

# Visiting Sigouros Pottery on Zakynthos in Greece

If you're visiting the Greek island of Zakynthos and love hand-painted ceramics as I do, then you should visit the Sigouros Pottery Shop in Zante Town and also the workshop at Machairado to see the pottery being made.

In the 20 years I've been visiting Zakynthos (also known as Zante) where my sister lives, I've been adding to my ceramics collection on each visit to the Sigouros Pottery shop in Zante town. I was aware that they also had a workshop where you can see the pottery being made and painted, although I'd never had the chance to visit it until last summer. This time we drove our hire car out to Machairado, which is a 15 minute drive inland from Zante town, combining the visit with a stop for some wine tasting at Oenolpi Winery which is close by. Read my article and

watch my video about the Oenolpi Winery here.

I have quite a collection of ceramics and other beautiful objects from my travels - you can read about My Travels on a plate here. What



I love about the Sigouros designs are the soft colours and shapes and the slightly abstract motifs inspired by the natural beauty of Za-



kynthos. You'll see the blue fish, the olives that grow everywhere and the lemons and pomegranates, that most self-respecting Zakynthians have growing in their back garden.

If you want to visit the workshop at Machairado, they're open most morn-

ings, but you may want to call into the shop in Zante Town if you're passing to double check. When we wandered in to the workshop, we found the downstairs shop with all the ceramics on sale and

the owner Sigouros Golemis came down to invite us upstairs to the workshop. He must have spotted us arriving as he has a bird's eye view from the front window where his pottery wheel is set up.

Upstairs all the pottery is laid out to dry and awaiting painting before it's fired in the kiln in the garden. We watched Sigouros in awe as he deftly threw pot after pot, it was slightly hypnotic watching him perfectly create the same shape over and over. Then we watched as the equally skilled lady etched the designs onto the bowls ready for painting and firing and then Sigouros let us peep inside the kiln where all the ceramics were being fired.

Sigouros told us that he was starting to think about retirement - he said that he could feel his fingers and hands getting tired after 25 years of throwing pots.

## Women In Business

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Article from The Torch



Year 6 students Cody Dawes, Chris Petrou and Jarrod Stewart took part in Bringelly Public School's Streamwatch program last year

## Dam good lessons

BRINGELLY Public School students have been learning about sustainability right in their school's backyard. As part of the Streamwatch program developed by Sydney Water, students in years 5 and 6 began monitoring the water quality in their school dam last year.

Year 6 students Cody Dawes, Christ Petrou and Jarrod Stewart were among the students who volunteered for Streamwatch,

They examine the water to determine how clear it is. Its alkalinity and acidity and what types of animal life it sustains.

"We look for bugs, and we test the water's turbidity, conductivity and temperature", Jarrod said.

"Then we put the information onto the website and it gives us information about the dam.

The results are sent to Sydney Water via the web and put into a graph, allowing students to see how the water quality changes over time.

Former teacher Peter Dawe introduced Streamwatch for senior grades at the school.

Principal Sharyl Scott said the program would continue this year with year 3 and 4 taking part.

"It's all about the children understanding the environment around them and respecting that environment", Ms Scott said.

Article from The Leader