

# Melania Restaurant

Owned and run by Kannavias family since 1988

## A Few Words About Melania Restaurant



Melanos Hill



Andreas tou Giorki (Chlorakiotis)



Elli and son Georgios 1982



Elli and Matheos, 1969

Melania Restaurant got its name from the nearest hill Melanos. The name Melanos was given because of its dark colour. The name is derived from the Greek Μελάνια (melania) or blackness and that from μέλας (melas), meaning "dark".

It was in 1935 when Andreas tou Giorki (Chlorakiotis), Georgios's grandfather, bought the plot of land where Melania Restaurant is located from the Kais family. He spent most of his life planting tomatoes, onions, melons and cauliflowers until 1971. In 1971, his daughter, Elli Kannavia and her husband, Matheos Kannavias, Georgios's parents, planted a vineyard of sultana with a vast production of grapes next to their greenhouses.



Melania Restaurant 1990



Melania Restaurant 1990



Elli, Kyriaki and Georgios, 1984



Opening day 1988



Melania Restaurant 1988



Twister destroys Melania, 9 of November 1989



On 27th June 1988, Melania Restaurant was established by Elli and Matheos and started serving homemade meals. The four children of the family, Maria, Kyriaki, Georgios and Charalampos started helping in the kitchen, serving, cleaning...even dancing zorpa and sirtaki! On 9th November 1989, a twister destroyed Melania Restaurant.



All the plantations and the greenhouses of the family were destroyed too. Friends of the restaurant, mostly British customers at the time, arrived at the place as a team, offering their support in multiple ways: painting, building, cleaning even fund-raising. Elli, Matheos and the four children, more powerful and positive than ever, replanted the new plantations and rebuilt the restaurant. A few years later, the four children managed to graduate with postgraduates degrees from good universities. Charalambos graduated from Harvard University as an architect.



On 1st June 2018, Georgios Kannavias became the new restaurant owner. Elli (74) and Matheos (79) decided to retire and spend more time with their seven grandchildren. They swim every morning and plant many vegetables, fruit and potatoes for the restaurant and the family. They still help with the cooking when necessary. Other than the special events, original Cypriot MEZE is available every Thursday. A huge selection of fresh fish is available every Friday. A Kids Menu and new meals are available too with BBQ souvla, octopus, jumbo prawns, beef kebab, falafel and more!