

**Ionian Islands – Corfu – self-guided hike:  
8-day trekking along 6 stages of the  
Corfu Trail 2024 (IKWT324I)**

*Also bookable as 15-day trekking taking in the whole Trail  
or 11-day trekking taking in almost the whole Trail.*



*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](http://www.annahiking.nl)**



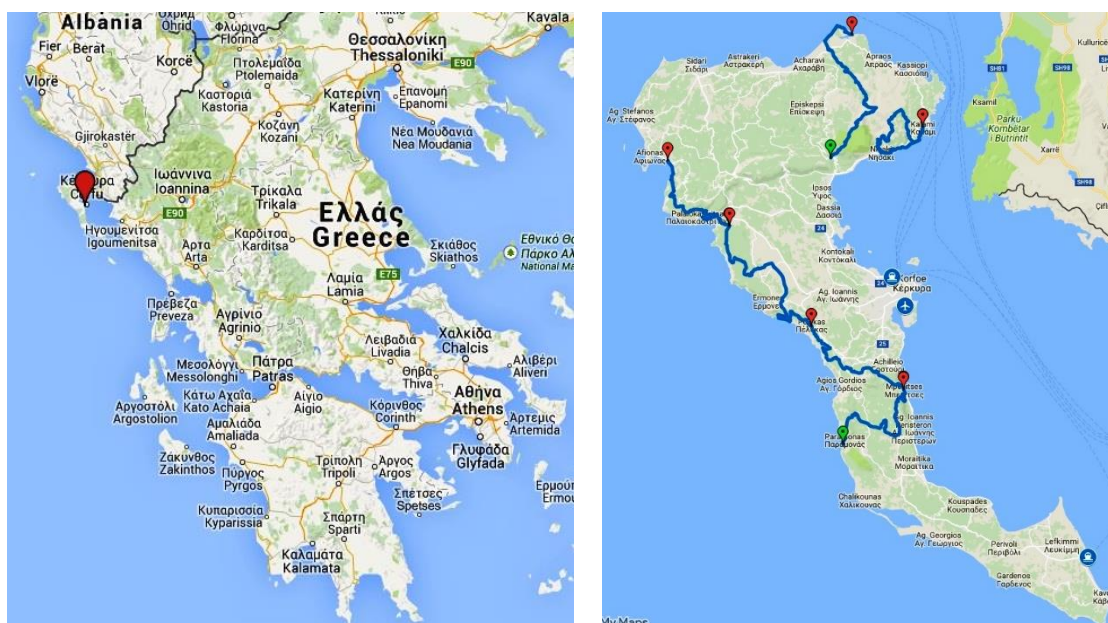
### About AnnaHiking and Aperghi Travel

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. Corfu is such an island with much more on offer than beaches alone, and we’d love to introduce it to you.

This trip is organized by our agent on Corfu, Aperghi Travel. They check and maintain the paths, arrange the (luggage) transfers and the on-site support. As self-guided hiker they’ll provide you with the route descriptions and all other necessary information.

### The tour location



### General information about the tour and the Corfu Trail

The Corfu climate is soft in winter and hot in summer, that’s why we don’t offer the tour in July and August. In spring (May, June) there are lots of flowers in bloom and September and October are still lovely months for hiking.

The total length of the **Corfu Trail** is more than 200 kilometers, running from the southernmost to the northernmost tip of Corfu in 11 stages; this tour takes in 6 of the stages. The trail is generally well marked. It was designed by Hillary Whitton-Paipeti who came to Corfu in 1981. She collected a group of hiking enthusiasts and together they started the Corfu Trail.



This 8-day tour follows 6 of the stages of the Corfu Trail in the south and north of the island.

The net walking time is between 5 and 7 hours (excluding the breaks). The terrain alternates between rough footpaths, cobbled mule paths (kalderimia), gravel roads and tracks, minor roads and beaches. Generally the route is well marked. You’ll walk along mountain slopes and summits, through olive groves, taking in typically Corfiotic villages and meandering through the protected wetlands of the Korrision lagoon.



We advise you to arrive well trained and fit with well worn-in and ankle-high hiking boots. Thus you'll get more pleasure out of your hiking holiday.

It's a tour for people who are curious to the nature and hinterland of a well-known holiday island.

### ***Modular set-up: extensions/alterations/abbreviations***

You may extend your stay in every accommodation for rest or beach days.

Prior to or subsequent to the tour you may spend some days in Corfu Town with its historic center. Using public transportation you may visit all parts of the island.

**ATTENTION!** A stay in Corfu Town between 2 and 6 May is subject to higher rates and a minimum stay of 3 to 4 nights.

Apart from this 15-day arrangement we have 4 other arrangements on Corfu:

- Corfu Trail complete in 11 stages with bonus walk and rest day (tour code [IKWT314I](#), 15-day tour).
- Corfu Trail (almost complete) in 9 stages (tour code [IKWT334I](#), 11-day tour).
- Minitrekking Corfu taking in 3 accommodations (tour code [IKWM214I](#)): a somewhat lighter tour following parts of the Trail.
- Off-season package for the winter months when the accommodations along the Trail are closed (tour code [IKWS214I](#)).

The arrangement may also be extended with one of our various programs in the [Pindos mountain range](#). We'll gladly advise you about the logistics.

Of course you may combine the tour with one of our [other arrangements](#) in Greece.

**For all your wishes: ask for an estimate!**

### ***About the Ionian Islands and Corfu/Kerkyra***

The Ionian Islands are located on the west side of the Greek mainland in the Ionian Sea. They are greener than most Greek islands. In Greek they are called 'eptánisa', 'seven islands', because there are 7 larger islands: Corfu, Lefkas (Lefkada), Ithaka, Kefalonia, Paxi or Paxos, Zakynthos and –strangely enough- Kythira which is located south of the Peloponnese. Besides there are some smaller (inhabited) islands like Antipaxos and Meganisi. Apart from Lefkada they have not been ruled by the Turks, but by the Venetians (14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century) and English (1815-1864) who protected the islands from the Ottomans (Turks).

The Venetians imported specific dishes like bourdetto (meat or fish in spicy red sauce), patsisada (veal or chicken with pasta and wine sauce). The British provide the cricket field in Corfu town, which is still in use.

Corfu island (or Kerkyra as the Greek call it) is the most northern Greek island in the Ionian Sea. Part of it is situated next to the Albanian coast and so there are also ferries and excursion boats to Sarande and Dürres in Albania. The island is very green, because of heavy rainfall, mostly in winter.

Since the Venetian time olives formed an important means of income. Depending on the source you consult there are 6 to 10 million olive trees, which are also particularly high. In autumn everywhere in the olive groves you'll see the nets which are used to harvest the olives. Nowadays the olive groves decline in importance or are being used as building grounds for villas and holiday residences.







Another local product is the kumquat, a small citrus fruit, which is conserved and used for a lovely liqueur.

Some other rather striking differences with other Greek islands, due to other rulers in history: lots of cypress trees (the Turks imagined these to bring bad luck and had them cut down elsewhere) and hardly any blue-white painted houses (Greek did that in other parts because the Turks did not allow them to use their blue-white flag).



Tourist attractions are the fortress in Corfu Town and the Achilleion, the palace of the Austrian empress Elisabeth “Sissi”. Corfu Town is UNESCO protected inheritance.



### ***The accommodations***

The accommodations (always with private bathroom) are small-scale apartment houses, family hotels, tavern rooms and sometimes 3-4 star hotels. It depends which is available at the time of reservation. We reserve the right to change any accommodation up to your arrival date.



For the last days you may express a preference for Kalami or Kassiopi; it's not certain that your preference can be honoured. Kalami is a small coastal village with almost exclusively holiday homes, apartments, a hotel, minimarkets and a restaurant. Footpaths lead to quite bays and beaches south and north of Kalami. These bays are very popular with sailing boats which you'll often see anchored near the coast. Kassiopi is a lively village situated on a peninsula with the ruins of a Byzantine castle. In the centre and near the port you'll find a wide choice in shops and restaurants.



### ***Booking***

The arrangement can be booked from 20 April until 30 June and from 1 September until 31 October 2024.

***Prices per person 2024***

	for double/twin room	for single room, travelling together	for triple room	solo traveller
20/4 until 31/5	€ 740	€ 930	€ 690	€ 1070
1/6 until 30/6	€ 830	€ 1045	€ 765	€ 1200
1/9 until 30/9	€ 830	€ 1045	€ 765	€ 1200
1/10 until 31/10	€ 740	€ 930	€ 690	€ 1070

**Note:**

- Price is per person, flight excluded.
- Travelling solo: ask for estimate.
- Availability of single rooms is very limited.
- A triple room is a double/twin room with an extra bed and the availability is limited.
- The dates apply to your tour period, not the departure day! If your tour is within more periods, the price will be calculated according to the amount of days in the respective periods.
- From January 1st 2018 in Greece an 'overnight tax' is applicable. This tax has to be paid at check-in at your accommodation. The rates per room per night were until 2023: € 0,50 for 2\*-hotels, € 1,50 for 3\*-hotels, € 3,00 for 4\*-hotels and € 4,00 for 5\*-hotels. It seems they'll be lifted to: €1,50 for 2\*-hotels, €3,00 for 3\*-hotels, €7,00 for 4\*-hotels and €10,00 for 5\*-hotels. Tourorganisations are not allowed by law to pay this tax.

***Start and end of tour:*** Corfu airport or ferry port.

***Included***

- 7 Overnight stays on single or double/twin room with private bathroom. Should more than 2 people travel together they may be housed in a 2-room apartment with shared facilities. The accommodation is as close as possible to the end c.q. start of the trip.
- Breakfast from day 2 until and including day 8.
- Transfer from and to the airport, transfer to the start of the walks on day 3 and 6 and all luggage transfers according to the program.
- Contribution to the Corfu Trail maintenance.
- GPS tracks; sent by WeTransfer.
- Hiking map Corfu, sent by post. If you live within the European Union we'll send it to your home address, otherwise the package will be handed over at arrival.
- Information package with route descriptions; handed over at arrival.

***Not included***

- Flight and insurances.
- Overnight tax (see above).
- Lunches, diners, drinks and other personal expenses.
- Taxi at the end of day 6 (approx. €20-€30).
- Other transfers not mentioned in the program.
- Everything else not mentioned under "included".

***Flight***

You'll fly on Corfu airport; many airlines offer this flight. You'll be picked up at the airport and returned there at the end of your arrangement.



### ***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 stays in the accommodation or is transferred.

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





## Day to day program

(The elevation profiles can be downloaded separately. Mind: the scale differs per day!)

Note: walking times mentioned are net times without breaks.

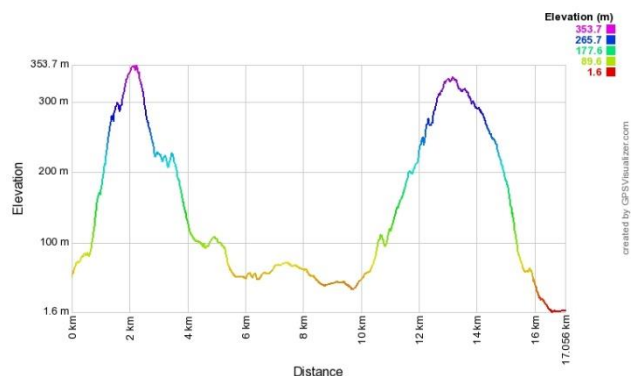
### Day 1: To Paramonas (CT-A)



You'll be met at Corfu airport and transferred to your accommodation in Paramonas. You may spend the afternoon on the beach.

overnight stay: Paramonas

### Day 2: From Paramonas to Stavros and Benitses (CT-04)



A sharp climb early in the walk takes you over the coastal ridge, with great views, and inland to the villages of Ano and Kato Pavliana. Footpaths and tracks take you down through villages until you cross the Messongi River Valley.

You continue through a heathland valley to the village of Strongili, where the Trail heads uphill again, on an old cobbled way which leads to Komianata and Stavros. After a section of road you follow the old Agi Dekka water springs down to the village of Benitses.

walking time/distance: 6h / 18km

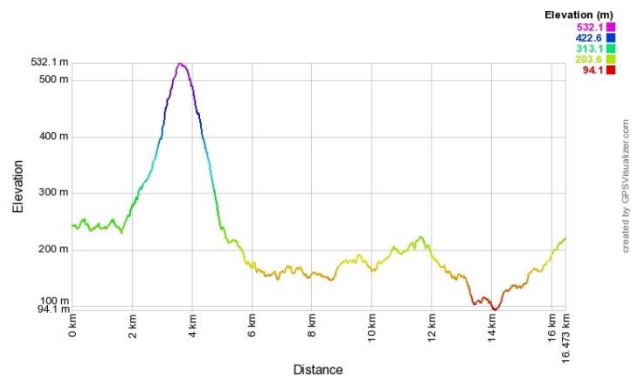
ascent/descent: 650m

overnight stay: Benitses





### Day 3: From Stavros (Coyevinas) via Agi Dekka summit to Pelekas (CT-05)



You'll be taken to the starting point in Stavros village. The walk starts with a delightful footpath skirting Agii Dekka Mountain and leading to Ano Garouna, from where you make a very sharp ascent to the summit of Agii Dekka, Corfu's second highest free-standing peak. Here, an abandoned monastery in a walled garden makes an ideal rest stop.

Your way continues down a cobbled mule path to Agii Dekka village then along minor roads and tracks to Sinarades, where you might like to visit the Folk Museum (depending on opening times) and admire the picturesque architecture of this large village.

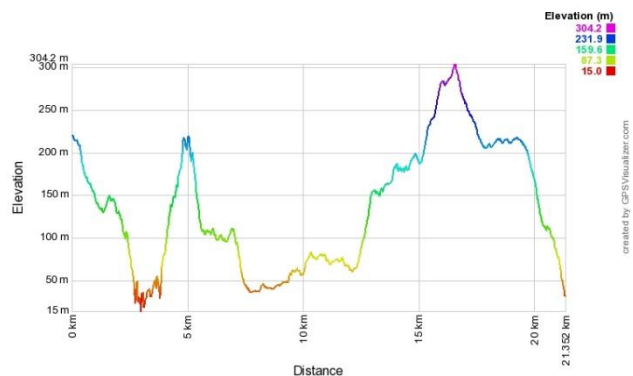
Alleyways and a track lead to Aerostato, one of the island's most famous viewpoints, then the Trail leads along undulating tracks with very fine views over the west coast and inland to Pelekas.

walking time/distance: 6h / 17km

ascent/descent: 650m

overnight stay: Pelekas

### Day 4: From Pelekas to Liapades (CT-06)



Half an hour's downhill walk takes you to Myrriotissa, named 'the loveliest beach in the world' (now used by nudists) and the monastery. Climbing now, you have to regain the height you have lost (and more!), with a steep ascent on a gravel and concrete track. The west coast views are spectacular.

Passing the village of Vatos, the terrain levels out and your way crosses the Ropa valley. You will ascend again to the village of Giannades and on into olive-blanketed hills, where tracks lead to Liapades, an ancient village full of lovely old mansion houses.

walking time/distance: 7h / 23km

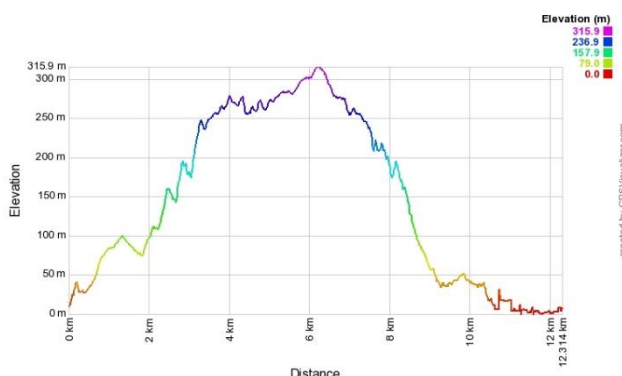
ascent/descent: 600m / 800m

overnight stay: Liapades





### Day 5: The Roman Way from Liapades to Agios Georgios (CT-07)



The walk starts with a sharply ascending footpath which immediately brings you high above sea level towards Paleokastritsa. You quickly cross the main road and head into the hills again, using a network of lovely cobbled footpaths. A climb of about an hour takes you to the centuries old village of Lakones and Bella Vista Viewpoint ('the best view in Europe').

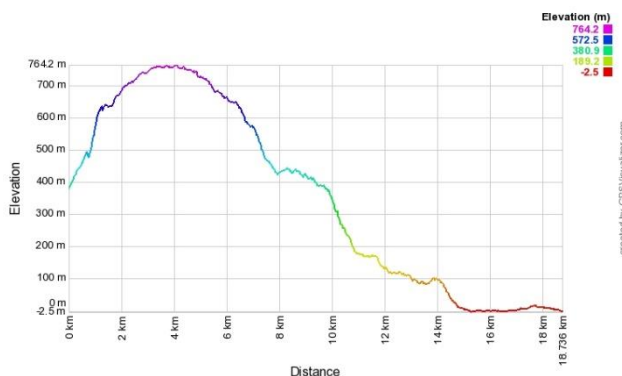
One kilometre of unavoidable and sometimes busy road here, to cross the village, but the spectacular views make up for it! The Trail then heads across olive groves to Krini (from here you can opt to visit the Byzantine castle Angelokastro), through 'Lily Valley' and on down one of Greece's most remarkable footpaths, the Roman Way, which zigzags down a sheer cliff. The way continues down an olive grove track and along the seashore to the resort of Agios Georgios.

walking time/distance: 4h30' / 13.5km (Angelokastro: +1km one way)

ascent/descent: 350m (Angelokastro: +150m)

overnight stay: Agios Georgios Pagon

### Day 6: From Spartilas over the Pantokrator and along Oud Peritheia to Agios Spyridon (CT-10)



Today the real mountain territory beckons! You'll be transferred to the starting point in Spartilas.

From Spartilas you are soon on a steep mountain footpath climbing a gully to a fantastic viewpoint at Taxiarchis Chapel - a ruin with fresco-covered walls. You ascend further to cross the 'Karst Plateau', Corfu's wildest scenery, under the summit of Pantokrator. When you reach the road you may decide to do a detour to the top of the mountain.

The trail continues on a mountain track with fine views. You reach the high col of the main ridge, where both the northern and southern sections of Corfu are visible. You then descend to Old Perithia - a semi-ruined Byzantine village located in a high valley. Onwards, the Trail descends a narrow valley on a rough mule track, then continues down on paths and tracks to



the northern coastal plain. You reach the sea at Almiros and follow the beach to the wild, bare headland which is Corfu's northernmost point, where a path through forest takes you to the end of the Trail at Agios Spyridon Beach.

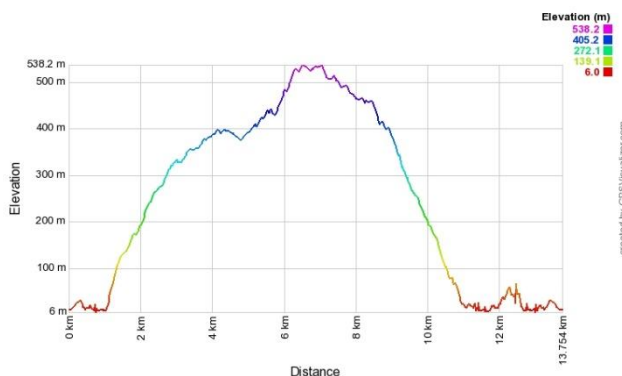
From there you take a taxi to your accommodation in Kalami or Kassiopi.

*walking time/distance: 7h / 21.0km (to the summit: +1 hour and 3km)*

*ascent/descent: 500m / 850m (to the summit: +150m ascent and descent)*

*overnight stay: Kalami/Kassiopi*

### ***Day 7: The Northeast coast and mountain flanks, circular walk from Kalami (CT-11)***



This is a circular walk which starts and finishes at Kalami, exploring the Northeast of the island. You quickly climb into the hills and then onto the high mountain flanks, through Porta and on to the ruined village of Mengoulas. After some level walking with most spectacular views your descent begins, towards Katavolos and down to the sea at Kaminaki.

You return along the high coastal footpath along spectacular bays with sheer cliffs and turquoise waters.

Note: if you stay in Kassiopi, you'll take the public bus or a taxi to and from Kalami (own cost).

*walking time/distance: 5h / 15.5km*

*ascent/descent: 550m*

*overnight stay: Kalami/Kassiopi*

### ***Day 8: Departure from Corfu (CT-V)***

You'll be picked up and brought to the airport. Should you have booked an extension on the mainland you'll be brought to the ferry harbour.

