

southern peloponnese

5 car tours • 50 long and short walks

GPS



This is a sample from the
PDF edition of
Landscapes of the
**SOUTHERN
PELOPONNESE**

a countryside guide
Third edition



Michael Cullen

This shorter sampler includes some of the introductory text, the introductions to each of the main sections (Car Touring and Walking) with an example of each. There is a total of 152 pages, plus two pull-out region maps, in the full book.



SUNFLOWER BOOKS



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Black pine on Mt Taygetus (Car tour 2)





Getting about

By far the best way to get about is to hire a **car**; otherwise, the best option is to stay at one or more of the suggested bases (see page 39) and use local transport where necessary.

Buses are, in most cases, the only public transport option — though local village services are somewhat reduced since the austerity measures of 2011-2017. Printed timetables are rare, web information not always up-to-date. Your best bet is to refer to page 150 and confirm times in the village bus station or stop (sometimes housed in a café). Most buses leave from the end-of-the-line village around dawn, head to the city and return around lunchtime; some do this twice or more in a day. There are also identical-looking school buses (μαθητικό, mathitikó) which operate similar routes and have been known to pick up stranded tourists. The two main hubs (with secondary hubs in brackets) are Kalamata (Pylos, Itilo) and Sparta (Gythio, Areopolis, Gerolimenas, Neapoli, Monemvasia). The Arcadian coast is served by buses between Argos, Tripolis and Leonidio. Bus stops and shelters are identified by a sign, KTEL (the national bus company).

Split four ways, the cost of a **taxi** is about the same as the bus fare. Most villages of a reasonable size have a local taxi (see page 150). Otherwise you can call one out from the nearest town, but you'll have to pay more for the extra mileage. It is worth booking taxis ahead of time, as they often have long-distance trips scheduled into their day. The meter should be switched on to tariff 2 (tariff 1 only applies within city limits), and when you get in will normally show the amount due for the journey made so far. However, for standard journeys in the countryside it is quite common to charge the going rate without switching the meter on.

The **train** network in the Peloponnese has been very limited ever since the metric gauge routes were discontinued in 2011.

Similarly the scenic **hydrofoil/ferry** route down the east coast of the Peloponnese is no longer operating, though it is currently possible (if you're not in a hurry) to sail from Piraeus (Athens) via Kythira to Neapoli with the F/B Ionis



Touring

The Peloponnese has some truly spectacular drives, and a car tour through the area can be a breathtaking experience as well as a useful overview of places you might want to return to for a fuller exploration. Two of Greece's most scenic mountain roads are those across the Taygetus and Parnon ranges, which are covered by Car tours 2 and 4 respectively. Coastal drives form part of every tour, with suggested detours to beautiful and little-visited beaches.

Each of the five car tours is feasible in a day or (better) two; to explore all five thoroughly would take weeks. The tours follow asphalt roads throughout, apart from a few short optional stretches of good dirt road.

Do remember that hire cars are not normally allowed on **unsurfaced roads**, and that damage to the underside of the car is not covered by the standard insurance policy. The chances of a puncture are also much higher on dirt roads, especially when travelling at speed. Having said that, many of the loveliest spots can only be reached by unsurfaced road, so you will need to use your judgement!

Car hire on mainland Greece is often cheaper when purchased abroad, before travelling. If you hire locally, shop around, compare like for like, and don't be afraid to ask for their 'best price'. As always, you should check the petrol level, lights, spare tyre, jack and general condition of the vehicle before driving away in it.

Fuel is reasonably priced and widely available in the Peloponnese, except in mountainous areas. Unleaded (which has replaced leaded almost entirely) is αμόλιβδη (amólivthi). Diesel is πετρέλαιο (petréleo), although 'deézell' is also understood. Most petrol stations are staff-served, so don't blithely go helping yourself without checking! Full is γεμάτο (yemáto). If you have a **puncture**, you'll find tyre repair garages alongside most petrol stations.

Motoring law is similar to other continental European countries, but is flouted more often and more flagrantly. Drive on the right, overtake on the left, and don't count on others being aware of you. Flashing your headlights means 'Watch out for me' (as per the highway code) rather than the British 'After you, old chap'. Drink-driving is, at last, being clamped down on, with fines around 150 Euro. Front seat belts must be worn, and children under 10 must ride in the



Old town of Monemvasia (Car tour 5, Walks 26 and 27)

back. Parking is fairly chaotic, with lots of double parking and few cities outside Athens enforcing restrictions.

Speed limits are generally 50km/h in built-up areas, 80km/h on good country roads, and 120km/h or 130km/h on the motorways. But lower limits may be placed at any point. Police speed traps are quite common on the larger country roads, especially between Sparta and Gythio.

Most importantly, be aware that **road surfaces are poor and unpredictable**, with unsigned potholes and bumps a serious danger at night-time. Unlit tractors and bicycles are also common. If you have an accident, you must stop and exchange details (usually accompanied by a great deal of emotive shouting).

The fold-out touring maps show all the roads followed in the tours, as well as the location of all the walks, suggested picnic spots and other information useful to the curious motorist. **Symbols** used in the text are explained in the map key. Distances in km are given cumulatively, starting from my chosen base (if possible, reset your distance counter when leaving or passing this point). **Detours** (shown in *italic type* in the text) are *not included* in the cumulative distances.

The notes themselves are restricted to route directions, occasional descriptions of the scenery, and very brief asides on the places you pass. For further information on the area and specific sites, see 'Further reading' on page 6; there is also more historical information in the walking notes.

Car tour 1: PYLOS AND THE KORONI/METHONI PENINSULA

Pylos • (Divari • Voidokilia) • (Romanos) • Hora • (Polylimnio Waterfalls) • Petalidi • (Koroni) • (Marathi) • Methoni • Pylos

110km/68mi; 3h driving time, plus up to 56km/35mi (2h) of detours

Walks en route: (2, 3, 4)

Opening times:

Nestor's Palace and Hora

Archaeological Museum: Apr-

Oct 08.00-18.00/20.00 (daily),

Nov-Mar 08.30-15.30 (closed Tue)

Koroni Castle: unrestricted entry

Methoni Castle: Tue-Sun 08.00-

15.00 (Jan-Mar)/18.00 (Sep-Oct)/

20.00 (Apr-Aug); closed Mon

Picnic suggestions: Kalamaris

Waterfall (detour at 7km); **Poli-**

limnio Waterfalls (detour at 40km);

Koroni Castle (detour at 75km)

The southwestern finger of the Peloponnese is blessed with some of Greece's most idyllic sandy beaches, not to mention lovely seaside towns, pre-Classical sites and more than its fair share of medieval castles. This day tour combines the best of these and gives you a glimpse of some of the little-visited countryside in between: olive groves, flower-filled meadows, wayside chapels. You'll find some suggestions for short walks, as well as a couple of eye-openers for the adven-



turous: a bird-rich wetland, and a river gorge with pools and waterfalls. The delightful town of Pylos is an ideal base, allowing you to complete the more 'active' exploration in the relative cool of the morning, leaving the beaches until the afternoon. To do all (or most) of the detours, you will need to split this over 2 days; if staying in Pylos you can break the tour after Polilimnio Waterfalls and return quickly to base.

From **Pylos**★ (🏰🏰🏰🏰🏰) take the KALAMATA road, climbing through the northwestern part of town with good views back over the port. After 2.5km, at a fork, go left towards GARGALIANI. If you have already seen Voidokilia Bay, the Divari Lagoon and Kalamaris Waterfall (on Walks 2 and 3), you might want to keep straight on here and pick up the car tour at Kazarma (40km).

Shortly after **Yialova** (7km 🏰🏰🏰🏰) you reach a left turn signed 'GOLDEN BEACH 3, VOIDOKILIA'.

For the worthwhile 6km return detour to the Divari Lagoon and Voidokilia Bay★ (🏰), turn left. After 3km, where the asphalt road bears right, either park or (if you don't mind some unsurfaced road) continue straight/left along a good dirt road. On your left is the long strand of Golden Beach, facing south into Navarino Bay. A little further ahead is a signed nature trail following a wooden walkway, which introduces you to some of the 255 bird species observed around the Divari Lagoon: egrets, herons, cormorants, terns, black-winged stilts, glossy ibis and flamingoes, to name but a few. The area is also a breeding ground for the endangered African chameleon and loggerhead turtle (Caretta caretta), which is why you are asked not to camp, light fires, stick parasols into the sand, or disturb nests. If you fancy stretching your legs, Walk 3 starts and ends here, taking in the perfect horseshoe bay of Voidokilia and the ruined medieval castle of Paliokastro, shown on page 49. The bay, which is also accessible from Petrohori to the north, gets very crowded in summer, but is a delight in spring or autumn, or in the early morning at any time of year.

The horseshoe bay of Voidokilia, backed by the Divari Lagoon



12 Landscapes of the southern Peloponnese

Just 100m north of the turning to Golden Beach and just south of the Shell garage, you reach a right turn signed 'SHINOLAKA 3'.

Here you can make a 5km detour to the waterfall of Kalamaris, a surprisingly shady and lush cascade, though it reduces to a trickle in late summer. Follow the country lane to Schinolakka (2.5km). In the village, by a sign pointing left to KOUKOUNARA, turn right, wiggle through and out of the village, descending gently. By the last house (telephone pole and street lamp right, possible parking for one car ahead), turn 90 degrees left and follow the now-unsurfaced road for 550m. Here keep left — the track is increasingly rutted — around an orchard to a sign, 'PARKING WATERFALL'. Follow the short, waymarked hiking trail east into the valley to the waterfall (P; 10min), returning the same way.

The main tour continues north towards Hora for 5km, to a right-hand bend (12km) signed 'KYPARISSIA 49' (right) and 'ROUMANOU 2' (left).

For a 5km return detour to Romanos Beach (Paralia Romanou), turn left and then keep right, signed ROMANOS. After 0.8km, turn left (ROMANOS, PETROHORI), and after 0.5km, just before Romanos village, fork right (white on blue arrow). A road soon joins from the left (from Romanos centre); keep right (sign: TO BEACH) and head southwest for 1.2km. At the coast, turn left for a small, tamarisk-shaded beach (X M); or turn right on a dirt road, past a protected cove, to the beginning of a long, sandy beach stretching north as far as the eye can see.

After the turning to Romanos, the next left turn leads to the very grand Costa Navarino hotel and

golf course. But the main tour continues northeast towards Hora, winding up through olive groves, past the turning to Korifasio, the site of ancient Pylos. After 5km you pass **Nestor's Palace** on the left (17km **ff**), the best-preserved example — thanks to a cataclysmic fire which buried the place in ash — of a Mycenaean royal residence. Using tablets found here, Ventris and Chadwick were able to decipher the ancient language 'Linear B'.

The road straightens out and enters the provincial town of **Hora** (20km **X M M**), where you keep right, following signs for KYPARISSIA (variously 41 or 42km), keeping left past a broad square/car park, to the town hall (ΔΗΜΑΡΧΕΙΟ). Here turn right ('MUSEUM'), up and rightwards around the leafy town square and market area (good coffee stop), past the museum (small and poorly interpreted), and out of town.

At **Metamorfosi** (27km), follow the main road left and out of town to the three-way junction and houses of **Touloupa Hani** (29km). Here stay right to **Vlachopoulo**, go through this little farmers' town (ΕΛΤΥ petrol station), past the villages of **Hatzis** and **Petritsi**, to reach the main Pylos–Kalamata road at **Kazarma** (40km). Turn left.

*Just in front of the twin petrol stations on either side (40.5km), you can turn right for the very worthwhile (especially in summer) detour to the **Polilimnio Waterfalls** (P; cover photograph). The road leads to Charavgi (1.5km), where you follow two blue signs right, through the village, to Kataraktis Taverna. Here you can either park and walk to the waterfalls (see Walk 4), or continue*

by car if you don't mind narrow unsurfaced roads. If so, at the chapel just outside the village, fork left ('POLILIMNIO'), and follow the main dirt road for 1km to the waterfall parking. From here, continue as for Walk 4.

For the onward car tour, from Kazarma's twin petrol stations, continue east towards Kalamata. At **Rizomilos** (50km), turn right ('KORONI'), past an Eko petrol station.

For the next 20km to Nea Koroni you skirt the rapidly developing coastline (🏠🚗) of cafés, hotels and uninspiring beaches, passing through **Petalidi** (where you go round the square towards 'Κορώνη'), **Kalamaki**, **Hrani**, **Episkopi** and **Ayios Andreas** en route. After **Nea Koroni** (70km) you head inland, bypassing Vounaria and Kombi, to a T-junction in **Harokopio** (75km).

Here you can take a 9km return detour to Koroni (🏠🚗): turn left and, at the fork after 2.3km, a right turn leads to the lovely, sandy beach of Memi (also called Zagha), while left will take you into Koroni town. It is worth strolling through its narrow alleys up to the castle ★ (🏰), within whose solid walls are a delightful chapel, some houses and fine views over the coast to the south.

To continue the main tour, turn right towards FINIKOUNDA. A new road whisks you up over a 300m pass (🚗) near **Yamia** and down past **Akritohori** (84km).

At the T-junction after Akritohori, you can make a 25km return detour to two of the loveliest beaches on this peninsula, at either Marathi or Tsapi. Turn left and follow the wide road up towards Chrysokellaria, then

after 5km turn right down a small road signed to TSAPI. After 4.7km, at a right bend with two rough jeep tracks on your right, you have a choice. For Marathi Beach, park (unless you have a 4WD) and follow the right-hand of these jeep tracks steadily downhill for 1.4km (20min walk down, 30min back up), keeping right, to reach the secluded and idyllic twin beaches (no shade or facilities). If you don't fancy the walk, stay on the asphalt road for a further 2.5km down to Tsapi, which has an equally lovely sandy beach, with the benefit of a taverna — and a campsite, if you can't bear to leave.

To continue back to Pylos, follow the road down to **Finikounda** (88km 🏠🚗), a once-sleepy fishing village now popular with sun-loving tourists in summer. If it's not too busy, you can drive through the laid-back resort for a drink or a swim, and rejoin the road further up. It whisks you rapidly to **Methoni** (100km 🏠🚗), keeping right of the town centre. If you haven't already seen it, the wonderfully preserved Venetian castle ★ (🏰) and sea-tower are definitely worth driving through town for — endless amusement for children, with a sandy beach and tavernas nearby to complete the fun. Otherwise continue north, past **Kainouryio Horio**, to **Pylos** (110km).



Walking

As anyone who has ever walked in Greece will know, getting off the beaten track can bring you inspiring and infuriating moments in equal measure. Wild flowers and herbs, cobbled *kalderimia*, shady forests, glorious views, smiling shepherds, remote chapels, warm sunshine and cool spring water provide some of the inspiration. The flipside is prickly bushes, new dirt roads, forest fires, cloud cover (yes, even in Greece), aggressive sheep dogs, locked chapels, sunstroke and running out of water! I hope this section will help you avoid the latter and enjoy the former.

The walks

This book offers 30 walks ranging from 2km (1 hour) to nearly 20km (7 hours). About half of the walks are circular. The other half are linear, with advice on getting public transport or taxis back, or solutions for turning it into a circuit if you prefer. See page 7 for details on getting about, and page 39 for suggestions on where to base yourselves.

The majority of the walks follow accepted ‘trails’, such as those developed by the local municipality; these are often interspersed with forest or farm tracks. A few routes cross open, pathless hillsides, where route-finding can be tricky, and experience and good observation are useful.

Waymarking, grading, maps, GPS

Unlike other parts of Greece, the old footpaths and mountain trails of the southern Peloponnese have, in many places, been mercifully preserved by local ramblers and forward-looking councils. Finding their carefully colour-coded **waymarks**, their chopped-back undergrowth and their dusty foot-

prints fills me with gratitude each time I re-walk these routes. This is particularly true around Kardamyli–Stoupa, Mystras–Anavriti, Monemvasia–Neapoli and Leonidio (a town which is reinventing itself as a climbing mecca). Of course the danger still remains that new roads will be built, fences erected, signs knocked down or shot at, wind turbines



Tortoise puzzling out one of the ‘Japanese flag’ waymarks seen on some of the walks

plonked on beautiful summits; and — inevitably — prickly maquis will reclaim anything which is not regularly trampled. I have tried to choose routes which will stand the test of time, or which have local ‘volunteer guardians’ (thank you!) — but it only takes one year’s

growth, or one bribed bulldozer driver, to foil that.

All the walks have been **graded** (with a quick overview in the Contents) from easy to strenuous, so you know what you're letting yourself in for.



























- easy-moderate, with up to 500m/1800ft overall height gain. Generally good conditions underfoot
- moderate-strenuous. More than 500m/1800ft overall height gain and/or walking on rough tracks
- challenging. Longer walk with extensive exposure to higher altitudes. Good navigational skills required. For experienced hillwalkers only.

Until the 1990s, it was almost impossible to find decent **hiking maps** in Greece. Now that's all changed, thanks to the cartographically passionate mother-and-daughter team at **Anavasi** (www.anavasi.gr). They have now covered most of the Greek islands and the mountainous parts of the mainland — including Leonidio and Mt Parnon — with 1:50,000 maps (not literally, as that would be a waste of paper); and some areas, including Taygetus and the Mani, with 1:25,000 maps (or thereabouts). Contours and roads are spot on; most paths are accurately marked (a few of the finely-dotted trails are a little optimistic, some others are now overgrown); all are available in digital formats; and some maps give helpful route pointers too.

However, for the western (Koroni-Methoni) and southeastern (Neapoli-Vatika) peninsulas, Anavasi lack up-to-date, large-scale maps. This book should provide all the cartography you need for the featured walks

there, but if you want to explore further afield, then (for Monemvasia–Neapoli) you could use Anavasi's old 2009 edition (8.9) as a base, and try to pick up a copy of the Municipality of Monemvasia's free 1:25,000 Hiking Trails handout as a supplement (see also Walk 27). For Koroni–Methoni, you will have to use a combination of web research (Google Earth, Wikiloc etc) and old Hellenic Military Geographical Service maps — that is, if you don't mind visiting their Athens HQ to request them (<http://web.gys.gr>).

Our walking maps have been carefully researched and updated. They include some areas not covered by Anavasi. Below is a key to the symbols used on the maps accompanying each walk.

	main road
	secondary road
	minor road or motorable track
	rough/jeep track
	path or trail
	2 → main walk
	2 → alternative route
	400 height in metres
	spring, tap, waterfall, etc
	church or monastery.chapel
	shrine or cross
	cemetery
	picnic tables
	best views
	bus stop
	car parking
	castle, fort.tower
	specified building
	watchtower
	cave.aqueduct
	quarry, mine.mill
	stadium
	campsite
	map continuation
	ancient site
	walk start.waypoint

Walk 1: AROUND ANCIENT MESSENE

Distance/time: 14.9km/9.3mi;
5h15min

Grade: ● moderate, with 500m/
1640ft total ascent/descent, mostly
on dirt tracks

Equipment: water, sunhat and
sunscreen, picnic. A walking stick
is useful for the rocky terrain, long
trousers for the prickly sections,
and a jacket in case of cool winds
on the mountaintop.

Opening times: Ancient Messene
is open daily from 08.30-15.30
(winter)/08.00-20.00 (summer);
there is an entry fee.

Transport: 🚗 to/from Mavromati
(●: 37° 10.768'N, 21° 55.415'E) —

30km north of Kalamata (Car tour
2) or Rizomilos (Car tour 1),
following small country lanes.
You'll need a good road map. 🚗
(Timetable 1) — be prepared to
stay overnight.

Shorter walks

1 Ascent of Mt Ithomi (without
the circuit). 7.8km; 3h; ●
moderate. Follow the walk up to
Mt Ithomi ② and ③; return to
Mavromati the same way.

2 Circuit of Mt Ithomi (without
the ascent). 9.9km; 3h15min; ●
easy-moderate. Follow the walk,
omitting the ascent of Mt Ithomi
at the 35min-point.

The ancient site of Messene (pronounced Messíni), though somewhat off the beaten track, boasts some of Greece's best preserved classical fortifications and a ruined city still under excavation. On a mountaintop nearby are the crumbling 13th-century monastery of Voulkanou and the scant remains of a sanctuary of Zeus. This walk circles the mountain, in places following the route of the original, 9km-long city walls. For the energetic, there is also the option of climbing from the 'Laconian Gate' to the 799m summit. The mountaintop is called 'Ithomi', which means 'step', though the name is sometimes used for the whole site, just to be confusing. The walk starts and ends in Mavromati village, which lies near the ancient city centre. If you want to visit the extensive site, which typically takes two-three hours, I suggest doing one of the Shorter walks.

Start the walk the paved **SQUARE/CAR PARK** in **Mavromati** (●), 100m east of the springs gushing out of black holes (*mavro mati*: black eye). Here a small road forks uphill towards the 'LACONIAN GATE' (brown sign); follow this. As

it bends sharp left, the old monastery of Voulkanou can be seen on the hilltop ahead. Just before the big **CHURCH** on your right (**5min**), turn right on a concrete track which descends gently. By the **BREEZE-BLOCK**

The Byzantine monastery atop Mt Ithomi



BUILDING (10min), keep left, climbing gently, now on a dirt track. At the fork (**20min**), keep left and climb steeply to the now-asphalted road (**23min**).

The onward route continues straight opposite, along a path indicated by a faint red waymark. But first, follow the road 100m to your right, to the ruined **Laconian Gate (1; 25min)**, the fortified entrance from the east (Sparta, Laconia). Above this gate are remains of the ancient walls crowning the already daunting rock face — you can explore these along a path opposite the **SHRINE**. 1km further down the road is the ‘new’ monastery of Voukkanou, built in the 15th century as winter quarters for the monks. Return to the point where you joined the asphalt road (**30min**) and turn right up the stony path until you reach a fork (**35min**).

Turn left here for the **SUMMIT ASCENT** (or keep right if you’re doing *Alternative walk 2*). Pass a chunk of ancient wall and climb steeply over loose stones. At the dirt track (**45min**), turn right, uphill — ignore the short cut path opposite. When you reach some curved limestone strata on your left (**1h**), you can pick up the path again (red spot), which curves past a **MEMORIAL CROSS** and rejoins the track (**1h10min**). At the end of the track (**1h22min**), continue straight past the ‘no entry’ sign, passing a section of the acropolis’ fortification wall. 100m before the monastery, you can turn right and follow the summit-line to some **TEMPLE FOUNDATIONS** and the **TRIG POINT** atop **Mt Ithomi** (799m; **2; 1h27min**); or continue straight on to the semi-ruined **BYZANTINE MONASTERY (3; 1h35min)**.

Although the front gate is

usually locked, you can go round to the right and climb through a breach in the wall into the flower-covered yard, off which lie the (open) store-, dormitory- and dining-rooms as well as the (closed) chapel. It is built on the site of the sanctuary of Zeus Ithomatas, where in the 8th century BC, under siege by the Spartans, King Aristodemos of Messene sacrificed his daughter and had hundreds of sacrificial tripods built before finally killing himself in despair. There is a small tree at the front, with meagre shade for a picnic. The view over olive-studded fields, dense citrus orchards and splashes of white-and-red villages, is inspirational.

Return the same way to the summit detour fork, or keep to the track if you prefer (**2h30min**).

TO CONTINUE THE CIRCUIT AROUND MT ITHOMI, follow the lower path (ie the right fork, when you first approached), passing a **SPRING** on your left (**2h35min**). Shortly after the spring, the path becomes a jeep track, descending gently. When you join a larger track (**2h45min**), keep left, descending northwards. You pass through a gate of branches and the tiny hamlet of Krondires comes into view. Above you the rocky flanks of Mt Ithomi rear up steeply — it is hard to believe that the ancient defence walls followed its ridge.

At the junction with a larger track (**4; 3h15min**), keep left (straight on), passing the fenced, red-tiled chapel of **Profitis Ilias** (ΠΡΟΦΗΤΗΣ ΗΛΙΑΣ) on your right. Where the main track bends right and is concreted (**3h35min**), fork left on a smaller dirt track, climbing southwards. At the junction with the **ASPHALT ROAD**

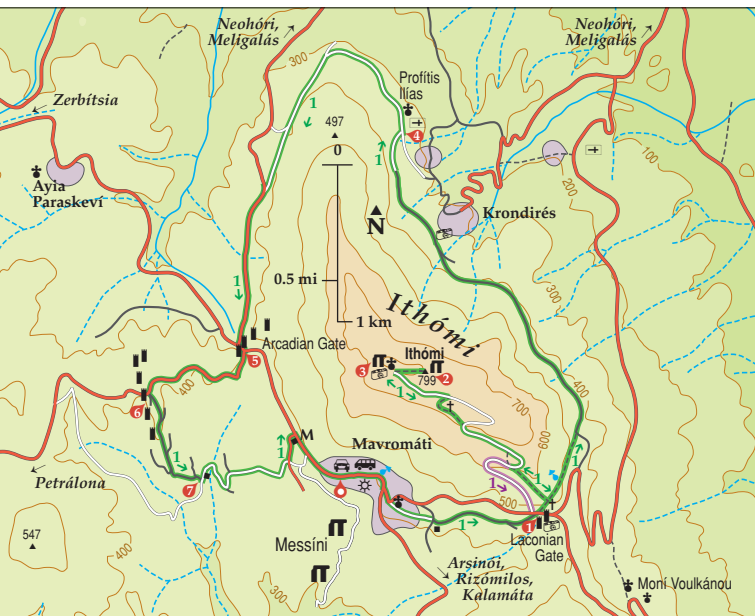


Towers and fortification walls south of the road to Petralona

right along the paved road towards PETRALONA for just under 1km, until you reach the best-preserved TOWERS AND FORTIFICATION WALLS (6; 4h15min). There were once thirty such towers of ashlar masonry dotted along the 9km of wall. Just before the FIRST TOWER, turn left down a wide dirt track. Ignore the smaller track to the right and then two successive sharp left turns (4h25min). At the first right-hand bend, take a left fork down a smaller track and follow it down through a grove of young olive trees to a minor dirt track emerging from the left. Turn right and, at the next junction, with a wider track, turn left (7; 4h35min). Follow this track past a farm building on your right. At the first left-hand bend ignore the smaller track heading straight on (4h40min). A little later, ignore the left turn — keep straight on. The track emerges on a minor road (4h50min), where a right turn leads to the site and a left takes you up to the MUSEUM and on to Mavromati (5h15min).

FROM NEOHORI AND MELIGALAS ('honeymilk'; 3h45min), turn left. After 1km you reach the well-preserved Arcadian Gate (5; 4h), through whose impregnable double portal the road, and our route, run. Turning left here would bring you to the museum and the archaeological site after 1km and back to Mavromati after 2km.

To continue the walk, turn





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