

3. Aghios Georgios Nilias circular walk



This beautiful walk of 5.5 kilometres follows the slopes above Aghios Georgios and affords you striking views. It is especially beautiful in May, with all the flowers and fragrant gorse along the route.

The first part along cobbled paths (kalderimi) takes you out of the village. Then a narrow and sometimes rocky path leads you further up the hill through varied vegetation of herbaceous plants, small shrubs and trees. The walk leads you to wonderful views over the Pagasitic Gulf and further up, also over the south of Pilio towards Evia and the Sporades. On the way back you walk along an earth road and it finishes on kalderimi through Aghios Georgios. The walk ascends and descends 300 metres. It took us 2 hours.

The narrow paths are in some places encroached upon by low thorny bushes, so long trousers come in handy. Choose a bright day for the views. As some of the narrow paths resemble gullies, you may find water in them in the spring.

Start: you can reach Aghios Georgios by car or scooter. The drive up from Ano Lehonia is beautiful.

Map: Mt. Pilio, Road Editions 33, 1:50.000. Many of the paths described are not on the map.

Map for waypoints and tracks: Anavasi Topomap 3D on CD-Rom, Pilio – Mavrovouni, Central Pilio.

Food and drink: In Aghios Georgios there are tavernas. There is a spring water drinking fountain at the beginning and another in the second half of the walk.

1. The walk begins at the central square in Aghios Georgios. At the upper end of the square is a water fountain and the start of a kalderimi. The kalderimi ascends quickly, winding uphill between the houses. Keep to this kalderimi.
2. Where the kalderimi ends in a T-junction with a concrete road (ΟΔΟΣ ΑΠΙΟΣΤ. ΒΟΓΙΑΤΖΗ), turn right.
3. After 20 metres turn left. There is a sign with Agriolefkas written on it. Follow the kalderimi that starts here for about 450 metres. It ascends and becomes a bit overgrown. Further up it narrows with plants encroaching on it. Then it changes into a kalderimi shaded by trees. Further up a section of the path looks more like a gully, and narrow alternative paths have developed alongside. You pass a tree on your right with a blue sign saying Τσαγκαράδα. The path becomes wider and you reach an intersection.

4. At the intersection turn left. 20 metres further at a fork keep to the left. You ascend along a rocky path. Further up the path levels out and from here you have lovely views. After a large rock the path winds further up. The path leads to an earth road at the point where it crosses the irrigation channel. Cross the earth road and follow the narrow



- path further up. Every now and then the path forms a deep gully while in other places it is a little overgrown. Follow this path up and ignore side paths. The path leads to an earth road.
5. Turn left upwards onto this earth road. A little further on, at a path to the right, follow the earth road. There is a walker sign here, and if you look for a vantage point, you will find the views breathtaking. From here the earth road ascends for some time.
6. Where the road turns up to the right, another earth road descends to the left. Take this road. Ignore side paths and continue on downwards. On both sides of the road there is lush vegetation of ferns, shrubs and trees.



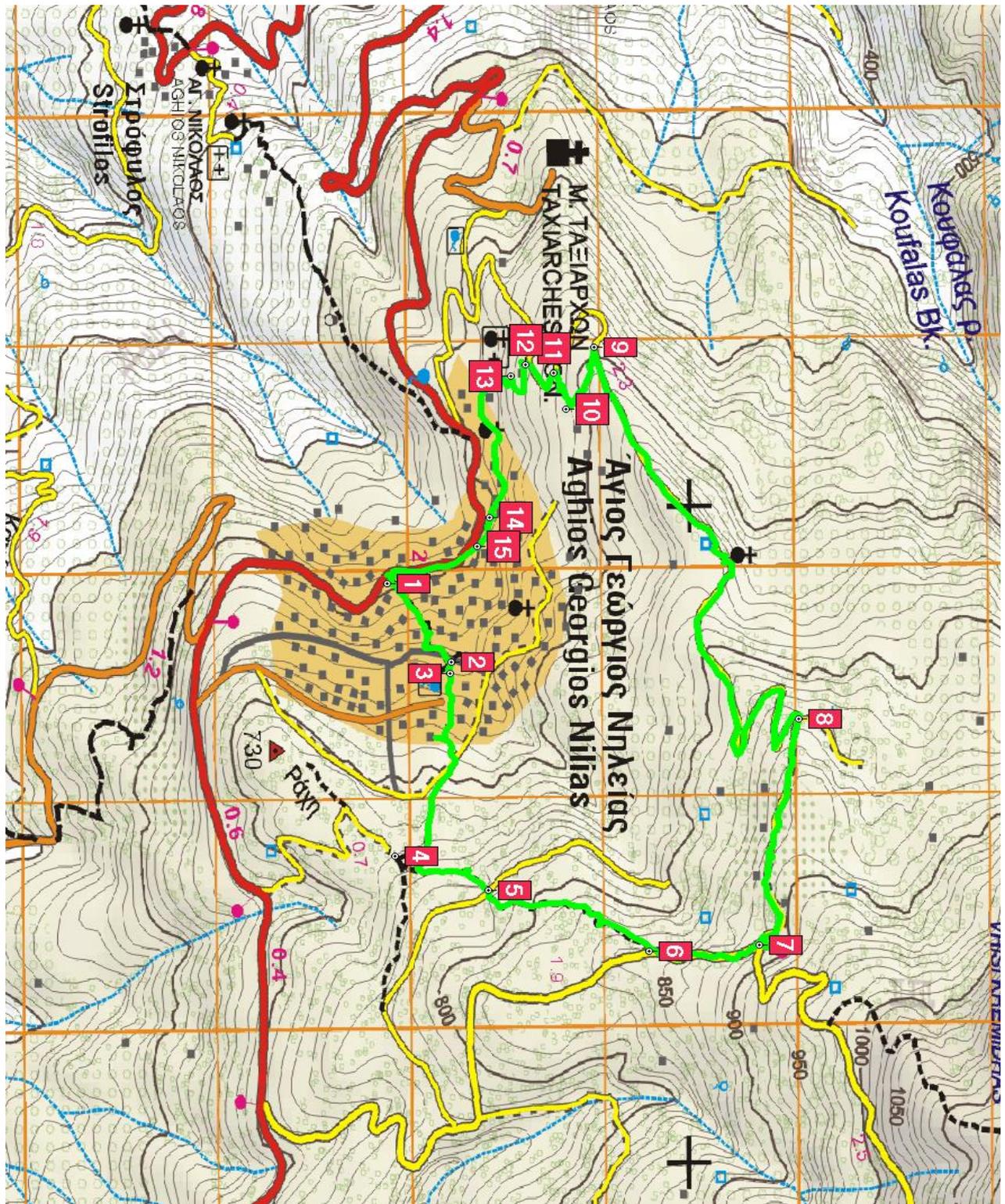
7. Where the earth road bends to the right, a concrete road descends to the left. Take this concrete road. After the bend it turns into an earth road that gradually descends in the direction of Aghios Georgios. At an overgrown house on your left, follow the earth road down to the right. You will pass a white chapel with a round concrete water trough and old plane trees. Further down you pass a large house on your left hand side.
8. After you've passed this house an earth road ascends to the right at an electricity pole. Just before this point you take a path to the left in the direction of Aghios Georgios. You walk

- between bee hives – as long as you leave them alone this is quite safe. Further down you pass a large round concrete irrigation pond. Walk further down along a narrow path between ferns.
9. The path ends at a wider path that has become overgrown (June 2016). To the left in front of you there is a white house. Turn right at this wide path.
 10. At the end, at the concrete road, turn left.
 11. Then, at the second bend to the right next to a large pylon, a concrete road goes to the left. There is a sign ΠΙΠΟΣ ΠΑΝΑΓΙΑ. Follow the concrete road along the upper end of the cemetery.
 12. At the U-turn around the cemetery take an earth path down to the right. This path changes into a concrete road that descends between the houses and becomes an earth path again at a drinking fountain. Further down it becomes a kalderimi.



13. At a fork in the kalderimi turn up to the left. The path leads to an earth path; continue straight ahead. It changes into a kalderimi that descends to the road.
14. Turn left here and walk back to the square.

***Enjoyed your walk? Any comments? Let us know!
info@pilionwalks.com***



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