

Discover Patmos *with **P**aths of **C**ulture*



ELLINIKI ETAIRIA
Society for the Environment
and Cultural Heritage



MUNICIPALITY OF PATMOS



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PATHS OF CULTURE in PATMOS

Patmos possesses a rich network of old footpaths, which join the various settlements with one another and with the Monastery, as well as with the island's many monastic establishments and hermitages. ELLINIKI ETAIRIA – Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage, in collaboration with the Municipality of Patmos and with the active involvement of the island's schools, is implementing the project "Paths of Culture", by carefully selecting and signposting a series of walks, thus giving visitors the opportunity to discover the island's natural beauty and monuments in a healthy and eco-friendly way.

- 1. Skala - Chora - Skala (via the Holy Monastery of the Apocalypse):** 1.7 km (Skala – Chora: 40' / Chora – Skala: 30') **Start:** Chora – the cobbled path underneath Plateia Xanthou.
See: the Cave of the Apocalypse, the Patmias Theological School and a beautiful forest of pines and cypresses.
- 2. Aporthianos (Chora – Skala):** 2.4 km (Chora – Skala: 40' / Skala – Chora: 50')
Start: Chora – the automobile road, underneath the Windmills of Chora. **See:** the windmills – two of them dating to 1588 – which in 2012 received an award from the European Union and Europa Nostra for their exemplary restoration; chapels, and spectacular views over the bay of the port of Patmos.
- 3. Archaeological site of Kastelli:** 3.2 km - 2 hours
Start: junction of Skala's main seaside road with the road towards Kastelli.
See: the ancient city, with breathtaking views of the bay of Skala, Merika and the town, as well as the islands of Naxos and Ikaria.
- 4. Chora – Grikos – Diakofti:** 3 km - 1 hour 10mins. **Start:** eastern side of Chora at the junction of the automobile road with the road to Aloni. **See:** the dramatic rock formation of Petra, the wetlands and beautiful nature.
- 5. Chora – Kipoi – Holy Monastery of the Annunciation – Chora (circular route):** 2.5 km - 2 hours
Start: Agia Agion church at the southwestern side of Chora.
See: a beautiful route to a small coastal plain with orange, lemon, and carob trees, vines and vineyards. Raised pathways among dozens of wells.
- 6. Stavros – Prasovouno – Psili Ammos – Stavros (circular route):** 6 km - 3.5 hours
Start: Diakofti, at the end of the automobile road leading to the southeast peninsula of Patmos.
See: an interesting but difficult route - vertical cliffs and 'alpine' meadows, wonderful views of Chora, the church of Profitis Ilias and the cliffs of the "Devil." Plus the surprise of the ravine!
- 7. Vaghia – Ayios Demetrios – Kathisma t' Apollou – Panaghia Geranou – Livadi Geranou – Vaghia (circular route):** 10.2 km - 5 hours. **Shorter alternative route: Livadi Geranou (Delipothitou), Panaghia Geranou, Rema Geranou, Livadi Geranou:** 1 hour 45 mins
Start: junction of the automobile road from Kampos to Livadi Geranou with the road to Vaghia.
See: the beaches, churches (Ayios Demetrios, Kathisma t' Apollou – Ayioi Pantes, Panaghia Geranou), archaeological sites and natural attractions (strawberry tree wood, wild lavender, heather etc.)
- 8. Chora – Profitis Ilias:** 1km – 30 mins . **Start:** from the south side of Chora.
See: a favourite path of Patmians, towards the highest point of the island.

Study & implementation: **Fivos Tsaravopoulos.**

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PATHS OF CULTURE

A project of ELLINIKI ETAIRIA – Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage

Footpaths were created over the centuries through the hard work and sense of beauty of our ancestors. They connected towns and villages, enabling the movement of goods and culture. Over the years, however, with the rise of new means of transport, some paths were abandoned – they became overgrown with vegetation or, as an easy solution for creating road networks, they were bulldozed and covered with asphalt.

ELLINIKI ETAIRIA – Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage – which has been campaigning since 1972 for the protection of the environment and our cultural heritage – aims with the project Paths of Culture to give new life to several still surviving paths of particular natural beauty and historical importance.

With careful signposting, in cooperation with local authorities and with the support of the local community, we will make them accessible and attractive again. This will promote hiking tourism, on the rise worldwide and contribute to sustainable development by attracting visitors beyond the summer season, thus stimulating local economy.

ELLINIKI ETAIRIA – Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage - a non-profit NGO, has since 1972 been active in the fight for the preservation of the natural environment and the cultural heritage of our country.

During the last 40 years ELLINIKI ETAIRIA has fought many battles. Among the major ones which met with success we must include the establishment of the **Marine Park of Alonissos**, the **saving of Plaka** (a struggle that continues to this day), of the **Delphi landscape**, the **Southern Saronic Gulf**, **Pylos**, the **Prespa lakes**, part of the area of **Marathon**, the **hellenistic tower of Kea**, and of historic villages such as those of **Hydra** and many **Aegean islands**.

At the same time dozens of monuments have been saved from demolition, decay and abandonment, throughout the country as well as abroad, such as **San Giorgio dei Greci** ("St. George of the Greeks") in Venice, and the **Church of St. Panteleimon or Kizil Kilise** (Red Church) in Cappadocia.

And all this thanks to the contributions and cooperation of sponsors, scientists, volunteers, members and friends.

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