



FOOTPATHS OF THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

FROM THE SKETE OF AGIOS DIMITRIOS TO VATOPEDI

Distance: 2.4 km Journey Time: ¾ hour

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At the beginning this pleasant journey descends through forest, following historic *kalderimi* and the courses of streams. It then passes through the gardens and orchards of *Vatopedi Monastery*.

Note: All distances given (in metres) should be taken as approximate. The route described is liable to unpredictable change: for example, forestry work, road or track construction and plant growth may alter the route, or its appearance. Signposts may disappear or new ones appear. The Friends of Mount Athos strives to keep this description correct and up to date but cannot take responsibility for its accuracy.

Abbreviations: L = Left; R = Right; KSO = Keep straight on;
FP = Footpath; K = *Kalderimi* (stone-paved FP or track)

Transliterations: ΒΑ ΤΟΠΑΙΔΙΟΥ = *Vatopedi*;
ΑΓΙΟΥ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ = *Agios Dimitrios*
ΓΕΝΝΗΣΕΩΣ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΟΥ = *Genniseos Theotokou*

Description of Route:

Walk (m) And then . . .

- 40** Leave the *Skete of Agios Dimitrios* (under restoration in 2017) from the North side on descending FP (K).
- 260 **39** Cross watercourse. FP (K) ascends and then bends L.
- 80 **38** After crossing water system, pass *Kellion Genniseos Theotokou* (“the Birth of the Mother of God”), on R. After end of *Kellion* outbuildings, bear L on descending FP, ignoring track to R. Follow FP parallel to fence into woods.
- 300 **37** At arch over watercourse, follow FP which zigzags L and then R before crossing watercourse between two arches.
- 300 **36** FP emerges from woods. Go through gate and cross bottom of field, with fence on L.

- 180 **35** Leave field through gate and KSO downhill on track.
- 160 **34** At junction, turn R onto another track coming from back L.
- 260 **33** At junction KSO, ignoring track down to L.
- 80 **32** Turn L onto FP, crossing waterpipe.
- Caution: Turning may be difficult to spot.**
- 120 **31** FP ends at track with watercourse to L. Turn R along track passing orchard on R.
- 220 **28** After end of orchard, KSO/R at fork, uphill with stone wall on R. **Vatopedi Monastery** soon visible ahead.
- 350 **29** Track joins from L and K road joins from R just before covered well on R. KSO.
- 100 **30** Arrive at the gate of **Vatopedi Monastery**.

This description has been produced by **The Friends of Mount Athos**, a charitable organisation which, among other activities, works with monasteries to keep this, and certain other footpaths on the Holy Mountain, open. Copies of this and similar descriptions are available, free, from the Friends website, www.athosfriends.org and in a number of places on or associated with the Holy Mountain.