

**Ionian Islands – Corfu – self-guided hike:  
11-day trekking with 9 stages of the  
Corfu Trail 2024 (IKWT334I)**

*Also bookable as 8- or 15-day trekking*



*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)**



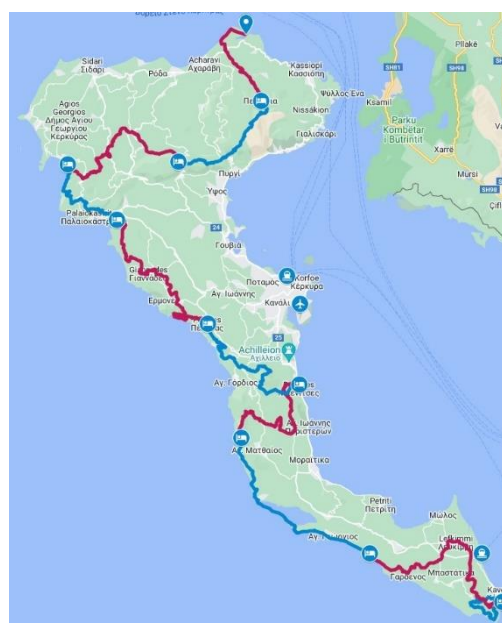
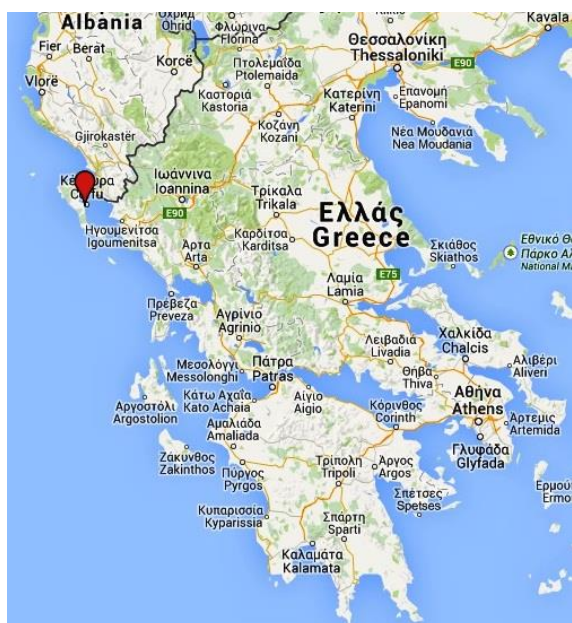
### About AnnaHiking and Aperghi Travel

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 Aperghi Travel, Greek colleagues on Corfu. 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. 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 tour takes in 9 stages of the Corfu Trail and only misses part of the northeast coast and the eastern Pantokrator mountain flanks.

The net walking time is between 4 and 7¼ 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 11-day arrangement we have four other arrangements on Corfu:

- Corfu Trail complete in 11 stages (tour code [IKWT314I](#), 15-day tour).
- Corfu Trail selection: 6 stages in the south and north (tour code [IKWT324I](#), 8-day tour).
- Minitrekking Corfu taking in 3 accommodations (tour code [IKWM214I](#)): a somewhat lighter tour following part 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 [North or South Pindos](#). We'll gladly help you with 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 in the periods from 13 April until 30 June and from 1 September until 31 October 2024. In April and around festive days alternative accommodations may be used.



### *Prices per person 2024*

	for double/twin room	for single room, travelling together	for triple room	solo traveller
13/4 until 31/5	€ 905	€ 1195	€ 835	€ 1400
1/6 until 30/6	€ 1000	€ 1325	€ 925	€ 1550
1/9 until 30/9	€ 1000	€ 1325	€ 925	€ 1550
1/10 until 31/10	€ 905	€ 1195	€ 835	€ 1400

#### Note:

- Price is per person, flight excluded.
- Availability of single rooms is very limited, especially in June and September.
- 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***

- 10 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 11.
- Transfer from and to the airport 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.
- Other transfers not mentioned in the program.
- Everything else not mentioned under "included".

#### ***Flight***

You'll fly on Corfu airport. 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.



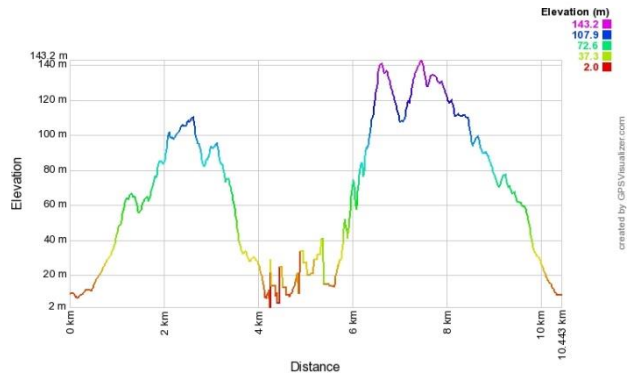


## Day to day program

(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 Asprokavos, optional circular walk Spartera (CT-01A)



You'll be met at Corfu airport and transferred to your accommodation in Asprokavos, in the south of the island. If you arrive on an early flight you may make the circular walk to Spartera.

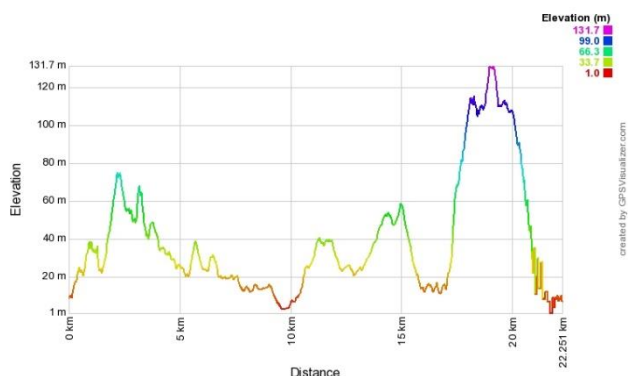
This route starts at a peaceful spot just south of the holiday resort of Kavo. You head out on a track to the southern tip of Corfu, where the ruined monastery of Arkoudillas stands. You may descend along a footpath to the island's southernmost beach Arkoudillas, a seemingly endless stretch of golden sand. You proceed to the picturesque village of Spartera. From Spartera you return on a calm road to your accommodation in Asprokavos.

walking time/distance: 4h / 12km

ascent/descent: 300m

overnight stay: Asprokavos

### Day 2: From Asprokavos via Lefkimmi to Santa Barbara (CT-02)



From Asprokavos the trip starts with tracks leading by a small lake and through olive groves and agricultural land to the town of Lefkimmi. By means of the old main road you arrive at the river, where cafeterias invite you to have a small break.

From the river you cross several other neighborhoods before leaving the second town of the island and heading towards the West coast again. From Gardenos you will head up along a coastal ridge with spectacular views of the West coast and the villages inland. Even the South and East coast are visible! Eventually you will reach the wonderful sandy beach of Santa Barbara.



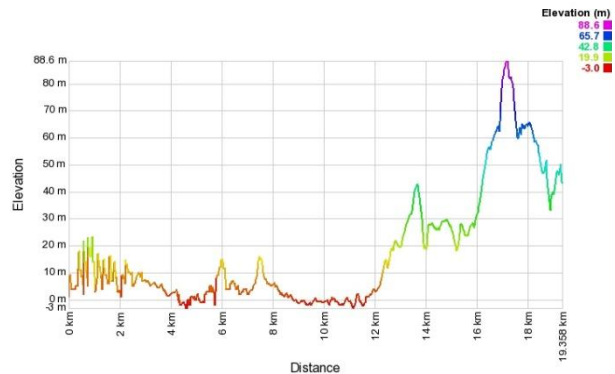


walking time/distance: 7h / 23km

ascent/descent: 350m

overnight stay: Santa Barbara

### **Day 3: From Santa Barbara along the Korission lake to Paramonas (CT-03)**



A day of almost level walking during which you follow the beach, passing the holiday resort of Agios Georgios, but soon leaving 'civilization' again. The wide, empty beach north of the resort was used for scenes in the Bond film 'For Your Eyes Only'.

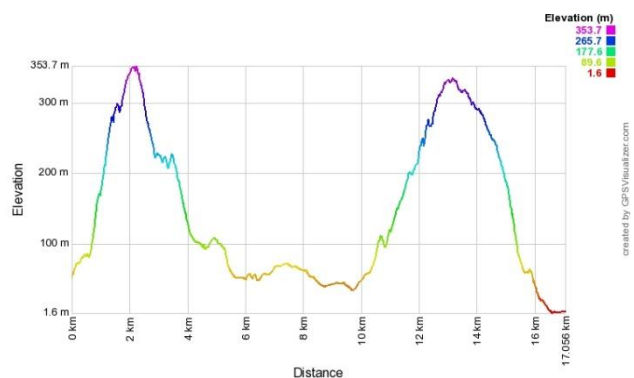
Your way leads on through sand dunes covered with a forest of juniper trees. Crossing a footbridge, you will reach Lake Korission, where you, with a bit of luck, might see a variety of wild birds. The Trail follows high coastal tracks, a section of road and eventually leads through centuries old olive groves to reach Paramonas.

walking time/distance: 6h / 20km

ascent/descent: 150m / 120m

overnight stay: Paramonas

### **Day 4: 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.

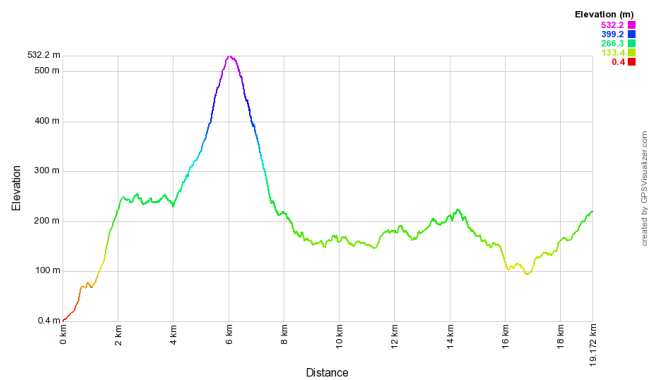
walking time/distance: 6h / 18km

ascent/descent: 700m

overnight stay: Benitses



### Day 5: From Benitses via Agii Deka summit to Pelekas (CT-13)



By a somewhat different route past springs you ascend back to Stavros. Here you pick up the Trail again and walk by a delightful footpath skirting Agii Deka Mountain. From the village Ano Garouna you make a very sharp ascent to the summit of Agii Deka, 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 Deka 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.

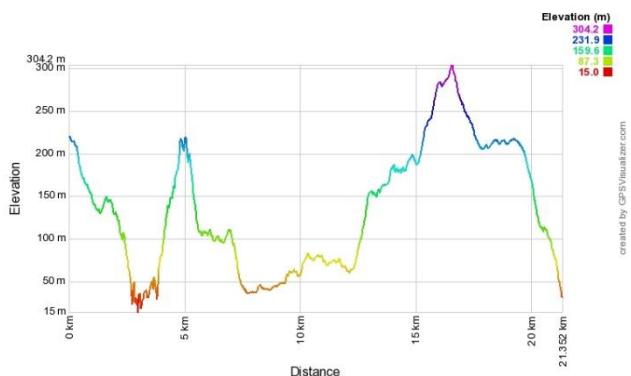
Alleyways and a track lead to Aerostato, one of the island's most famous viewpoints, then the Trail leads along undulating tracks with very fine views over the west coast and inland to Pelekas.

walking time/distance: 7h15' / 21km

ascent/descent: 930m / 650m

overnight stay: Pelekas

### Day 6: 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.



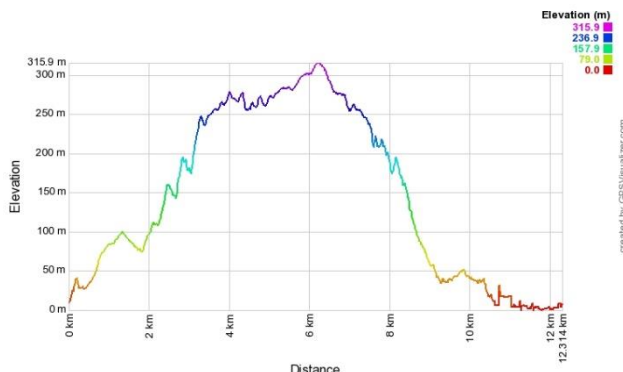


walking time/distance: 7h / 23km

ascent/descent: 600m / 800m

overnight stay: Liapades

### **Day 7: 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').

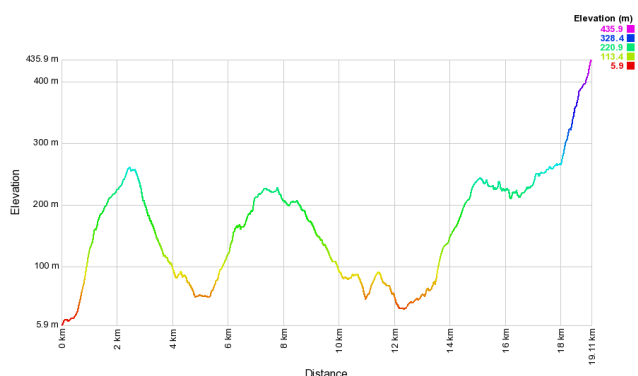
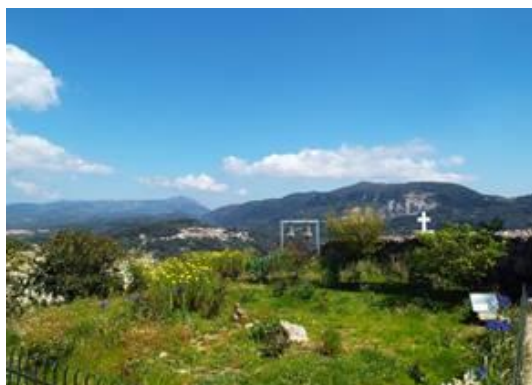
One kilometre of unavoidable and sometimes busy road here, to cross the village, but the spectacular views make up for it! The Trail then heads across olive groves to Krini (from here you can opt to visit the Byzantine castle Angelokastro), through 'Lily Valley' and on down one of Greece's most remarkable 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: 5h / 14km (Angelokastro: +1km one way)

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

overnight stay: Agios Georgios Pagon

### **Day 8: From Agios Georgios along the Pantokrator slopes to Sokraki (CT-14)**



A sharp climb from Agios Georgios to the village of Prinilas starts the walk. Then you descend to the picturesque village of Pagi. Tracks and a quiet road take you through agricultural land alongside the Megapotamos River and over the ridge through Aspiotades to the two sprawling villages of Agros and Agios Athanasios, where your way leads through the alleyways. Leaving the villages, a quiet road leads past a wealthy monastery, and tracks take you on to the road junction at Rekini.



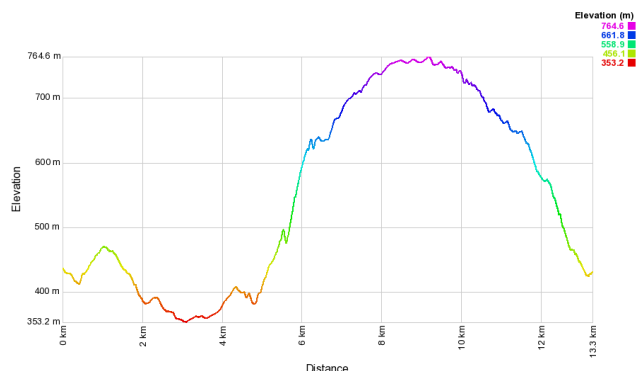
From Rekini you take the unmade road to Valanio, a village deep in the middle of nowhere. Then tracks funnel you up a deep valley. Along a cobbled path, you enter Sokraki, where the village square with its happy atmosphere invites you to enjoy the local ginger beer.

walking time/distance: 7h / 21km

ascent/descent: 1000m / 500m

overnight stay: Sokraki

## Day 9: From Sokraki past the Pantokrator summit to Oud Peritheia (CT-15)



From Sokraki the Trail continues by wider and narrow footpaths through wood and past agricultural grounds to the fertile plane under 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.

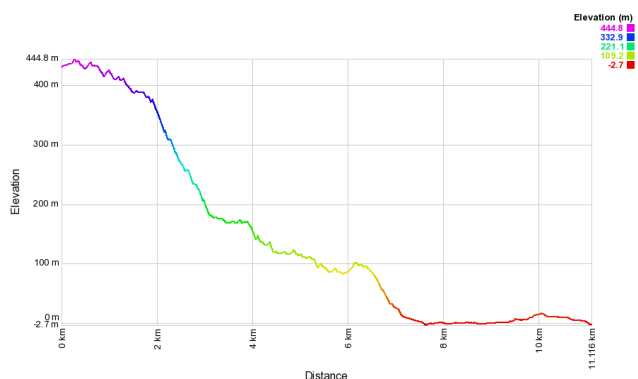
The trail continues on a mountain track with fine views. You reach the high col of the main ridge, where both the northern and southern sections of Corfu are visible. You then descend to Old Perithia - a semi-ruined Byzantine village located in a high valley, that was completely deserted until a couple of years ago. Now you'll find quite some tavernas to enjoy a well-deserved meal.

walking time/distance: 6h / 16km (to the summit: +1 hour and 3km)

ascent/descent: 600m / 550m (to the summit: +150m ascent and descent)

overnight stay: Kalami/Kassiopi

## Day 10: From Old Peritheia to Agios Spyridon (CT-16)



A relatively relaxed day to end the tour. From Peritheia the Trail descends through 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.

You'll either stay the night in Agios Spyridon or you'll be transferred to Corfu Town for the overnight stay.

*walking time/distance: 4h / 12km*

*ascent/descent: 100m / 550m*

*overnight stay: Agios Spyridon or Corfu Town*

### ***Day 11: Departure from Corfu (CT-V)***



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