

14. Aghios Lavrendios circular walk



A beautiful and easy walk around Aghios Lavrendios, a traditional village where many of the beautiful kalderimi (cobbled paths) are still intact. The walk starts in Servanates, a cluster of houses south of Aghios Lavrendios and climbs up along earth roads through olive groves to the northern side of the village. The walk continues through the main square of the village and then heads back to Servanates along a kalderimi. There are beautiful views in the directions of Drakia and the coastline. There is not much shade along the route. The walk is partly marked with red dots. It has a length of 9.5 kilometres and spans a height of 300 metres. It took us 2.5 hours.

Start: On the main road through Pilio turn off at the junction for Aghios Lavrendios. 4.5 kilometres past the junction there are a few houses on the left side of the road, with the possibility of parking your car. A concrete road heads upwards between the houses. This is where the walk starts.

Map: Anavasi 6.21 Thessaly, Mt Pilio, 1:25.000.

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

Food and drink: In Aghios Lavrendios there are tavernas, both in the square and just before you reach point 9 in the description. There is a spring water drinking fountain in the square, but a sign indicates the water is not fit to drink.



1. Walk up the concrete road.
2. After 200 metres the road crosses a kalderimi. Walk straight ahead, the concrete road becomes an earth road. There are red dots along the road. First you pass a few houses, further up you walk between olive groves. At a spot with high trees you cross a streambed with a small waterfall (that is, in May). In this first part of the walk the ascent is very gradual.
3. At a fork you walk up to the right. From here the ascent is steeper. Besides olive groves you will also pass a few orchards. After a bend in the road there is a white chapel on your right hand side.

4. A little further on you turn up to the left onto a concrete road. Higher up this road becomes an earth road.

5. At a T-junction with another earth road you turn upwards to the right. There are also red marks here.



6. At a crossing you continue further up and straight ahead, following the marks. At the beginning of the village the earth road changes into a kalderimi. Continue straight ahead along this kalderimi.

7. At a junction in the kalderimi you turn left upwards, following the red marks. You continue following the marks to the square.

8. At the square you turn left and walk further down passing a spring water drinking fountain. A sign indicates that the water is not fit to drink. If you like you can make a detour here following the red marks up a kalderimi to a monastery, Ιερά Μονή Αγ. Λαυρεντίου.

9. You reach an asphalt road. Cross this asphalt road and walk down the kalderimi that heads off to the right in front of a taverna. Follow this kalderimi further down, keeping straight ahead. You cross a small waterfall. Passing a few orchards you walk out of the village and the kalderimi becomes a little overgrown. Further down it becomes an earth road. Every now and then you see some stones belonging to the kalderimi.

10. When you are well out of the village at an overgrown wire netting fence on a stone wall, you reach a junction and you take the kalderimi down to the right. There are red dots on the stones. Continue following the kalderimi down; at a fork keep to the right. Further down the kalderimi meets an earth road, which later on becomes a concrete road.



11. At the corner of a small house you turn down to the right. There is a yellow walker sign on a tree. Turn left onto the asphalt road.

12. At a yellow walker sign you turn right onto a kalderimi. A little further down ignore a kalderimi to the right.

13. Cross the asphalt road and at a yellow walker sign you follow the kalderimi downwards.

14. At a junction in front of a house you turn right. Red arrows also point to the right. A little further down the kalderimi crosses a concrete road. There you have reached point 2. Turn left here and walk back to the beginning of the walk.

With many thanks to Herbert and Brigitte Casper, who showed us this walk.

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