

1. Kala Nera – Milies – Kala Nera



A beautiful and varied walk from Kala Nera, a tourist seaside village, to Milies which lies 400 metres higher up. From there it proceeds back down to Kala Nera along another route. The route partly follows an existing marked walk along old cobbled paths (kalderimi). You cross a stream with lush vegetation and you may be fortunate enough to hear birdsong including that of nightingales. There are many flowers along the route. The descent to the coast mainly follows the railway track along which in former times produce from mountain villages was transported to Volos. Nowadays there is a tourist service on the historic train. Just outside Milies on the way down you have to cross a high metal railway bridge, which can pose a problem for those with a fear of heights.

The walk is 12 kilometres long and spans a height of 375 metres. It took us 2.75 hours.

Start: To get to Kala Nera there are many buses every day from Volos to or through Kala Nera.

Map: Anavasi 6.21 Thessaly, Mt Pilio, 1:25.000. The walk partly overlaps walks 8 and 9 on the map.

Map for waypoints and tracks: Anavasi Topomap 3D on CD-ROM, Pilio – Mavrovouni, South Pilio,

Food and drink: In Kala Nera and the square in Milies. Milies has various spring water drinking fountains.

1. The walk begins opposite the health centre in Kala Nera, a light yellow building on the main road just past the Ka Oil petrol station if you are driving in the direction of Volos. A narrow road with a walker sign (yellow plate with a black walker) marks the beginning of the walk.
2. Turn right after 50 metres. A metal sign indicates Milies in Greek letters (ΜΗΛΙΕΣ). Beyond the graveyard on your left the concrete path changes into a cobbled path, which continues for some distance before becoming an earth path.
3. After 400 metres, at a fork, you bear left into an olive grove.

4. After 50 metres you reach a crossing. Straight ahead is a kalderimi. This climbs steadily, almost in a straight line. On both sides of the kalderimi are olive trees. Follow this kalderimi for slightly more than a kilometre. You will see red dots at regular intervals. Ignore a path to the right.
5. The kalderimi ends at an earth path, near a house (under construction, June 2007). Turn to the right here. The path descends slightly.
6. After 100 metres take a narrow kalderimi to the left. A red dot marks the route. The path reaches a broader stone path; continue straight ahead. Soon after the first views of Milies the kalderimi narrows and starts to wind more. Gradually the olive groves give way to different vegetation with other trees and shrubs. Ignore all side paths on this stretch. You pass a sign towards a cave, 100 metres further along a sidepath. You cross a stream over a



concrete bridge. From here the kalderimi winds upwards towards Milies. After a few bends you reach the first houses. Follow the kalderimi into the village.

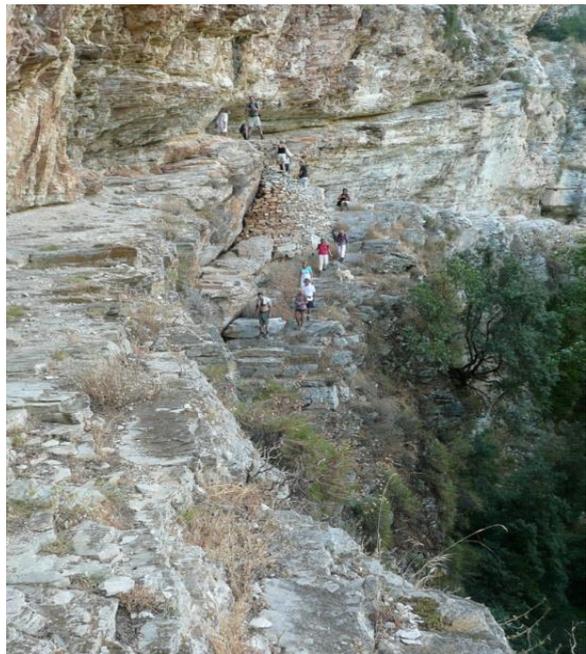
7. Cross an asphalt road and follow the kalderimi upwards.
8. After 30 metres turn up to the right. Ignore side paths and follow the kalderimi upwards.
9. You arrive at a small bridge on your right which leads to the centre of the village. A small wooden sign showing a table and chairs points in that direction. Turn right here and walk to the central square.
10. From the square return along the same kalderimi between the houses down to the bridge. The train on the small wooden sign indicates the direction down to the station. Walk in that direction.
11. Before a fence at a church with cypress trees a kalderimi descends to the right towards the station.
12. At the bottom of the kalderimi turn right onto the asphalt road. Walk past the station and then follow the railway track past a picnic area along the stream. You now follow the railway track over a distance of 4 kilometres. At the beginning the route crosses a metal bridge and then gradually descends in the direction of the coast. Just past the metal bridge there is a narrow path to the right at a flat stone with ΑΓ. ΤΑΞΙΑΡΧΕΣ and ΒΥΖΙΤΣΑ



written in red letters. If you like you can climb up this path to a small church set against the rocks above. The church is closed but the path up there is spectacular. The walk continues along the railway track. After some time olive trees predominate once again on both sides of the track. You will have some lovely views over the Pagasitic Gulf. The railway track passes under an arched stone bridge.

13. A bit further down the railway track meets an earth road that runs along the track for a short while. Follow the track.

14. Just before a second arched stone bridge, at a bend in the railway track, turn left onto a wide path. Immediately turn right onto a narrow path. At a spring water drinking fountain the path joins a kalderimi. This kalderimi comes from the right, from the bridge. We follow this kalderimi down to the left. The descent now becomes a bit steeper and continues between olive trees and detached houses.





15. After 300 metres turn left onto another kalderimi. Red arrows indicate the route.
16. The kalderimi meets another kalderimi. Turn right. Here red dots also indicate the direction.
17. The kalderimi meets an earth road. Cross this road slightly diagonally to the right onto an ill defined path which soon becomes a kalderimi again. Follow this downwards.
18. The kalderimi ends abruptly between the olive trees. Continue walking straight ahead in the same direction as the kalderimi, and descend to the main road on a narrow path.
19. At the road turn left towards the starting point.

***Enjoyed your walk? Any comments? Let us know!
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