ancient remains scavenged to build many walls and spaces in later structures.

The site also revealed a wealth of ceramics dating to 6th and first half of the 7th centuries AD, after which the city of Kythnos was abandoned and its inhabitants moved to the Castle of Oria, the island's medieval capital.

"The intense proto-Byzantine use of the rocky islet, which appears to have been the region where the city shrunk in later antiquity, lasts until at least the 7th century, at which time it is abandoned," the announcement said, noting that this was also shown by finds in two other locations investigated.

- Source: [ANA-MPA](#)