

**Cyclades – Andros – self-guided:
12-day trekking along the 10 stages of the ERA certified
Andros Route 2024 (CAWT214I)**

Also available as 10-day tour.



Our hiking philosophy: active during the day, and in the afternoon a warm shower, a good meal and a comfortable bed in a small-scale accommodation.

We invite you to join us!

more information: www.annahiking.nl



About AnnaHiking

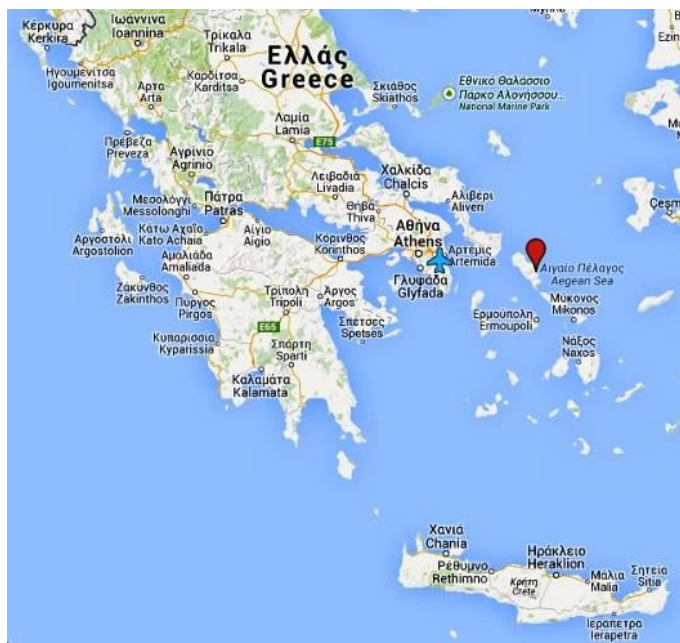
In 1991 we visited Greece for the first time. Our love for the country, the culture, the climate, the food, the language and the Greek has grown ever since. We feel at home here and want to communicate this feeling to others.

Many people are familiar with the Greek “islands with beautiful beaches”. Many islands also boast a splendid inland with historical paths, ideal for hiking. Andros is such an island with much more on offer than beaches alone, and we’d love to introduce it to you.

We explored the Andros Route and described it in detail. We regularly revise the routes and the description where necessary. As an individual traveller we offer you these descriptions together with GPS-tracks and marked detailed maps, so you can find your way easily. We also offer you an information package with background information, tips for the best meals and several other useful trivia.



The tour location



General tour information

Andros is an island in the Cyclades and is situated in the Aegean Sea. You can reach it easily from Athens.

On October of 2015 the European Ramblers Association ERA certified [thé Andros Route](#) (100 km length) as [Leading Quality Trail/Best of Europe](#). Our walks follow this Andros Route as much as possible.

Our trekking follows the 10 stages of this Andros Route from south to north. You may choose to do only part of the Route.

We slightly extended some of the stages for logistic reasons. We opted for the south-north direction because the walks are better balanced that way and because you end in the ferry harbour,





which makes you more flexible in your return possibilities.

Not all stages of the Andros Route end in a village with accommodation, nor is it a linear route. We extended some of the stages so that you'll end at your accommodation or a suitable pick-up location.

The net walking time is mostly between 3¼ and 6 hours (excluding the breaks). Enjoy the marvellous views, the many streams and the rich flora!

The walks take place on 'stenès' (paved walled paths), country roads and paths. You walk alternately through green and rocky terrain. The paths are in good condition and excellently marked. There may be loose stones though and some parts may be steep.

We thus recommend you to start the tour well trained and prepared with well worn-in ankle-high walking boots.

It's a tour for hikers who want to enjoy one of the finest European hiking routes.



Modular set-up: extension/abbreviation

Should you arrive by morning ferry (departure 7:30 from Rafina), you may do the stage of day 2 on the afternoon of day 1. So even if your flight is too late to reach Andros on the same day and you'll have to stay overnight in Rafina, it's still a 12-day program.

Should your time be limited, then you may leave out the more southern of the both two-day hikes between Apikia and Batsi and make it a **10-day linear walk** via Arni. (*In the complete 12-day version you'll be brought from Batsi to Apikia and walk along Ano Pitrofos to Batsi and then on towards Gavrio.*) You may shorten the tour even more; please indicate which stages you'll want to walk.

Should you have more time instead, you may do other walks from most locations (see the paragraph [Extra hiking possibilities](#) at the end of this document). Also you may add extra days to relax in every accommodation.

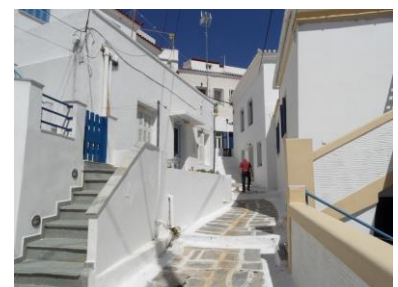
The tour may very well be combined with one of our hiking tours on Tinos, Naxos and Santorini. Several ferries connect the Cyclades islands. See the [possibilities on the Cyclades](#) on our website.

Finally you can combine the arrangement with (parts of) all other tours we offer. We'll gladly help you with the logistics.

For all your wishes: ask for an estimate!

About the Cyclades and Andros

The Cyclades are situated in a circle ('kyklos') around the holy island Delos or Dilos. The legend tells us that Apollo and Artemis were born here, so Delos was the religious centre of Ionia in the 7th century B.C. The current capital is Ermoupoli.





Nowadays the Cyclades are famous for their square white houses with blue doorposts and window frames.

Andros is the most northern island of the Cyclades. It is the second biggest of the archipelago with a surface of about 380km². It's quite mountaneous; the highest summit is almost 1000m altitude.

Most of the Cyclades are quite dry, but on Andros you'll find lots of water; it's also the greenest island of the archipelago. All year through you'll encounter waterfalls, rivers and streams. The Sariza springs are so abundant that the excellent water is bottled here.

There are also wonderful arched bridges and elegant pidgeon towers.



The island was inhabited since the Neolithicum (4000 B.C.), and flowered in several periods. The Agios Petros tower (on one of the walks) is from the Hellenistic period, 400-300 B.C.

There is no airport on Andros, but it's close to Athens (2 hour by ferry boat from Rafina). It is a quiet island, without large-scale amusement. It mostly attracts those who love peace and nature; the visitors are mostly Greek and there is little foreign tourism.

The organisation [Andros Routes](#) maintains the existing paths, opens new routes and marks and describes them. They issued a booklet (Hiking on Andros) and a detailed Anavasi hiking map which shows the routes.

The climate on the Cyclades is gentle. The days are warm early in the year, but the spring nights are still cool. In autumn the day and night temperature is around 20°C. Short showers are to be expected in spring and autumn.

Also heavy winds are possible. In summer they cool you down, but in spring and autumn you may find it sometimes chilly. Due to the sun the temperatures are very pleasant from April until the end of October. Normally shorts and t-shirts are appropriate walking clothes, with a blouse or light sweater for the cooler moments.



The accommodations

You stay in small-scale hotels and apartments. Depending on the flight schedule you might have to spend the first or last night in a hotel in Rafina harbour (surcharge).

In most locations you may also choose a more luxury accommodation with swimming pool at a surcharge. The standard accommodation in Gavrio has a swimming pool.

The standard accommodations in Ormos Korthiou, Chora, Batsi and Gavrio are located near the beach and several cosy bars, cafés and tavernas. Bakery shops and supermarkets are close by for lunch shopping. In Apikia there is little besides the hotel itself.



Booking

The arrangement can be booked with start date from 13 April until 12 October 2024. From mid July until end of August it may be very hot and availability is limited unless you book early.

Prices per person 2024

For the 12-day tour (tour code CAWT214I)

# travellers	room type	26-3 / 24-5 5-9 / 23-10	25-5 / 22-6 28-8 / 4-9	23-6 / 3-7 20-8 / 27-8	4-7 / 27-8
1 pax (solo)	single	€ 1400	€ 1450	€ 1500	€ 1715
2 pax	double/twin	€ 840	€ 870	€ 895	€ 990
2 pax	2x single	€ 1085	€ 1135	€ 1185	€ 1395
3 pax	triple	€ 685	€ 710	€ 725	€ 805
3 pax	double/twin + single	€ 815	€ 855	€ 890	€ 1020
3 pax	3x single	€ 975	€ 1030	€ 1080	€ 1290
4 pax	quadruple	€ 570	€ 585	€ 600	€ 650
4 pax	2x tweepersoons	€ 680	€ 710	€ 735	€ 830

For the 10-day tour (tour code CAWT224I)

# travellers	room type	26-3 / 24-5 5-9 / 23-10	25-5 / 22-6 28-8 / 4-9	23-6 / 3-7 20-8 / 27-8	4-7 / 27-8
1 pax (solo)	single	€ 1140	€ 1180	€ 1255	€ 1320
2 pax	double/twin	€ 700	€ 725	€ 760	€ 780
2 pax	2x single	€ 900	€ 940	€ 1015	€ 1080
3 pax	triple	€ 565	€ 585	€ 615	€ 640
3 pax	double/twin + single	€ 685	€ 720	€ 765	€ 800
3 pax	3x single	€ 815	€ 860	€ 930	€ 995
4 pax	quadruple	€ 485	€ 495	€ 520	€ 530
4 pax	2x tweepersoons	€ 575	€ 605	€ 640	€ 660

Note:

- Price is per person, flight excluded.
- Quadruple rooms usually have 2 double beds or 1 double bed and 2 single beds.
- For other group sizes, contact us for an estimate.
- The dates apply to the start day of the tour.
- At a surcharge an upgrade is possible to more luxury hotels with swimming pool; ask for an estimate. The standard accommodation in Gavrio has a swimming pool.
- In 2023 Greece suffered from various natural disasters, like heatwaves, wildfires and floodings, which also effected the tourists. To alleviate the disaster and to take preventive measures, a **climate crisis resilience fee** is issued.

This fee has to be paid at check-in at your accommodation. Tourorganisations are not allowed by law to pay it.



The rates per room per night will be in 2024: €1,50 for 2*-hotels, €3,00 for 3*-hotels, €7,00 for 4*-hotels and €10,00 for 5*-hotels.

Start and end of tour: Andros - Ormos Korthiou / Andros - Gavrio

Included

- 11 overnight stays of which 9 including breakfast.
- A hiking map of Andros and the book "Hiking on Andros" by Andros Routes. You'll receive the package in the first accommodation.
- Donation for the paths maintenance by Andros Routes.
- Detailed roadbook and maps; digital, sent by WeTransfer, to be printed by you at your own wishes.
- GPS tracks per hike: sent by WeTransfer.
- Luggage transport and transfers according to the program.
- Telephone assistance and reservation fees.

Not included

- Flight and own travel expenses. You may prebook a taxi in Gavrio to wait for you at the harbour.
- Lunches, 2x breakfast (*Ormos Korthiou*), diner, drinks and other personal expenses.
- Climate crisis resilience fee (see above).
- Insurances.
- Transfers not mentioned in the program.
- Everything else not mentioned under "included".

Own travel expenses and flight

You fly to Athens, take the public bus from the airport to Rafina harbour and sail in about 2 hours to Andros Gavrio. The ferries usually sail around 7:30 and 17:30. The public bus from Andros Gavrio to Ormos Korthiou leaves 10:00 and 19:30 and waits for the ferry. You may prebook a taxi in Gavrio to wait for you at the harbour.

The ferry back to Rafina sails around 10 and 17:30. The public bus from Rafina to the airport has an approximately hourly schedule and is independent of the ferry arrival, as there are many more destinations from Rafina.

Estimate for the transport from and to the airport: €45 p.p. (including ferry). If you have to stay a night in Rafina, the hotel offers a free shuttle bus service to and from the airport.

For more information and possibilities: see the document '[How to reach Andros and Tinos](#)' on our website.

Optional extras (prebooked)

Carferry Andros-Rafina tourist class or v.v.	€ 37
Fast catamaran Andros-Rafina tourist class or v.v. (only in high season)	€ 55
Taxi Athens airport-Rafina	€ 82
Taxi Rafina-Athens airport	€ 75
Taxi Gavrio-Ormos Korthiou	€ 71
Taxi Ormos-Tromarchiani (for extension walk)	€ 25

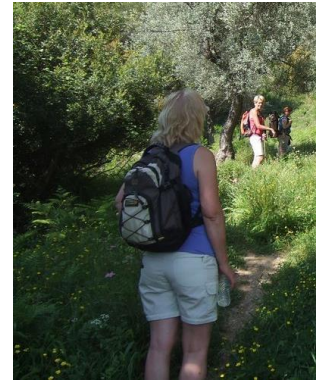


Luggage

You carry a day pack with water, lunch, warm and rainproof clothing, possibly swimming gear, items for personal care, binoculars/camera etc.

The remaining luggage is transferred to the next accommodation.

Before departure we send you a list with essential and advised items.





Day to day program

(You can download the elevation profiles separately.)

Note: walking times mentioned are net times without breaks.

Day 1: To Andros – Ormos Korthiou

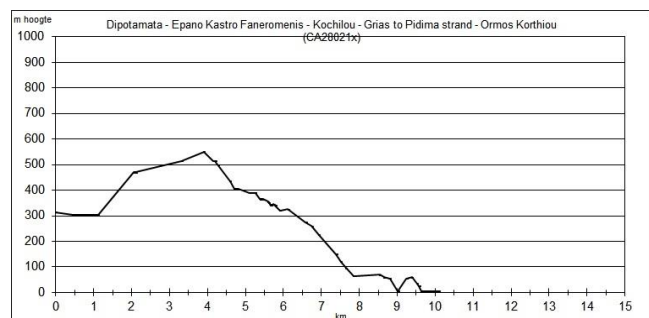


From the airport of Athens you take the public bus to Rafina (40 minutes), the ferry to Gavrio (2 hours) and then the public bus to Ormos Korthiou, where the arrangement starts. Your accommodation is next to the old harbour and the owner will pick you up from the bus stop.

Arriving with the morning ferry you may make a short walk to 'Grias to Pidima' beach. You may also do the walk mentioned for day 2 as an afternoon walk today and thus shorten the program with one day.

overnight stay: Ormos Korthiou

Day 2: Along the Epano Kastro to Ormos Korthiou (CA28021x, stage 10)



An easy start of your hiking holiday. You'll be taken to the start where the country road veers off the asphalt to descend to Dipotamata bridge. Past the bridge you ascend by paths and country roads to the castle "Epano Kastro Faneromenis".

After a visit to the castle and the Faneromeni chapel you descend through meadows until you meet the kalderimi that takes you through Kochilou village to Ormos Korthiou. A small detour leads you to "Grias to Pidima" beach where the old woman who had betrayed the castle threw herself off the cliff.

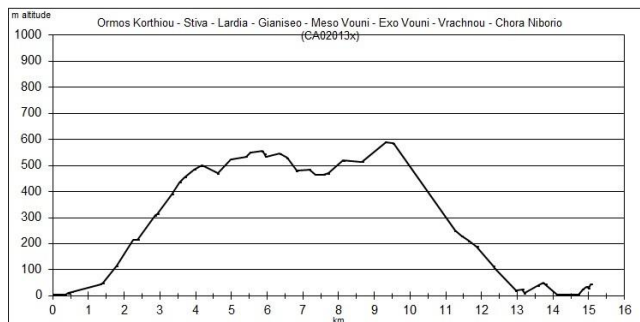
walking time/distance: 3h20' / 9.8km

ascent/descent: 310m / 630m

overnight stay: Ormos Korthiou



Day 3: From Ormos Korthiou to Chora through Exo Vouni and Vrachnou (CA02013x, stage 9)



You walk through old farmlands and wild nature between the mountain ranges of Gerakonas and Rachi. Impressive views on the mountains and the sea.

The route stage ends in the village Vrachnou, from here you continue to Chora itself. Chora is an historical village and well known for its 'kamara', an arch towards the islet with the 'lower castle'.

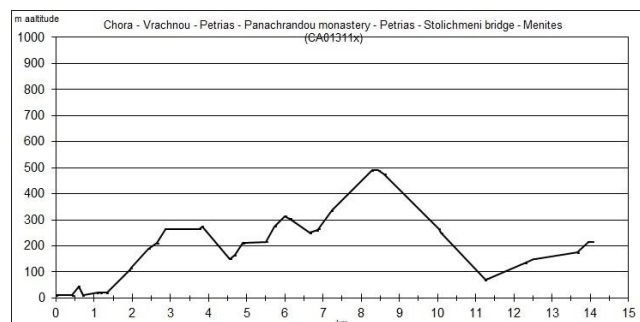
walking time/distance: 6h / 15.1km

ascent/descent: 815m / 775m

Overnight stay: Chora Niborio



Day 4: From Chora along the Panachrandou monastery to Menites (CA01311x, stage 8)



You leave Chora and walk past Vrachnou through the Livadia valley to the crossroads 'Petrias'. From here you ascend by a wide walled path to the inhabited Panachrandou monastery. It's a hefty walk, but the monastery is worth every drop of sweat! The location is splendid and if you arrive before 2 a.m. the hospitable monks gladly show you the wonderful icons in the church.

After the visit you descend back by the same path until 'Petrias', just above the Stolicameni bridge. You cross the classical arched bridge. Finally an easy ascent to Menites with its famous springs on the square below the church.

From Menites you'll be taken back to Chora.

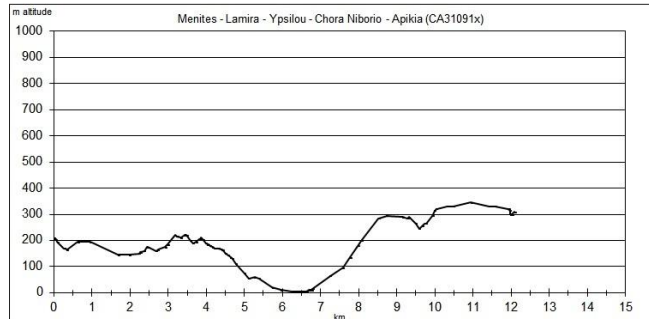


walking time/distance: 6h / 14.3km

ascent/descent: 845m / 645m

Overnight stay: Chora Niborio

Day 5: From Menites via Niborio to Apikia (CA31091x, stage 7)



You'll be taken to Menites; your luggage proceeds to Apikia.

From Menites you descend gradually to Chora, along the many lovely springs and bridges in the villages Lamira and Ypsilou. Before Chora Niborio you'll veer to the north and start ascending until you've reached Apikia.

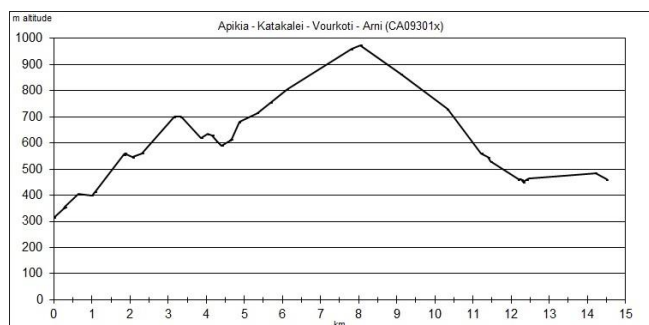
Here you'll see the the abundantly sprouting Sariza springs; the water is bottled and sold all over Greece. Just before the square you'll go left for a detour to Pythara: a series of small waterfalls in a charming stream. The accommodation is situated close to the square.

walking time/distance: 4h / 11.9km

ascent/descent: 510m / 410m

overnight stay: Apikia

Day 6: From Apikia over the mountain ridge to Arni (CA09301x, stage 4)



From Apikia you'll ascend to Vourkoti village; there is a taverna, but we seldom found it open. The walk continues over a long ridge with views to both the south and north ends of the island. Looking past the Profitis Ilias church with the Panagia chapel you'll have a spectacular view to the sea at the west side.

You walk on to the dispersed village Arni, with several chapels and good springs.

From Arni you'll be taken back to Apikia.

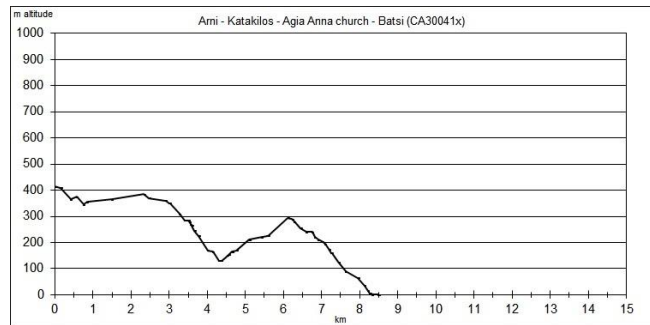
walking time/distance: 5h20' / 14.3km

ascent/descent: 775 / 695m

overnight stay: Apikia



Day 7: From Arni along historical kalderimia to Batsi (CA30041x, stage 3)



You'll be taken to Arni; your luggage goes to Batsi.

You walk past the dispersed village Arni, by kalderimia, forest paths and gravel roads. Almost continually descending you'll reach Katakilos, a somewhat livelier village on the west slope. After a break at the café you'll ascend to the Agia Anna chapel on a small ridge. From the ridge you descend again to Batsi, all the time enjoying the lovely views over the bay.

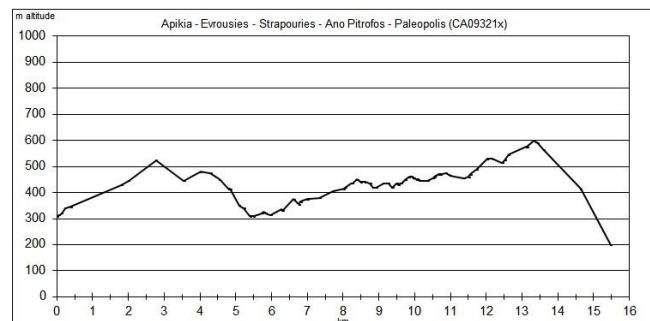
It's a relatively short walk, which enables you to take some rest in the charming beach village with lots of facilities.

walking time/distance: 3h10' / 11.3km

ascent/descent: 235m / 690m

overnight stay: Batsi

Day 8: From Apikia along the Olive Press museum to Paleopolis (CA09321x, stage 5)



(Not in the 10-day tour!)

As there are two routes between Apikia and Batsi, you'll start this stage with a transfer back to Apikia. From this lovely village you walk over the barren plateau to Ano Pitrofos with the Olive Press Museum (open upon prior arrangement).

You continue your walk on the old paved connecting 'roads' over a plateau with spectacular views to the west side of the island. Still on the plateau you veer west and descend to Paleopolis. The walk ends at the museum of Paleopolis (only open on Thursday mornings). A taxi brings you back to Batsi.

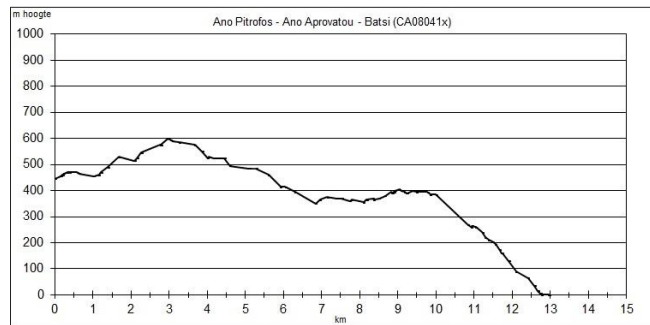
walking time/distance: 5h10' / 14.9km (until Ano Pitrofos: 3h / 9.0km)

ascent/descent: 675m / 785m (until Ano Pitrofos: 495m / 365m)

overnight stay: Batsi or Ano Pitrofos



Day 9: From Ano Pitrofos to Batsi (CA08041x, stage 6)



(Not in the 10-day tour!)

A taxi will bring you back to Ano Pitrofos. The walk starts the first hour by the same path as the day before, until the junction above Paleopolis, but it's a lovely walk and much more agreeable and shorter than the ascent from Paleopolis.

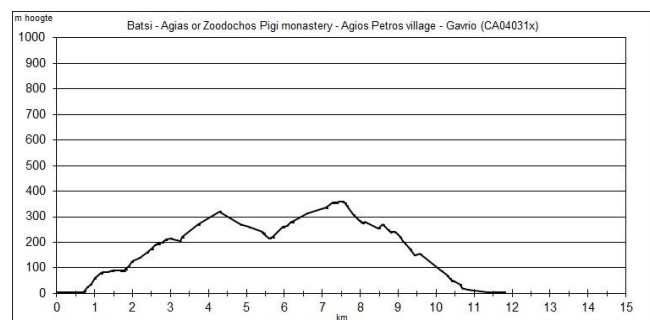
At the plateau you'll continue on the historical interconnecting route over the island with spectacular views to the west side of the island. You'll pass Ano Aprovatou village with the great taverna "Balcony of the Aegean", alas not always open. From Ano Aprovatou you'll descend by a splendid wide kalderimi to the harbour of Batsi.

walking time/distance: 4h15' / 13.0km (from Paleopolis: 4h55' / 13.1km)

ascent/descent: 270m / 710m (from Paleopolis: 465m / 655m)

overnight stay: Batsi

Day 10: From Batsi along Agios Petros village to Gavrio (CA04031x, stage 2)



The walk starts in the harbour of Batsi, where you can stock up for lunch or have a coffee. You ascend by mountain paths to the inhabited Agias or Zoodochos Pigi monastery which you can visit if properly dressed. Another small ascent and then it's down again.

You pass the village of Agios Petros with its lovely spring and the tower on the hillside. After the village you descend all the way to the harbour of Gavrio.

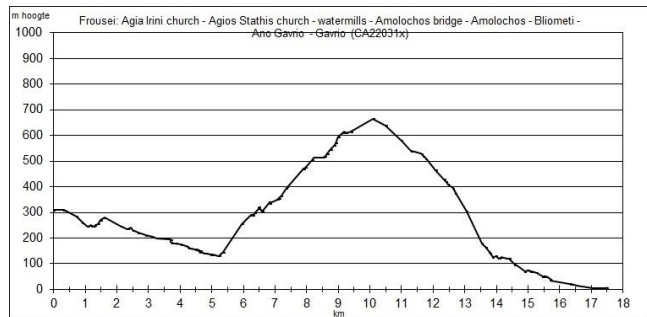
walking time/distance: 4h / 11.2km

ascent/descent: 475m

overnight stay: Gavrio



Day 11: Along the Frousei watermills to Gavrio (CA22031x, stage 1)



You'll be taken to the start of very varied "watermill-tour", just past the Agia Irini chapel. You may make an optional detour to the Agios Stathis chapel: a charming church on the slope (20' extra). Then you walk along the shaded valley past many watermill ruins.

After 2½ hours you'll reach the Amolochos bridge; from there you ascend along paths and dirt roads to the villages Amolochos and Bliometi. In Bliometi the classical tower Gianouli-Dimitri is restored and again inhabited; you'll see it from a distance. You keep ascending over a ridge with great views over sea towards the east, until you've reached the Stavros chapel; from there you veer to the west. At the Profitis Ilias chapel starts the descent. You'll pass some more chapels in Ano ("Upper") Gavrio and continue the descent until the harbour of Gavrio, where the walk ends.

You may end your walk in Bliometi or Ano Gavrio and call a taxi to take you into Gavrio.

walking time/distance: 6h / 17.2km

ascent/descent: 615m / 920m

overnight stay: Gavrio

Day 12: Departure



You walk to the harbour and sail back to Rafina.

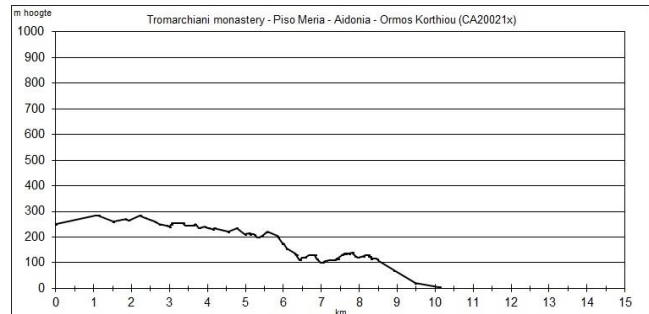
Should your flight be early, then you sail back the evening before and stay overnight in Rafina (extra cost). The hotel has a shuttle bus service to the airport.



Extra hiking possibilities

Walks from Ormos Korthiou

From the Tromarchiani monastery along shepherd villages to Ormos Korthiou (CA20021x)



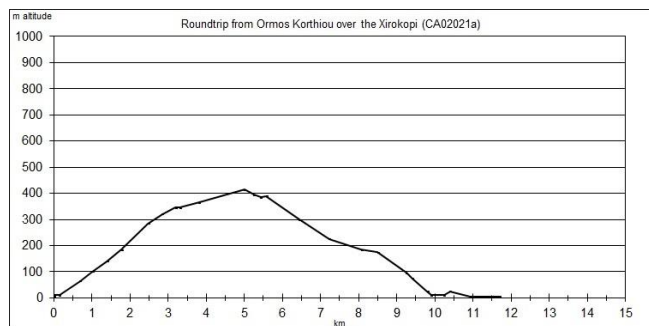
A taxi takes you to the Tromarchiani monastery on the west side of the island. After a visit of the monastery (the driver brings the keys) you walk back to the asphalt road by a concrete road with great views over the sea. You continue by a lovely path in the direction of Korthi bay, along meadows, chapels, threshing-floors and villages with attractive springs. The last 15 minutes from the village of Aidoni ('nightengale') are on a quiet asphalt road back to Ormos Korthiou. A very relaxed walk with almost continually sea views.

walking time/distance: 3h / 9.7km

ascent/descent: 85m / 330m

overnight stay: Ormos Korthiou

Circular tour Xirokopi (CA02021a)



You start with a kilometre quiet asphalt until the edge of Aidonia village. You continue on concrete roads until the cemetery of Aidonia. From there all dirt roads over a barren plain with beautiful stone walls and a spectacular view over Korthi bay and the village of Korthiou. Return along the beach and promenade.

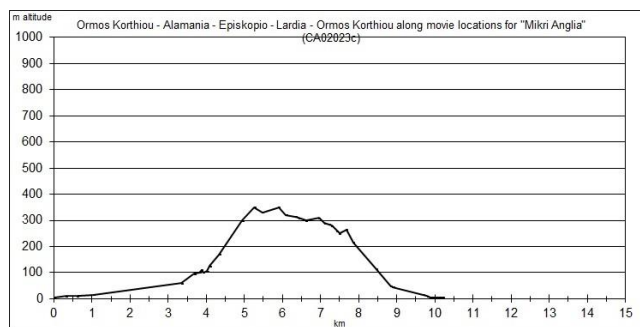
walking time/distance: 4h / 11.7km

ascent/descent: 430m

start/finish: Ormos Korthiou



Circular tour 'Mikri Anglia' (CA02023c)



The walk takes you along some of the film locations from 'Mikri Anglia'. First a long and very gradual ascent past the villages Agia Marina and Alamania, above you. From Alamania starts a more steep ascent through the picturesque village and past a small chapel. You enter the village Episkopio crossing the 'bridge of love' where the sisters declared their love for the same man. Along the Paleokastro church you enter Larnia where you return to Ormos Korthiou by route 5.

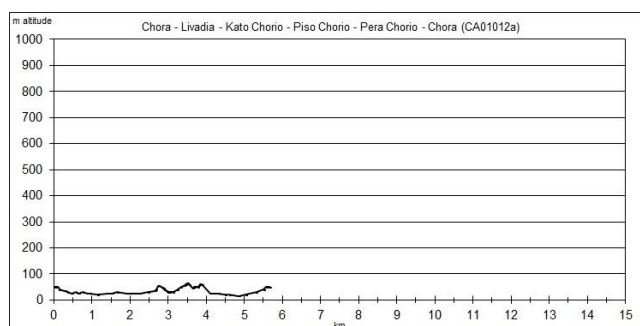
walking time/distance: 3h50' / 10.2km

ascent/descent: 400m

overnight stay: Ormos Korthiou

Walks from Chora

Circular walk Chora along the Livadia villages (CA01012a)



Delightful and easy circular walk along the villages in the Livadia valley, just outside of Chora.

Combines well with the Chora city walk (CA01014a).

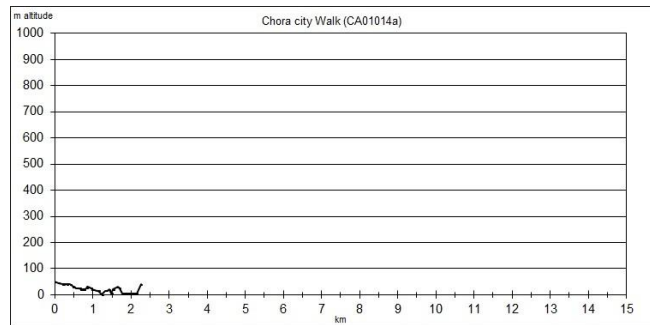
walking time/distance: 1h30' / 5.7km

ascent/descent: 120m

overnight stay: Chora



Chora city walk (CA01014a)



An easy city walk along some of the highlights of Andros Chora: various churches, the Kairi square with the archeological museum and the marble fountain, the “kamara” to the Kato Kastro and the museum of contemporary art.

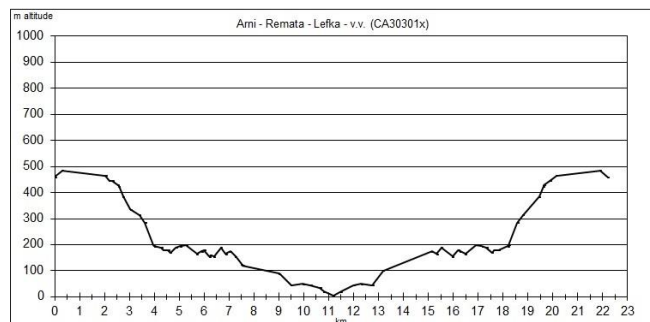
walking time/distance: 1h / 2.3km

ascent/descent: 100m

overnight stay: Chora

Walks from Arni

From Arni via Remata to Lefka beach v.v. (CA30301x)



It's a long and hefty trip. The start is in Arni, described from the accommodation The Stone House/The Magic Room, but you may also start at the square near the school.

First you'll descend from Arni to the stream valley Remata and from there you'll ascend again towards the Evangelistria church. Here the route to Lefka beach starts.

From the beach you'll return by the same route. (You may also return by dirt roads and asphalt roads, about 1 hour less walking time.)

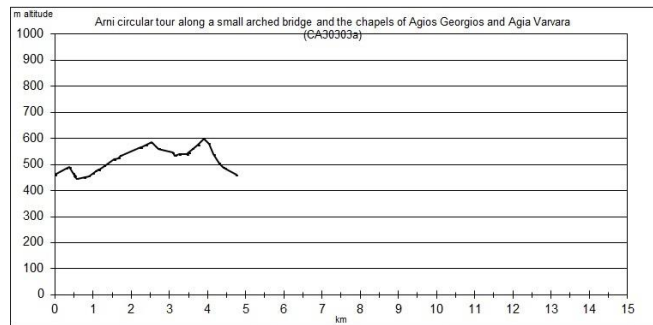
walking time/distance: 7h30' / 22.2km

ascent/descent: 700m

overnight stay: Arni



Short circular walk from Arni (CA30301x)



Relaxed walk around Arni village. You'll pass a charming little arched bridge and some houses. Then you'll ascend by forest paths to the chapel of Agios Georgios and descend again along Agia Varvara chapel back to Arni.

walking time/distance: 2h / 4.8km

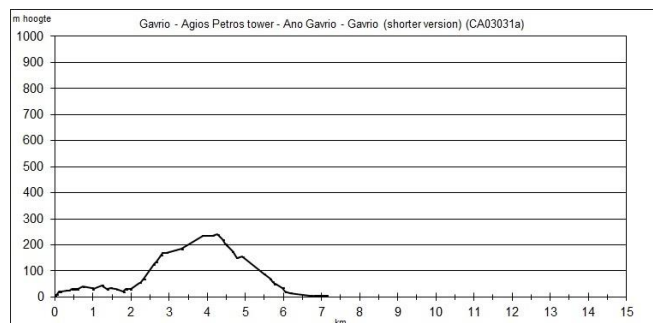
ascent/descent: 235m

overnight stay: Arni

Walks from Gavrio

From Gavrio you may make 3 circular tours along the Agios Petros tower, all of which partly overlap with the walks Batsi-Gavrio and Frousei.

Circular walk Gavrio 1 (CA03031a)



Short circular walk from Gavrio along the watch tower of Agios Petros.

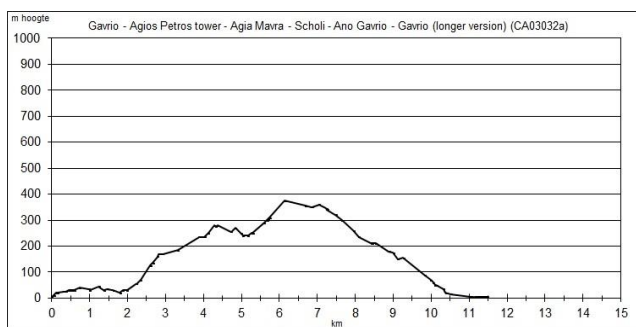
walking time/distance: 2h15' / 7.1km

ascent/descent: 280m

overnight stay: Gavrio



Circular walk Gavrio 2 (CA03032a)



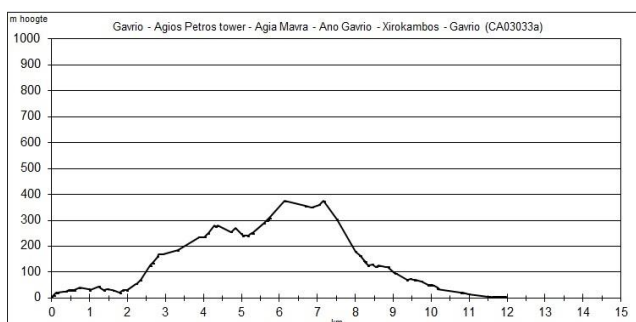
Circular walk from Gavrio along the watch tower of Agios Petros, through the Agios Petros village with its pretty spring and along the Agia Mavra chapel. Lovely views over the bay of Gavrio.

walking time/distance: 4h / 11.5km

ascent/descent: 485m

overnight stay: Gavrio

Circular walk Gavrio 3 (CA03033a)



Circular walk from Gavrio along the watch tower of Agios Petros, through the Agios Petros village with its pretty spring and along the Agia Mavra chapel. Lovely views over the bay of Gavrio.

walking time/distance: 4h20' / 12.0km

ascent/descent: 490m

overnight stay: Gavrio